



**Minutes of the 80th Annual General Meeting of Morpeth Music Society
Morpeth Methodist Church
Tuesday 8th July 2025 at 7.30 pm**

1. Welcome:

Chair of Morpeth Music society, Wendy Locks, extended a warm welcome to all those present.

Attendees:

Wendy Locks, Kath Smith, Steve Locks, Colin Matthews, Ronn Smith, Allan Colver, Louise Freeman, Ross Freeman, Kathy Smith, and Charlotte Houlton

Apologies: Ian and Christina Armstrong

2. Presentation and Performance:

Wendy Locks, Chair of Morpeth Music Society, introduced Euan Gibson who is the recipient of the annual scholarship of £300 as the outstanding young musician from KEVI this year.

Euan is currently in Year 13 studying A level music and Music Tech A*. He is not only a drummer and guitarist but his composition is of a very high standard. He is involved in all aspects of music at KEVI including ensembles, mentoring and supporting other students performing work.

He has played live at a music festival “Vans in the Valley” and is live at the “Market Place Café” in Morpeth on the 26th July 2025.

Euan played “Mind the Gap” on drums. This was followed by a Welsh piece of music on the guitar “Bron-Y-Aur Stomp” by Led Zeppelin.

There was then a photo call when Wendy handed him the cheque and wished him well in all his future musical endeavours.

3. Minutes of the 79th AGM held 9th July 2024

The minutes were reviewed and approved as a correct record of previous meeting.

Proposed: Kathy Smith

Seconded: Ronn Smith

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

4. Matters Arising: None



5. Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 30th April 2025 (Attached)

A copy of the report was circulated and to everyone present. The report is to be submitted to the Charity Commission. After reading it through there was a vote of acceptance.

Proposed: Louise Freeman
Seconded: Ross Freeman

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

6. Treasurers Report for Year to 30th April 2025 (Attached)

Steve Locks explained that the financial report for the Society is always runs to the end of April so that our last concert can be included in that financial year.

The attached report was discussed in some detail. Steve feels that we are currently in a good financial position. We have enough funds to pay for next Season and can confidently book ahead for the 81st Season.

Steve discussed the ongoing need to apply for grants at the appropriate deadlines.

Hence the Season ended in a good financial position with a balance of £24,372.19 on 14th May 2025.

Tony Batty has independently verified the accounts.

Proposed: Louise Freeman
Seconded: Ronn Smith

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

7. Committee Members for re-election

Wendy Locks confirmed that the position of a committee member is for one year only and therefore to be re-elected annually.

Allan Colver and Colin Mathews. Both have indicated their willingness to re-elected.

George Parnaby has indicated his willingness to be elected.

Proposed: Kath Smith
Seconded: Ross Freeman

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.



Kathy Smith has resigned from the committee after 3 years of duty. Wendy thanked her for input to the committee and all her help in successfully organising the refreshments during that period.

Rachel Cabey has also resigned from the committee but is happy to continue in a supporting role as liaison between the Society and the local schools. Wendy thanked her for her past and ongoing commitment.

8. Election of Officers

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| • Chair | Wendy Locks |
| • Vice-Chair | Louise Freeman |
| • Honorary Secretary | Kath Smith |
| • Honorary Treasurer | Vacant |

Wendy Locks indicated her willingness to stand for election as Chairman.

Proposed: Kath Smith
Seconded: Louise freeman

Louise Freeman indicated that she was willing to stand for re-election as Vice-chair.

Proposed: Ronn Smith
Seconded: Steve Locks

Kath Smith indicated that she was willing to stand for re-election as Honorary Secretary

Proposed: Ross freeman
Seconded: Steve Locks

Honorary Treasurer: This position is vacant.

Steve Locks has indicated his willingness to continue as Treasurer as an interim measure until a permanent Treasurer can be found.

Proposed: Ronn Smith
Seconded: Louise Freeman

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.



