

# Annual Summary 2023

to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023



**East Anglian Traditional Music Trust (EATMT)**

**Red Gables**

**Ipswich Road**

**Stowmarket**

**Suffolk IP14 1BE**

**[www.eatmt.org.uk](http://www.eatmt.org.uk) T: 07495 054669**

**Registered Charity 1082774**

**East Anglian Traditional Music Trust**

# East Anglian Traditional Music Trust

Registered Charity 1082774

## Annual Summary for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Red Gables  
Ipswich Road  
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Suffolk IP14 1BE

[www.eatmt.org.uk](http://www.eatmt.org.uk)

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# Trustees and Staff

## **East Anglian Traditional Music Trust**

*Registered Charity No 1082774*

### **Patrons**

Gloria Buckley (MBE)  
Lesley Dolphin  
Mark Murphy  
Katie Howson

### **Chair**

Ivan Cutting

### **Trustees**

Miriam Stead  
Lindsay Want  
Eammon Andrews

### **Administrator/Director**

Alex Bartholomew

### **Office Address**

Red Gables  
Ipswich Road  
Stowmarket  
Suffolk  
IP14 1BE

### **Bankers**

HSBC  
12 Tavern Street  
Ipswich  
Suffolk IP1 3AZ

**The Trustees submit their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.**

# Infrastructure

The East Anglian Traditional Music Trust (EATMT) is an independent registered charity and has been in existence since 2000.

## Charitable objectives

The charity's main objective is to advance education in the traditional folk music of East Anglia and other areas, including folk songs, tunes, dances, customs and traditions. In order to achieve this the Trust organises workshops, classes, concerts, lectures, exhibitions, community and schools projects, carries out research and archiving work, and publishes resources.

## Organisation of the Charity

The charity's governing document is the Declaration of Trust executed on 8 June 2000. The Board of Trustees, comprising the Chair and Trustees as set out on page 4 governs it.

Board members give their time to the charity on a purely voluntary basis. Whilst the success of the charity is dependent on the efforts of its members and volunteers, it is important that its work is supported by well trained and professional staff. The Administrator/Director is responsible to the Board for managing the charity to implement its strategy.

## Method of Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are nominated and elected in accordance with the Declaration of Trust. New Trustees are provided with relevant information and training opportunities.

## Governance and Internal Control

The Trustees meet three times a year; this includes meetings to review the strategy and performance and to agree the operating plans and budgets.

Company and Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently

- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:

- the charity is operating efficiently and effectively
- its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition
- proper records are maintained and financial information used within the charity or for publication is reliable and
- the charity complies with relevant laws and regulations

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- a strategic plan and an annual budget approved by the Trustees
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and non-financial performance
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- identification and management of risks

**The Trustees are pleased to report that the charity's internal financial controls, in particular, conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.**



*EATMT's set of jig dolls*

# Report from the Chair

We are starting to view the new horizons following the pandemic, to see audiences starting to return to attending concerts and lectures, and therefore some progress in repairing our traditional timetable of events. With the exception of the sad demise of our Queen in September 2022, which resulted in the complete cancellation of our Traditional Music Day plans, this has proved possible.

The big news of 22-23 was the award of a substantial National Lottery Heritage Fund award for the Vaughan Williams' Folk project, which is described below and which stretches into 2023-24 and is clearly going to illustrate both the potential of EATMT to mount new projects, but also to bring in a new cast of creatives, facilitators and all round project personnel.

Once again the activities are a testament to both the drive of our small staff team and the demand from our friends, supporters and audiences (often the same people) to see the work of the charity continue and recover.

New work and new audiences are being sought and found, in schools, care homes, new venues and online. This constant refreshing of our ways of working is one of the few benefits of the pandemic and driven by the sheer necessity for inventing a new normal.

Special thanks must go to Alex for her sterling work in keeping the Trust on an even keel and consolidating the move to Red Gables, to our donor who has funded the extra space there, to my fellow Trustees who have continued their governance role through a rocky period, and to Nicky Stockman whose application for the Ralph Vaughan Williams project to Heritage Fund marks a solid beacon for the Trusts future as we go into 2023-24.

