



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date		
From	1 st Sept 2022	To	31 st Aug	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name *ReSound Community Choir*

Other names charity is known by *ReSound*

Registered charity number (if any) *1138352*

Charity's principal address *42 Mill Dam Lane*
Burscough
Ormskirk, Lancashire
 Postcode *L40 7TQ*

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	<i>Sarah Monteith</i>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>Whole Year</i>	
2	<i>Helen Thompson</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Whole Year</i>	
3	<i>Karen Aspden</i>		<i>Whole Year</i>	
4	<i>Liz McBride</i>		<i>Whole Year</i>	
5	<i>Polly Brown</i>		<i>Whole Year</i>	
6	<i>Vicky Murtagh</i>		<i>28th Sept Onwards</i>	
7				

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
<i>Bank</i>	<i>The Co-operative Bank</i>	<i>P.O. Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP</i>

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

*Constitution, adopted 9th March, 2010.
Amended 7th March, 2016.*

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Association with seventy- eight adult and six child members

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

A third of the Trustees are to be elected by the membership each year at the AGM in September. Each will stand for three years.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

There is a safeguarding policy in place. All trustees and volunteers who have direct contact with or responsibility for the young voice members are required to be DBS checked.

The choir are members of Making Music, an association which works directly with not for profit music organisations, providing advice and guidance. They also broker public liability insurance from RSA for our events.

ReSound are also members of West Lancashire Council for Voluntary Service, who are an excellent source of advice and community liaison.

All trustees are volunteers who give their time without financial or other recompense.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals;

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees meeting.

The focus of our activities remains the weekly meeting of our members to sing together. This provides not only opportunity to learn new skills and improve on musical ability, but is vital in the building of community amongst the members.

Membership is open to anyone in the community, and is not restricted in any way. The choir members go out of their way to ensure that everyone feels involved, including collecting people from their homes and providing resources in a variety of accessible media. This approach has definitely benefited all in the choir members who are gaining valuable life experience through mixing with a broad cross section of people.

The public performances that have resulted from this activity have been available to a broad cross section of the community. In the past, the choir have endeavoured to take part in a variety of activities, from specific fundraisers to free, large scale public events and private performances at local nursing homes. This ensures that as many people as possible can benefit from the experience of hearing live choral music.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Unlike many community choirs, ReSound is run on a solely voluntary basis, and we are extremely grateful to our musicians and musical director who give freely of their time and expertise.

The choir themselves also give their time and energy in supporting events and ensuring that things run smoothly.

The choir have continued to use their fundraising to provide free, accessible events for local care homes, and to hold affordable concerts for the community. Our ticket income allows us to keep the amount we charge to a minimum, providing uniform etc for new members as needed. The Trust are continuing to review the financial direction the choir takes in order to adapt to needs as they arise.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

September Songs 2022 threw up an interesting and unexpected post-pandemic problem. Our audience all went on holiday!

Travel disruption earlier in the year lead to people postponing their holidays, and suddenly, a week before the event, we found ourselves with fewer audience than choir! Never ones to be defeated, we decided the choir themselves could be the audience, and this lead to a wonderful celebratory evening of music from all sides. Thanks to the hard work of Polly and Karen the room was looking beautiful as we arrived to start our concert.