9. AOB

9.1 Survey (Attached)

Steve Locks conducted a survey of Members and Attendees to assess their demographics and to establish which types of performances were most appreciated.

9.2 Ian Armstrong Retirement

Ian Armstrong our President of many years has reluctantly decided to resign.

Ian's first contact with MMS was via his late father Archie Armstrong. Archie was Chair of MMS from 1969 to 1988 and Ian then took over the MMS Chair until 1995.

Ian then assumed the role of Vice president of MMS until the death of Brigadier E.C. Mitford in 2002 when he became MMS President.

Ian brought a wealth of knowledge and experience from his long career in both his business and voluntary roles. His wise counsel and long memory of MMS history over five decades will be much missed.

The meeting was then brought to a close.

10. Attachments

1. TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025
2. MMS Treasurers Report for the 79th Season
3. Survey of Members and Attendees



Attachment 1.

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH APRIL 2025**

CONSTITUTION:

Morpeth Music Society is a charitable association governed by a constitution approved by the Charity Commission. The registered contacts are:

1. Wendy Locks, 81 Newgate Street, Morpeth. NE61 1BX
2. Kath Smith, 85 Wansdyke, Lancaster Park, Morpeth. NE61 3QY

TRUSTEES:

Chairman Wendy Locks
Vice-Chairman Louise Freeman
Hon. Secretary Kath Smith
Hon. Treasurer Steve Locks

The annually elected Trustees are the remaining Committee Members: Allan Colver, Colin Matthews, Kathy Smith and Rachael Cabey.

AGENTS AND ADVISORS:

The Society's bank is TSB where monies are held in a current and a business instant access account. The Independent Examiner of the Society's accounts is Tony Batty (retired treasurer for Mid Northumberland Chorus). MMS income is below the £25,000 threshold requiring independent examination, but Tony kindly looked through the accounts anyway, found no issues and gave some general advice on account presentation.

AIMS AND ORGANISATION:

The aims of the Society are to promote, improve and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of music in all

its aspects by the promotion of public concerts and recitals and by such other ways as the Society, through its Committee, shall determine from time to time. The Society has no paid staff and is run voluntarily by its Trustees, Committee and members.



SOURCES OF FUNDS:

The Society is grateful for the support it has received over many years in the form of Grants, Sponsorships and Donations from:

Barbour Foundation		Joicey Trust
Ian Armstrong		Members
Hadrian Trust		Morpeth Town Council
Sir James Knott Trust		

Total income for the year was £15,576.75

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP:

The annual scholarship of £300 which is awarded to the outstanding young musician from KEVI was this year awarded to Euan Gibson

ACTIVITIES:

The total cost of promoting the concerts including the overhead costs was £17,058.19 resulting in a loss for the year of £1,481.44

CONCLUSION:

The 25/26 season of concerts will continue to be held at the Methodist Church which has proved to be a very hospitable and comfortable venue.

We are confident that the artists performing in the 2025/26 season will continue to provide a high level of performance.

The details of the 2025/26 season are already on our website and the production of the brochure is underway

A number of visiting artists have required overnight accommodation and the Society is grateful to those members who made their homes freely and generously available. Their hospitality was greatly appreciated by the artists.

We would welcome anyone who would like to get involved in anyway. There is no obligation to join the committee itself as there are many other opportunities to take part. No specialist musical knowledge is required for many of the tasks. Please speak to any of the committee if you would like to get involved.