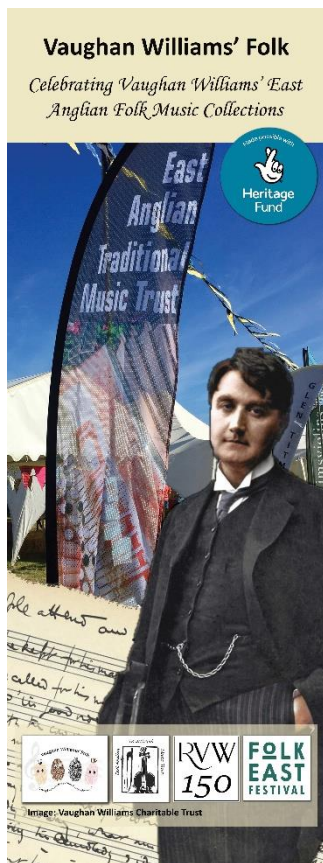


**Ivan Cutting – Chair of Trustees**



# A Review of Activities

## Report from the Administrator/Director



A success of a National Lottery Heritage Funded project in the spring of 2022 set EATMT off with a fantastic start to the new financial year.

Hot off the heels of the Suffolk County Council funded Covid Recovery Project which was run in the last quarter of the previous year, Heritage Project expert Nicky Stockman worked closely with Administrator/Director Alex Bartholomew on a bid for a Vaughan Williams' based project.

The aim was to run a project to coincide with the **RVW 150** year of national celebrations of the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, and at the start of the new financial year, we learned that we had been successful in winning just short of £66k to run an 18 month long project across the region in celebration of Vaughan Williams' Folk Song collecting in East Anglia.

Whilst it didn't quite sit in line with the full year of RVW 150, it DID take place during Vaughan Williams' actual 150<sup>th</sup> year (though for the purposes of this Annual Report, it ran over two financial years).

This 3-Stranded Project involved weaving some events alongside already planned events as well as creating new one-off events. It collaborated with local and national organisations, and it worked with researchers and experts of Vaughan Williams' folk song collecting and helped share this work across a wider audience. We worked across four counties delivering workshops in Schools and local community groups and we also worked with a small number of specially selected young musicians (aged 16-25) which was to lead to two showcase concerts in the summer of 2023.



In this financial year, the project proposal was showcased at FolkEast – East Anglia's annual folk festival in August 2022, it was launched (following an aborted launch at Traditional Music Day as a result of the death of Queen Elizabeth and



royal protocol) in October 2022, a Research Conference was held in November 2022 and we selected 9 young, talented musicians to work with from January 2023 to September 2023. All events were recorded and are available to view via [www.eatmt.org.uk](http://www.eatmt.org.uk), where you will also find several podcasts which were produced throughout the length of the project.

## The Planned Return of 2 Firm Favourite Events

**More than Melodeons**  
**Saturday 28th May**  
 Multi instrumental Workshops  
 Music Market, Sessions  
 Evening Tutor Concert  
 Food & Bar  
 Wingfield Barns, Suffolk  
 Dave Shepherd Jack Hogsden  
 Andrew Collins Sally Barrett  
 Jill Parson Mim Barnes  
 Janet Koralambe Tin River  
 Acorn Instruments  
 for Computer Melodeons & Accessories  
 www.eatmt.org.uk  
 E:info@eatmt.org.uk T: 07495 054669  
 Registered charity 1082774  
 Mid Suffolk District

Following a gap of 5 years, we started to ramp up the preparations for the return of our day of workshops (Melodeons & More) and Traditional Music Day. Under the guidance of volunteers Judy and Eammon (Trustee) Andrews, and at a new venue for EATMT in the middle of rural Suffolk (**Wingfield Barns**) this new-look workshop event was launched in May under the slightly tweaked name “More than Melodeons”. With sponsorship from Acorn Instruments (who also set up stall for the event) and Andrews Building Surveyors and funding from Mid Suffolk District Council, a day of workshops with an evening concert was successfully delivered.