The theme of the night was Sowing the Seeds of Love, looking at the many ways love runs through our lives. The full choir kicked us off with Silly Love Songs, complete with school percussion intro and excellent brass from Lotte, Shaun and Tim. The children joined us for Fix You, and then the main choir took their seats to be entertained as the children rocked I'm Still Standing, including an interesting inflatable guitar solo in the middle. ReMix went next, with our talented Ukulele players Jason, Polly, Chris and Pat accompanying It Must Be Love. Our Tenor group followed this with the beautiful Breaking Up is Hard to Do, then the band lifted things with the Bellamy Brothers Let Your Love Flow, sung beautifully by Paul. Austin and Sarah followed this with Tom O'Dells Half As Good As You, and the audience joined in for Bob Marley's Three Little Birds, after a demonstration of the Makaton version by the wonderful Iris! Thank you for the Music was next, with solos by Karen, Jean, Linda and Alice, and our very own girl with golden hair, Shaun... then we took it to the interval with the high energy, deeply divisive but great fun Respect Mega Mix! The band brought us back together with Paul Simon's Late in the Evening, again with Sax from Lotte, Shaun and Sarah, and the choir rejoined us for the haunting My Heart Will Go On, with accompanying whistle by Liz and solo by Zach. ReFresh once again treated us to an Elton John classic, Can You Feel the Love Tonight, and ReMix sang the stunning And So It Goes, a Billy Joel song arranged by Bob Chilcott for the Kings Singers. Reflect kept the theme going with I'm in the Mood for Love, and the choir rejoined us for our title song, Sowing the Seeds of Love. Bridge Over Troubled Water was a powerful reminder of how important it is to look after each other, followed by the modern equivalent, You Will Be Found, from the musical Dear Evan Hansen. Our soloists Harriet, Joanna, Millie and Ella were joined by Maddie playing the beautiful cello line.

Our final song invited the audience to join us in a rousing rendition of Hey Jude, and with that our evening was over!

We had a wonderful time, but we were all excited to start thinking about Christmas! First though, we had our AGM at Christ Church Ministry Centre, again catered for by the wonderful Gav and Caz.

Heading in to the chilly winter we were all very excited to know we were finally returning to St John's for our Christmas concert, Celebrate, albeit with the slightly worrying knowledge that the event was a week earlier than usual! We managed to get a couple of rehearsals in at the church to sort out the seating plan and other details which really helped as we approached the event.

After a reasonably good tech, unusually, we finally got to the main event. A crisp wintery evening saw almost three hundred meet in the church, and the choir kicked things off with Joy to the World. Chris from St John's welcomed us and opened in prayer, and our congregation joined us for O Come All Ye Faithful. Liz's reading lead us beautifully into the powerful Mary Did You Know, and we followed that with Holst's version of the reflective In the Bleak Midwinter. John Tavener's challenging piece, The Lamb, came next, and then David read for us before we invited the congregation to join us again for Silent Night, leading in to the stunning O Holy Night, with solos from the girls. The Muppets It Feels Like Christmas started to shift the tone, and ReMix followed that with Winter Wonderland before the choir tortured, I mean, entertained the congregation with Must Be Santa, complete with speedy actions.

Karen's own recipe mulled apple accompanied the mince pies in the interval, then we were ready to kick off with the Wizzard classic, I Wish it Could be Christmas Every Day. The audience joined us for a rousing rendition of Good King Wenceslas, then we sang Austin's gorgeous original composition, Please Can We Have Christmas Every Day, reflecting on Christmases past. Reflect sang the beautiful White Christmas, and Sarah's poem lead us to the candlelit Believe from Polar Express, and then a Christmas Blessing in the darkness of the church. Hark the Herald broke through the reflective silence to bring us to a celebratory end, and after Phil had thanked us and closed in prayer, the choir sang our final number, the wonderful swing of Man with the Bag, sending us out on our way to enjoy our Christmas time. It was a brilliant night and we all really enjoyed the music and the time spent with friends and family.

As it was so early this year, we had ten days before Christmas, so clearly not singing for that length of time wasn't going to be an option. A few of us sang carols at the Elmridge Arms, then on the Wednesday we went Carol Singing around Burscough, visiting Sheila's house, Tom's family then ending up at the Wharf. We had a lovely night, and it was nice to be out and walking together, before we wished each other Merry Christmas and headed off to our own families for the festive season.

In January, after our usual lovely social at O'Briens, we began our new set. Unusually the plan was to do the same set at both the May and September concerts, because in between we would be performing in Paris. This would be the first time we took our singing overseas, so we didn't want to have to learn a whole new set of songs.

In March, for the first time since 2019 we organised a training day! But not just any old training day. Thanks to an incredible donation we were able to book Katumba, a lively and vibrant Samba drumming group from Liverpool. In the morning a smaller group of us met at Scarisbrick Village Hall to look at reading music, learning what the dots and sticks meant and how to navigate our way around the pages. Then in the afternoon the rest of the choir joined us, as we were all wondering what to expect. The team from Katumba took us through a series of mindfulness sessions, drum teaching sessions and finally a giant performance. With fifty of us all drumming in the room, the sound was amazing, you could feel it never mind hear it, and creating a performance that we were all part of filled us all with joy. We were on a high for ages afterwards, and we are so grateful to have been given that donation enabling us to experience such a wonderful event.