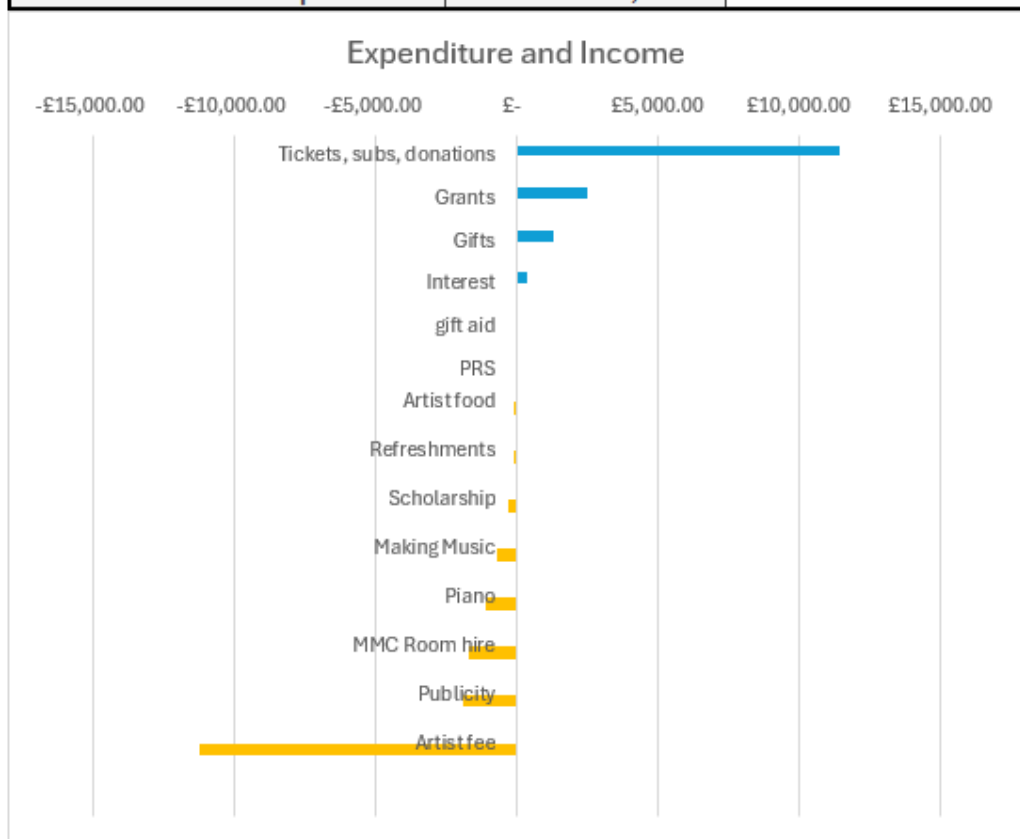


Attachment 2.

Morpeth Music Society Treasurer's Report for the 79th Season:




1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025

Report for the period from:		01 May 2024	
to:		30 April 2025	
Category	Income	Expenditure	
Tickets, subs, donations	£ 11,430.71		
Grants	£ 2,500.00		
Gifts	£ 1,300.00		
Interest	£ 346.04		
Admin		-£	69.80
Artist food		-£	77.55
Refreshments		-£	106.57
Scholarship		-£	300.00
Making Music		-£	666.47
Piano		-£	1,102.00
MMC Room hire		-£	1,683.50
Publicity		-£	1,872.30
Artist fee		-£	11,180.00
Totals: £		15,576.75	-£ 17,058.19
Income - Expenditure =		-£	1,481.44