For the first time workshops extended to fiddles, whistles and song workshops with multi instrumental workshops encouraging more than squeezeboxes. There was obvious nervousness all round with this event – both as a new-ish event for EATMT and for attendees who had had two years of restrictions regarding social interaction. We were very grateful to musician Nick Hart who stepped in at the last minute to replace tutor Jack Hogsden who was hit with Covid the day before the event.



The organising of **Traditional Music Day** under the expert direction of our Voluntary Artistic Director, Alan Bearman, stepped up considerably, buoyed by the inclusion of the launch of the Vaughan Williams' Folk project which was set to coincide with this now long awaited day.

Much work was undertaken over the year to have this event ready to deliver on September 10<sup>th</sup> and nothing could have prepared us for the disappointment that was to happen 48 hours prior to the event – the death of a Monarch. For an event run across the town – with music, song and dancing planned in the streets and in venues such as the Royal British Legion, Scout Centre and the local church – it was clear this event was not going to be able to be run. Thwarted for a third consecutive year, we quickly secured venues and planned artists the following year retreated to think of plan B for our planned (and legally binding) Project Launch and future events.



Before this event, however, we had a successful move into Cambridgeshire in July for Stepdance Day where we inspired new and keen dancers who have now set up a regular monthly “Stepping in Cambs” Sunday afternoon session.

We also continued to promote this wonderful tradition at the **Strumpshaw Tree Fair** which was treated to stepping from Fiona Davies, Ron White, Chris Gill and others and music from Chris Holderness and Friends.

We took our spot in the Instrumental Area at **FolkEast** (key partners in our VWF Project) in August 2022 and as well as running our usual stall, we promoted the Vaughan Williams' Folk project – launching our search for young musicians and promoting the launch and research conference with a talk from

Alan Helsdon with musical extracts from Norfolk fiddler Chris Holderness. We also ran the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stepdance Competition in the FolkEast Dance Tent following two workshops run by Fiona Davies and Cambridgeshire stepper Michael Czarnobaj and made the first Vaughan Williams' Folk Podcast.



Two young stall helpers Eliza and Nez



Winner Ethan Beal



Three Judges Pam Ross, Fiona Davies and Patron Gloria Buckley

## Gordon Ruddock Bursaries

This financial year saw local dancer, ceilidh caller and whistle/flute player **Poppy Price-Dowhan** receive a bursary towards the Burwell Bash Summer School which took place in person in the Summer of 2022. In 2023 she set up some classes called “Accessible Ceilidhs” – encouraging disabled and able bodied dancers to get dancing together, to work with each other, and suggesting how one might call at a ceilidh with a mix of physical abilities in a dance.

**Isabella Paine** received a bursary to receive a block of lessons from fiddler James Delarre as part of the Bursary Scheme.

## Bishop & Miller

AUCTIONEERS VALUERS

Local auctioneers helped EATMT sell a number of items that were remaining from our Covid Years donations. They run a regular Music Memorabilia auction which some of property was put into and sold. Bishop & Miller have kindly agreed to not take commission on any items sold in their forthcoming auctions.

## A Young Visitor from America



EATMT and particularly Alex and family were honoured to have young American Traditional Folk Song enthusiast **Nora Rhodes** stay in the late Spring of 2022.

Nora's visit to Europe was plagued by Covid but that was to our benefit and she stayed with us longer than originally planned.

She spent time editing a chapter that she had written for a forthcoming publication on Traditional Song, worked on British Library archives under the guidance of Steve Roud and she helped re create a Maypole resource for EATMT. She also attended two international song conferences – speaking at one of them on her research on a US folk song collection of Eloise Hubbard Linscott.