After dashing home for a quick shower we met back up to party! A Shaun Special and a Pie, what more could anyone want! We danced the night away. We have had some amazing training days over the years but this has to be one of the best we've done, and it really gave us a lift to crack on with the rest of the set.

Despite September being our main concert, we didn't want to miss out on something to work towards in May, so we set about finding ourselves an audience. Vicky spent many a happy hour on the phone to the care homes, persuading and cajoling them to come to the Civic Hall for an afternoon tea and a sing.

Eventually we had an audience of about forty, who had plenty of room to spread out around their tables and enjoy their afternoon tea. We sang through all of the set, mostly without music, and they all had a wonderful afternoon, thanking us and promising to come again next time!

As well as performing the songs we'd planned to make a recording of them all to allow us to use them as backing tracks for Paris. Technical gremlins mean the first recording didn't go entirely to plan, but once the audience had gone we opened the bar and after a brief interval for refreshments we cracked on and re-recorded all the Paris songs, ready to work with them for Paris.

It was a lovely day, and whilst we might have hoped more care homes would join us, we were all aware that it's still early days since covid, and hopefully in the future more of them would be willing to come out to us.

We followed this concert with our summer social- this time at the new venue of Chapel Gallery in Ormskirk. We had a Shaun disco special, and some delicious food and astonishingly huge cake for dessert, and a lovely evening all together.

Usually the summer social would be where this report ends, but not this year! Oh no!

For the first time ever we decided to take the choir on tour, and do an overseas performance.

Rather than me do the report for this, I asked a couple of the choir. Paris Trip - Thursday July 20th -Monday July 24th 2023- Report by Ann Morley

The day arrived for our choir trip to Paris an early start at 4am due to a rail strike, had us boarding our coach bleary eyed but very excited. Sarah had planned our trip with attention to every detail. Hotel, restaurants, Metro travel, a boat trip on the Sienne, and of course our choir concert, held in the Jardin du Luxemburg.

Our travel on Eurostar was made more enjoyable with us singing some of our concert itinerary and we were joined by some American students who gave us great applause. After arriving at our hotel, we started our sightseeing after our evening meal at La Scuderia Mulino with a visit to The Trocadero and a magical view of the Eiffel Tower, which sparkled at precisely 11pm. The atmosphere was wonderful with the tower with its twinkly lights and of course a photo opportunity for us all.

After breakfast the next morning we were off to Place De La Concorde to see the Eiffel Tower again but from a boat trip this time on the Sienne, a very chilling experience on what was a lovely day. Then time to relax and enjoy the Parisienne café culture for coffee. Back on The Batobus to explore the exterior of Notre Dame, the twelfth century Cathedral with its flying buttresses and gargoyles was a wonderful sight.

Café Panis was a delight for lunch. Then for an end to the day we walked along the Champs Elysees with its array of individual shops and cafes. The Arc de Triumph was stunning and viewing the eternal flame was very emotional. Saturday was concert day, at the Jardin du Luxemburg. A beautiful park, where we sang in a tall band stand where the acoustics were amazing. Lots of audience appreciation, with one person asking if we were performing anywhere else in Paris. The whole experience was wonderful. Dinner that evening was at the Boullion Chartier, a truly French experience with a great atmosphere and Lynn and Jason even sampling the snails. The evening finished with a visit to the Galleries Lafayette, an upmarket department store with impressive ceiling displays.

Sunday, we started by exploring Montmartre with its amazing artists painting as we watched. Even the rain couldn't spoil the day, we took a long lunch in one of the street cafés at Place Du Tertre.

After returning to the hotel to freshen up, we took a stroll to Sacre Coeur, probably one of the most icon monuments in Paris. With its Roman Byzantine style and serene atmosphere, it has a view over the whole of Paris from the entrance.

