



Photo: Charlie J, 'Get Gigging' 2025

Trustee Recruitment Information Pack Summer 2026

Shwmael!

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee at Operasonic.

ABOUT US

Our vision is of communities in Newport coming together through music. To make this a reality, we create diverse and accessible music experiences with Newport residents, supported through developing the local creative ecology.

Established in 2014, and now in our second decade, we are a welcoming, inclusive and empowering Newport charity. We are committed to:

1. Increasing the musical and creative skills of Newport residents, alongside their other skills (be they for employment or interpersonal ones)
2. Growing Newport's musical and creative workforce, both in terms of number and quality, by developing people and opportunities
3. Improving the wellbeing of Newport residents through musical and creative activity that increases self-confidence, agency, esteem, and motivation
4. Boosting levels of pride and understanding of the communities people belong to, through shared musical and cultural engagement
5. Better connecting Operasonic with Newport communities and be part of the drive for cultural exchange
6. Further developing the organisation's resilience including stable financial model, clear positioning and reporting, even more representative governance

We work directly with communities, delivery partners, stakeholders and the creative workforce to create diverse and accessible musical experiences – be they week-in-week-out sessions, or a creative output like a film or a performance. The activity covers a range of ages, lived experiences, localities, and identities, and every genre of music. Some of current projects include:

- Captain CaPaTa: our early years opera. We had a wonderful time in R&D working with an amazing group of creatives to develop an opera for babies that incorporates BSL, Welsh and English as well as giving a sensory experience for developing minds! The next phase will be to develop the opera ready for touring in spring 2027
- The Lullaby Project: a songwriting project concept created by Carnegie Hall and Operasonic is a lullaby partner. This year we have been developing the Lullaby project within the local community, and delivering Lullaby training to build the creative workforce in Newport.
- Our Gypsy Stars projects bring together families from the Roma community in Newport to sing and create. We work closely with Romano Dzivipen (an emerging Roma community group) and other youth and community partners.
- A regular music session at Eden Gate centre working with people experiencing homelessness. We have recently taken the group to record their song at COBRA studios and are preparing for performance.

- Harmonious Senses/Sound Sense: in Partnership with SenCom (sensory and communicate team), we deliver music projects for children and young who are experiencing hearing loss or deafness
- The Operasonic Cohort: offering development and training opportunities for young musicians

We are a small team of trustees, staff and regular freelancers who make a big impact across Newport. Our work is almost always done in partnerships with other community groups, charities or public services; most of these are deep and long-term commitments and connections fostered over many years. Since 2024, we have had some core/revenue funding and also seek project funding for specific initiatives (eg Lottery funding; trusts and foundations).

You can find out more about Operasonic's work by visiting our website www.operasonic.co.uk

ABOUT THE BOARD AND ABOUT YOU

We are going through a period of organisational development and business planning. At this time, we are specifically looking for people with strategic-level skills and experiences in these areas:

- Change management
- The current operating environment (eg for arts charities)
- Charity governance and relevant legislation/compliance

This could be through another governance or volunteering role, or through paid employment. In addition to the above, and to add to what we already have within the board, we would welcome anyone who has skills and experience in organisational management and HR and/or fundraising.

We are looking for people who have good experience of strategic decision-making and working as part of a charity board, including an understanding of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of being a company director and charity trustee. Usually the Operasonic Board meets quarterly, although at the moment we are meeting every two months.

We are looking for people who share a passion for music and Newport communities, and are keen to make a positive difference. The role of a trustee is to direct the strategy and oversee the work of the charity, to ensure we are fulfilling our vision and mission and meeting our legal, funding and other requirements. You can find out more about the role of a trustee on the [Charity Commission website here](#).

Operasonic welcomes applications from people who are Welsh learners or fluent Cymraeg speakers.

ABOUT APPLYING

Our chair of trustees, Rhian Hutchings would be very happy to answer any queries and discuss the role with you, so if you want to arrange a phone call, please do email her rhian@operasonic.co.uk

If you want to apply, please send your CV and a short email/covering letter to Rhian (email as given) saying why the role is of interest to you and how your skills and experience would benefit Operasonic.

As an alternative to a written submission, you can tell us about your skills and experience in a short video/audio recording (maximum three minutes). We suggest you use WeTransfer to send the video to make sure it arrives. Once we have received your expression of interest, Rhian will be in touch for a further conversation about the next steps.

If you have any other special requirements to enable you to apply for this role, please let us know by emailing rhian@operasonic.co.uk

The deadline for submission of applications is **Wednesday 30th September 2026**.