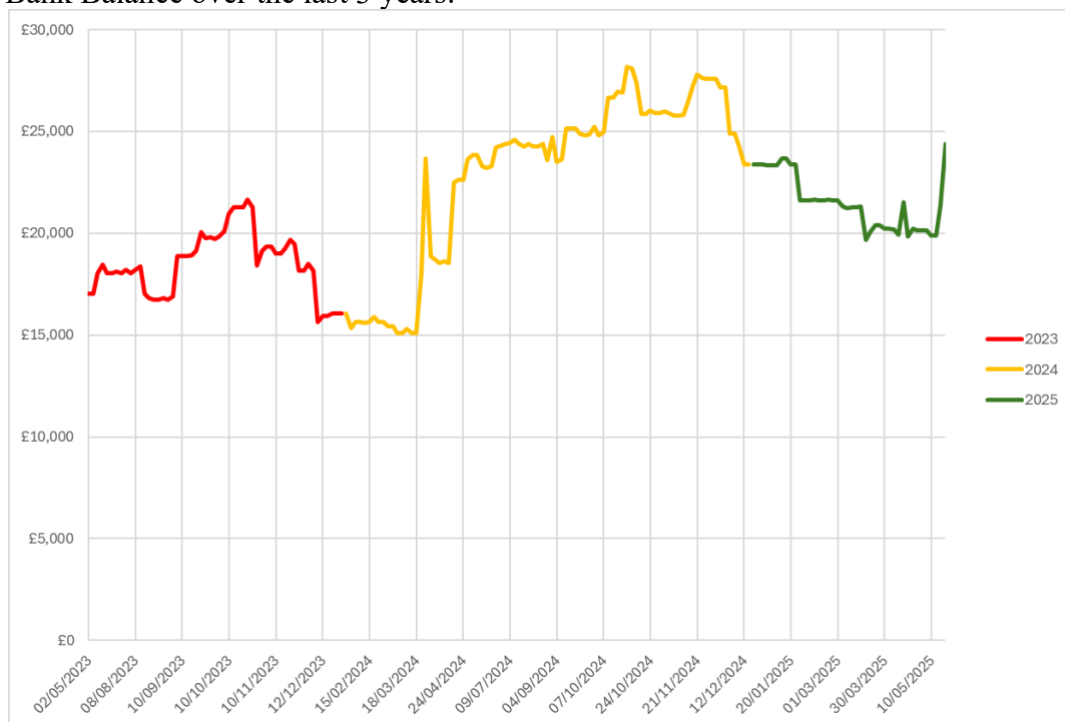




Grants for 2025

Aa Granting body	☀ Status	# Amount Granted	📅 Date Granted
 <u>The Chamber Music Fund 2025</u>	● Awarded	£1,000.00	May 13, 2025
 <u>Barbour Foundation 2025</u>	● Awarded	£3,000.00	May 8, 2025
 <u>Hadrian Trust 2025</u>	● Awarded	£1,000.00	April 12, 2025

TSB Bank Balance over the last 3 years:



Latest TSB accounts Total:

Latest Balance on

£ 24,372.19 14 May 2025

Plus £237 float in cashbox.

To do: Steve to be set up with HMRC to be able to claim Gift Aid for 79th Season and beyond (filling in HMRC's ChV1 form).