For our final evening in Paris, we had a really enjoyable dinner at Restaurante de Wepler. A good time was had by all, even though we were all a little sad that our trip was coming to an end. Our journey home the next day was very eventful, and I'm sure very stressful for Sarah. All went well

until we arrived at Euston station in London to find our train to Liverpool had been cancelled. Oliver, Sarah's nephew, was the star of the day, tracking a diverted route home through Leeds to St Helens where Sarah had arranged the coach to pick us up. We were all so grateful for his knowledge and expertise which brought us home safely. The whole trip to Paris was an amazing experience, made easy by all the hard work Sarah had put in with her expert planning, calm attitude when meeting difficulties and patience with us all. Thank you, Sarah, it's a trip we won't forget!

Report by Cheryl Jordan

It was an early start so the journey on the coach to London was pretty calm and quiet. On arriving in St Pancras we had a little time to kill before boarding our train and in this time Mary lost her suitcase but eventually and luckily found it again, thank the Lord. The Eurostar journey was very pleasant, we ate our lunch and had a little tippie. Everyone was in fine spirits and a sing song took place to which we even gathered a little audience. Upon arriving in Paris Sarah had to navigate thirty people through the metro system which is basically like the London Underground but more difficult, and to be honest if Sarah wasn't there I think we would still be trying to find our way out of there!

Arriving at our hotel we were allocated our rooms, we got ready for the evening meal and after we went to the Trocadero to see the Eiffel Tower which looked so beautiful lit up in the night sky. On gathering everyone for photos we noticed that little Lynn had gone missing so a search party was sent out to try and find her. It was a special night for me as my son Adam who was in Paris at a conference had arranged to meet us there and he helped in taking the group photographs so he came in handy. Oh and little Lynne was found but not in time for the photos.

During our time in Paris we encountered some pick pockets, poor Sue had her purse stolen on the Metro on our first night, luckily they only managed to take the cash out of the purse and leave the purse on the floor. On the second night a few of us went to a Bistro and sat outside, we seen a guy acting a bit suspicious but we were on to him straight away and kept our eye on him. He took up a seat next to a table full of people who were busy chatting and Kim and Sarah kept their beady eye on him, then they witnessed him take a purse from a ladies handbag, take the money out leaving the purse behind. As he got up to walk away Sarah shouted "stop thief!" to which we then all shouted "Thief" and pointed at him. He quickly dropped the money and was shooed on his way. It was all very exciting and we felt very good about our little effort to stop these low life thieves who prey on vulnerable tourists. -Saturday was concert day. On travelling to the park where the concert was to be held we had to navigate the metro again! Sarah stopped us all to give us the details of our train etc.. we continued to our platform but a train pulled up at the platform we had just stopped at

to gather people, we continued to walk until Sarah stopped to make sure we were still altogether but we had people missing. Mentioning no names Colin, Karen, Marilyn and Edna, were no where to be seen. They only got on the train that had pulled up and where on their way to god knows where! Luckily they made it back to us and we continued our journey to the park. The venue was beautiful and the concert went extremely well, Sarah's French was outstanding, she could have been saying anything as I don't speak French but I'm assuming it was all lovely and everyone seemed to understand her. At the end of the concert it was all very emotional and a few tears were shed, to say it was a perfect day was an understatement. We all went for a lovely meal and in the evening we went out for drinks to celebrate a successful day. Sunday we ventured along the Moulin Rouge on our way to Sacre Coeur Passing numerous naughty shops selling rather naughty things and I don't mean cream cakes, although they probably did sell cream in there amongst other Eiffel Tower shaped vibrating toys, not that I looked too closely but, I was rather taken with a lovely crotchless outfit which I'm sure I can get on eBay. Sacre Coeur was beautiful and Sarah took us up the Funicular! The views from up there were lovely. We had a nice long lunch with a bit of fizz and ended with a little shopping for souvenirs. When the day came to start our journey home all was going so well and smoothly until we got to Euston where all trains were cancelled and we were frantically trying to find a way home. Luckily Sarah's nephew Oliver helped find our way out of London but it involved racing across to Kings Cross to board the train to Leeds which was jam packed. We managed to get on the last carriage but it was mostly standing room only. A few members managed to get a seat but the majority of us had to stand or sit on the floor so this was going to be a long trip north. -3- Luckily a very nice guy started talking to us and keeping people amused and fascinating everyone as he was a professor of colour, some of our members ended up getting off the train a little wiser than when they got on! Eventually we made it back to St Helens where our coach picked us up to take us back to St Bedes. We were tired and exhausted but we managed to have a little sing song to keep our spirits up. All in all it was an amazing trip to Paris with lots of laughs and adventures but the main thing was we made lots of lovely memories to cherish forever. Thank you Sarah for organising this trip, for your patience and your company and to everyone involved, thanks for the memories. In the future we have our September concert, a chance to perform our set for the final time, and of course we can begin looking forward to Christmas all over again! We never get tired of it! In the new year we have a London trip to plan, as well as our May concert, and hopefully we will be able to see a bit more of the lovely care homes we welcomed this year. We're really looking forward to it all!