## Archives

Essex Based folk dance educator, Pam Warren, passed her dance archives on to EATMT at the start of the financial year. Pam had been teaching folk dance for over 75 years and had a wealth of dance sets with music. This remains a physical collection for the moment with the aim to make it digital and shareable in future years.



## Website and technology



**CFB Solutions, SDC Hosting & Support Ltd and Unicorn Designers** continued to provide the technical support required. The Podcast series developed in the previous financial year continued to be added to by its creator, Jake Lee-Savage and he also dipped his toes into film making for our Vaughan Williams' Folk Project.

Gradually, EATMT finds itself attracting a younger audience (in addition to its long standing supporters!) and so armed with a young team involved in the Vaughan Williams' Folk project, we delved into the land that is Instagram in addition to our Facebook page.

Individuals continue to contribute to various articles on the website over the year which were promoted via the quarterly newsletters.

## Lives Remembered

We are always sad to hear of the passing of our regular supporters, volunteers and musicians but here is a trio particularly worthy of mentioning.



### **John Howson – Co Founder and previous Co-Director of EATMT**

It was with great sadness to report that in June 2022, John Howson died peacefully at home after a short illness. He has left behind a legacy which his wife Katie, also Co-Founder and previous Co-Director continues to work on. Katie agreed to become a Patron of EATMT in the spring of 2023.

## James Abbott

The sudden death of regular stepdancer and champion supporter of the Trust shook the local Traditional Stepdancing community in October 2022.



## Lennie Whiting

A few months later in the Spring of 2023, another stepdancer, this time the great Lennie Whiting, passed away after a spell in hospital.

All three are huge losses to Traditional Music, Song and Dance – all with a passion to keep the heritage of Stepdancing, Music and Song alive.



## Newsletters

Since its existence, EATMT has prepared newsletters which are mailed and emailed out generally on a quarterly basis to over 1600 people. Since 2019 these newsletters have appeared on our website and now feature as part of the Trust's archive. At some point we hope to have a record of all newsletters available for reference on the website.

A series of 3 Spring Newsletters kicked off the new year with promising news of our NLHF Project and the return of two major historical events. A Summer Newsletter, Autumn and then Winter Newsletter were created with a short February update reminding supporters of what was coming up in the Spring of 2023.



News: More than Melodeons, Summer stepdancing and the Death of a Monarch 2022

## Friends' Scheme, Donations, Book Sales & Instrument Hire



Income from our **Friends' Scheme** is an important addition to the finances and we are delighted to report that renewals continue on an annual basis. There has been a slight increase in new members joining the scheme and we hope to encourage more in the coming years as we start to get back into some normality and have more live events.

**Book sales** have been steady and promising over the last year – particularly Blyth Voices which is linked strongly to our Vaughan Williams' Folk Project - and our **Instrument Hire Scheme** proves to be ever popular. This year we had the addition of additional English Concertinas via local restorer **Mike Acott** who is working with EATMT to offer a short term 'Try Before You Buy' scheme for instruments he has for sale. Hire fees come to EATMT as well as a donation once that instrument is sold.

## Thanks

We are grateful for the continued regular support of our local councils – Stowmarket Town and Mid Suffolk & Babergh District. We are also thankful to Suffolk County Council's Locality Budget fund which enabled additional funding from Stowmarket's Count Councillor, Cllr Scarfe and contributed to the marketing of Traditional Music Day.

Of course, particular mention must go to our biggest funder for the first of two years, the **National Lottery Heritage Fund** which has enabled the Trust to focus on the 18 month long project "Vaughan Williams' Folk". Winning this funding bid arrived at a pivotal point for the Trust – and is the largest funded project in the Trust's history.



Without the support of these funding pots, of our regular volunteers and our regular and loyal Friends and Supporters, the Trust would not exist. Nor would it exist without the time given by its Trustees. We are grateful to Frances Hammond who has acted as the Trust's Independent Financial Examiner.

Thanks also go to our landlord "Mid Suffolk Voluntary Organisation Forum" at Red Gables who continue to work alongside us and other local voluntary organisations in the "hub".