Steve Locks

Steve.locks@gmail.com

Honorary Treasurer, Fundraiser and Programme Secretary

Morpeth Music Society



Attachment 3: Survey

Survey results Summary

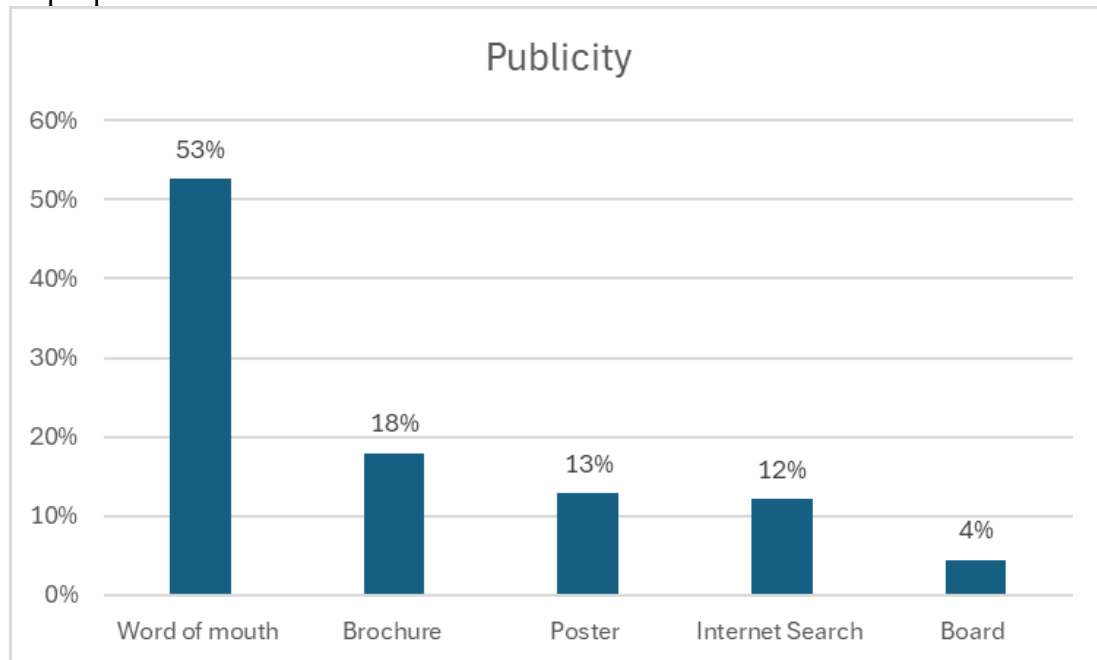
Number of Survey Reponses 183

Submission dates from 01/03/2025

Submission dates to 14/04/2025

[Link to Dashboard](#)

Where people first found out about MMS:



Also

- Alnwick MS 3%
- Facebook 2%
- Glasshouse 1%
- Insider Magazine 1%



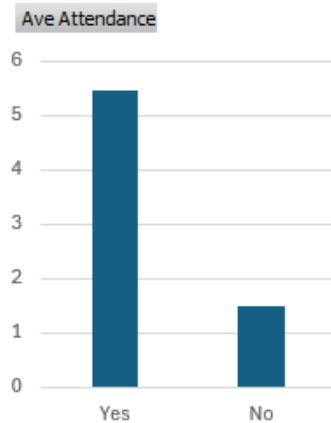
Morpeth Music Society

President: Ian Armstrong MBE

Affiliated to *Making Music*

Attendance vs Subscriber status

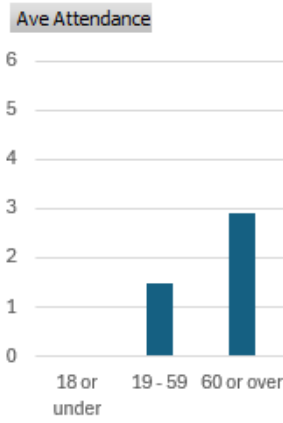
Subscriber	Ave Attendance
Yes	5.5
No	1.5



Season Ticket

Attendance vs Age

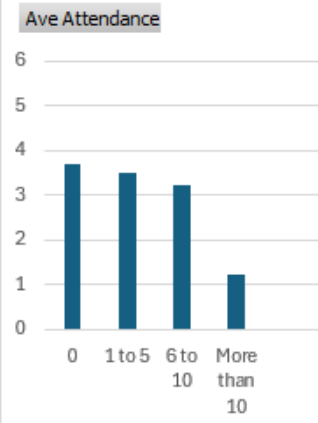
Age	Ave Attendance
18 or under	0.0
19 - 59	1.5
60 or over	2.9



Age

Attendance vs Distance

Miles away	Ave Attendance
0	3.7
1 to 5	3.5
6 to 10	3.2
More than 10	1.2



Distance

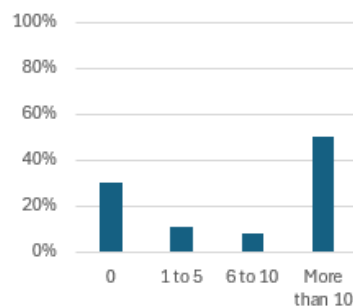
Those not on the mailing list: how far away are they?