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

As we are looking at increasing our spending commitment for 2024, we have increased our reserve policy to ensure all our fixed costs can be met. We currently hold £5827 in cash reserves, some of which is still from Paris but most of which is general choir funds. This puts us in at the bottom of our reserves policy, so we will work hard this year to increase our reserves.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

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The charity's principle source of funding this year has been from membership fees and ticket sales at two of our concerts.

Section F Other optional information

We're really looking forward to next year, with a London trip and two big concerts in the first half of the year. Before that, we have September songs, our AGM and of course, Christmas to look forward to! This year we will also be singing for Queenscourt Hospice Lights of Love service, and we're really looking forward to making some new friends there.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Sarah Monteith</i>	<i>Helen P. Thompson</i>
Full name(s)	Sarah Anne Monteith	HELEN PATRICK THOMPSON
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trust	TREASURER
Date	13th October, 2023	13th October 2023

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

01/09/2022

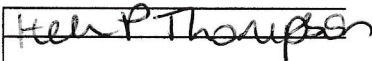
To

31/08/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket sales & raffles	2,096	-	-	2,096	2163
Subscriptions	3,105	-	-	3,105	3000
Donations	600	999	-	1,699	1085
Miscellaneous	30	-	-	30	11
Training	500	-	-	500	-
Choir socials	-	4,525	-	4,525	2656
Weekend away	-	-	-	-	1149
Paris Tour	-	20,904	-	20,904	2280
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,331	26,428	-	32,759	12334
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,331	26,428	-	32,759	12334
A3 Payments					
Venue hire/storage	2,848	-	-	2,848	3021
Insurance/subscriptions	296	-	-	296	271
Collaborations	1,508	-	-	1,508	1896
Music	272	-	-	272	172
Equipment/decorations	819	-	-	819	421
Uniforms	-	-	-	-	559
Training	1,110	-	-	1,110	-
Refreshments	123	-	-	123	14
Gifts/sundries	264	999	-	1,263	1247
Donations	-	-	-	-	135
Choir socials	-	4,459	-	4,459	2511
Weekend away	-	-	-	-	1149
Paris Tour	-	22,801	-	22,801	-
Sub total	7,230	28,259	-	35,489	11394
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	0
	-	-	-	-	0
Sub total	-	-	-	-	0
Total payments	7,230	28,259	-	35,489	11394
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 899	- 1,831	-	- 2,730	939
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,133	2,424	-	8,557	7618
Cash funds this year end	5,234	593	-	5,827	8557

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at Bank Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	5,234 - - 5,234	593 - - 593	-
		OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		- - - - - -	- - - - - -	- - - - - -
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			- - - - -	- - - - -
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			- - - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - - -
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			- - - - -	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			HELEN P. THOMPSON	13/10/23



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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts****Section A****Independent Examiner's Report****Report to the trustees/
members of**Charity Name
Resound Community Choir**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/8/2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1138352

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2023

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:**Date:**

10/12/2023

Name:

Lynda Jones

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Chartered Institute of Management accountants

Address:

3 Dawpool Drive

Moreton

Wirral, CH46 0PH

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None