We continue to be affiliated with the English Folk Dance and Song Society and are pleased to have collaborated further with a number of additional organisations over the year including the Burwell Bash, the Traditional Song Forum, FolkEast and the Vaughan Williams Society as well as with local businesses including local Auction house, Bishop & Miller.



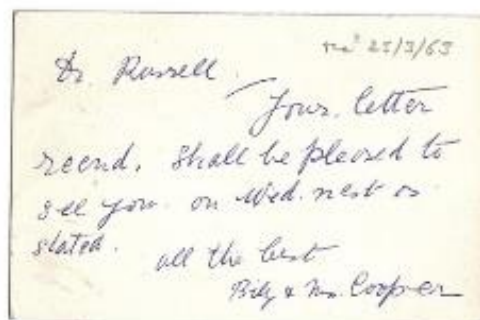
**efdss**  
english folk dance  
and song society

**Bishop & Miller**  
AUCTIONEERS VALUERS

### **Past EATMT projects have been supported by:**

Adnams Charity	Alfred Williams Charitable Trust	Arts Council England
Awards for All (National Lottery)		Britten-Pears Foundation
Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust	The Concertina Trust	
Community Champions	Foundation for Sport and the Arts	
Heritage Lottery Fund	Hervey Benham Charitable Trust	
Joint Morris Organisation	King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	
Mid Suffolk District Council	National Lottery Heritage Fund	
Norfolk County Council	RVW Society	

South Norfolk District Council    Stowmarket Town Council  
Suffolk County Council            Waveney District Council



Postcard to Russell Wortley from musician Billy Cooper. Part of the Russell Wortley's Dulcimer Collection that EATMT are in possession of

### **Statement on Public Benefit**

The objectives, and review of achievements and performance sections of this report clearly set out the activities which EATMT undertakes for public benefit. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

### **Reserves Policy**

In the light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the threat posed to small charities, the Trustees replaced their old Reserves Policy at their AGM on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with the following:

1. The General Reserve should be built up to a level which would finance a reasonable period in which to run down the organisation's operations in the event of a major loss of income. In the current circumstances the Trustees believe this reserve should be £15k, which would allow the Charity to operate at a basic level for a year.
2. There should also be a Development Reserve to allow future activities to be resourced or provide matching resources for potential grant applications. This should be at least £10k
3. Restricted Reserves will be consequent upon funding for projects lasting more than one year.
4. That the level of all Reserves should be reviewed in line with this policy on an annual basis.

**Review date: Policy Reviewed October 2022.**

**Next review due October 2023.**

The logo for the East Anglian Traditional Music Trust, featuring the organization's name in a bold, white, serif font against a solid black rectangular background.

# Review of the transactions and financial position of the charity

The format of the financial statements and accounts is in accordance with the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charity Accounts. There have been no changes to accounting policies.

## Results for the period

The Income and Expenditure Account shows a net deficit on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31 March 2023 of (£6,192) (31 March 2022 £1,209 surplus). There is a surplus on all unrestricted funds of £23,924 (31 March 2022 £30,116) with total reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 of £31, 701.

## Financial position at balance sheet date

The Board considers that the charity's financial position at the balance sheet date is satisfactory.

## Instruments

The Trustees are pleased to report that legacies of instruments continue to be left to the Trust either for hire or for sale to augment the Trust's income. The accounts reflect solely the income from instruments sold that have been received from the legacy and a conservative value on other legacy material. As and when this material and other donated instruments are sold the income will be recognised within the accounts.

## Degree of financial dependency

As mentioned above, the charity is dependent on the voluntary efforts of its members and volunteers. However, there is no significant degree of dependence on any single member or small group of members in respect of voluntary effort for financial contributions.

## Political contributions


The charity made no political contributions during the year.

**Independent Examiner**

In accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the financial statements have been independently examined by Frances Hammond.

I confirm that the financial accounts reflect a true and fair view of the activities of the organisation.

By order of the Board, Ivan Cutting, Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Cutting'.