Mailing list No

Miles Distance	% at this distance
0	30.30%
1 to 5	11.11%
6 to 10	8.08%
More than 10	50.51%

Mailing list

% at this distance



Distance

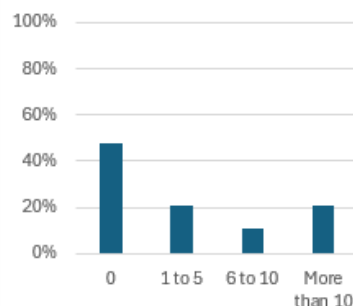
Those who are on the mailing list: how far away are they?

Mailing list Yes

Miles Distance	% at this distance
0	47.56%
1 to 5	20.73%
6 to 10	10.98%
More than 10	20.73%

Mailing list

% at this distance



Distance

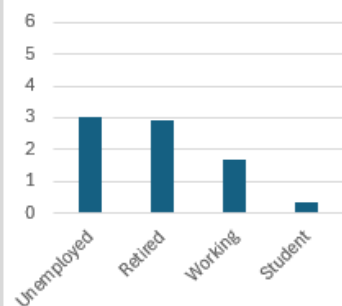
Employment status vs Attendance

Season Ticket (Multiple Items)

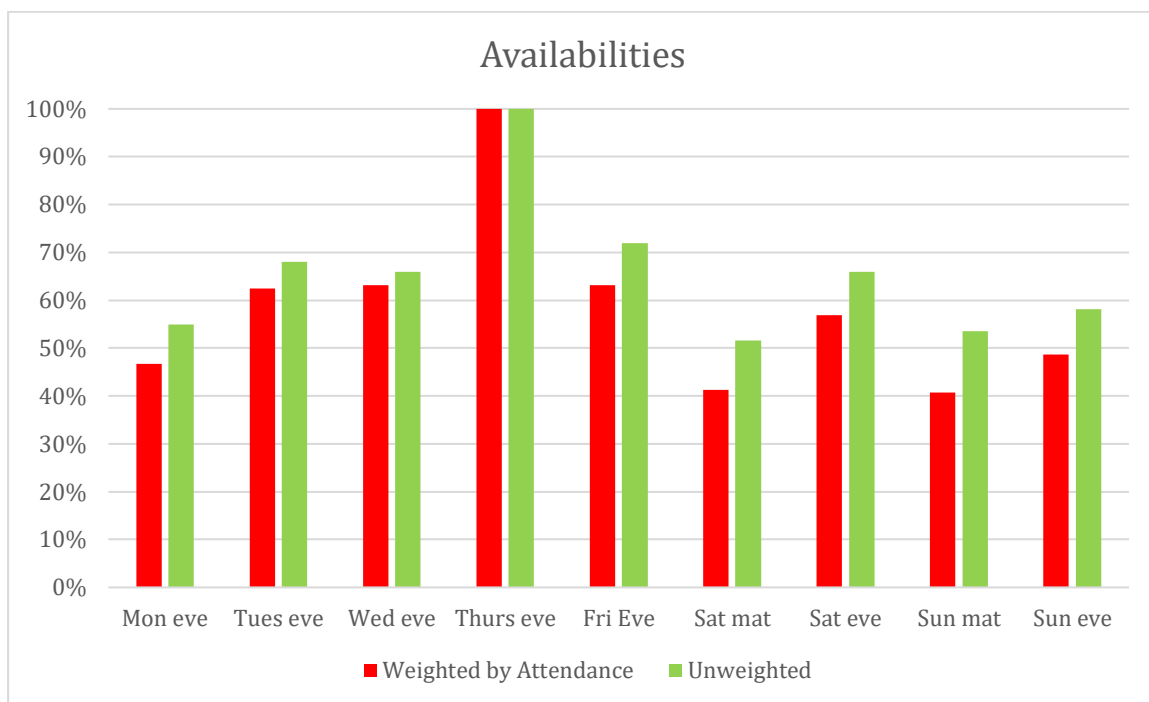
Employment	Ave Attendance
Unemployed	3.0
Retired	2.9
Working	1.7
Student	0.3

Season Ticket

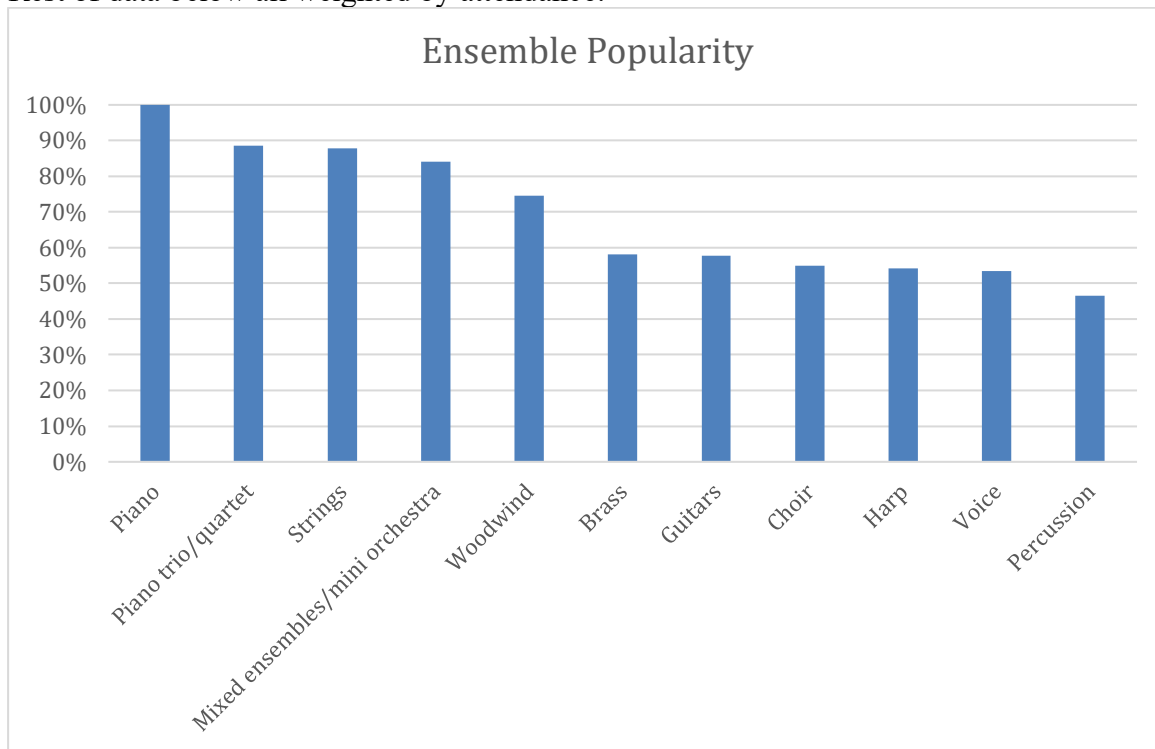
Ave Attendance

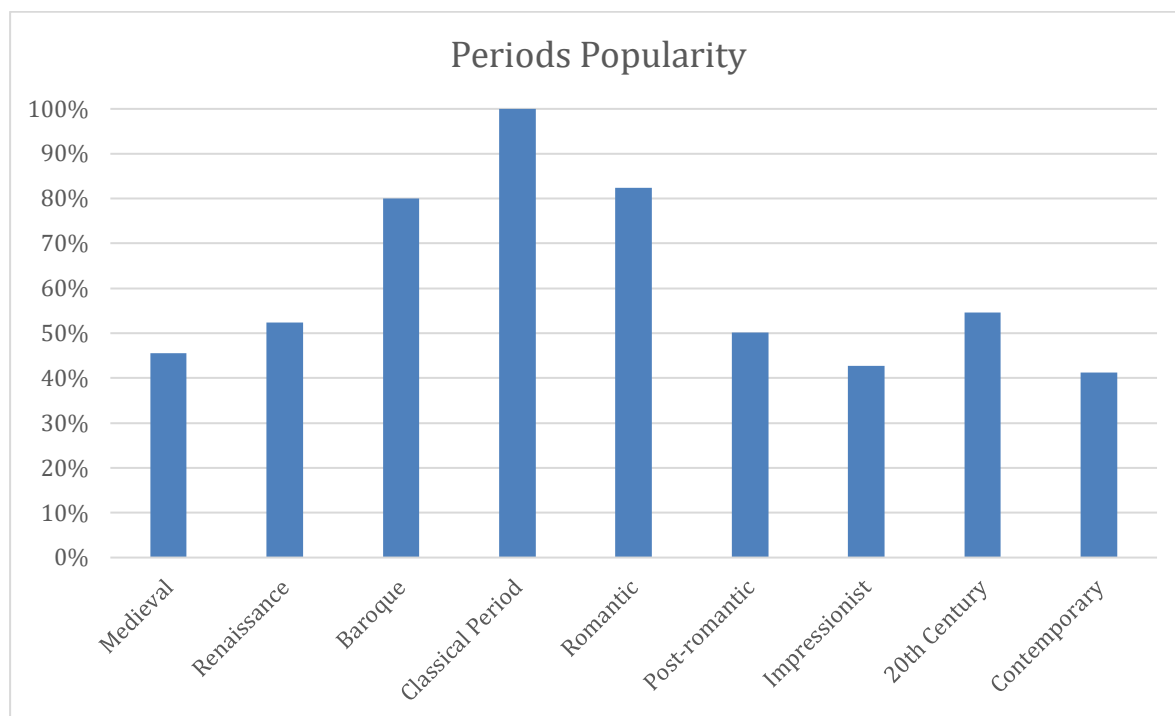


Employment



Rest of data below all weighted by attendance:





Heat map of periods correlations:

Correlations	Medieval	Renaissance	Baroque	Classical Period	Romantic	Post-romantic	Impressionist	20th Century	Contemporary
Medieval	45%	42%	42%	44%	41%	31%	26%	31%	28%
Renaissance	42%	50%	48%	50%	48%	36%	29%	31%	28%
Baroque	42%	48%	78%	77%	72%	47%	38%	44%	34%
Classical Period	44%	50%	77%	100%	84%	50%	42%	53%	40%
Romantic	41%	48%	72%	84%	84%	50%	42%	48%	35%
Post-romantic	31%	36%	47%	50%	50%	50%	38%	36%	28%
Impressionist	26%	29%	38%	42%	42%	38%	42%	34%	29%
20th Century	31%	31%	44%	53%	48%	36%	34%	53%	34%
Contemporary	28%	28%	34%	40%	35%	28%	29%	34%	40%

There were a good few comments that people enjoyed the variety of ensembles and periods.

Compliments

- This season was excellent in quality and variety!
- Keep on doing what you are doing. I like the musicians you choose and book very much.
- Great programme this year!
- It is a wonderful society bringing brilliant music to Morpeth. Long may it continue. It is always marvellous to be surprised and delighted by the chosen programme - always learning - amazing! Thank you for all the organisers do - Many thanks indeed.
- The concerts are always excellent but the it's the seeing the performers and audiences enjoying the music that makes them so special



Morpeth Music Society

President: Ian Armstrong MBE

Affiliated to Making Music

- It is always wonderful to attend every month to see what the programme is and you always learn so much whatever is offered. The society is marvellous at bringing the best artists and fascinating programmes to Morpeth - it is all exceptional - thank you to all who organise this amazing music making for Morpeth.
- Great concerts. Your programme notes are superb. I like the mix of well-known works and less commonly performed composers. Also enjoy the interactions between the performers and the audience.
- Etc. (Other similar comments)

Prepared by Steve Locks
23/05/2025