

Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	6 <sup>th</sup>	April	2022		5 <sup>th</sup>	April



## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Deep Roots Tall Trees	
Other names charity is known by	DRTT	
Registered charity number (if any)	1169357	
Charity's principal address	53 High Street	
	Corby	
	Postcode	NN17 1UU

### 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	Mrs Bridget Margaret Watts			
2	Eddie Arthey			
3	John Mellor			
4	Diane Goldsmith	Chair		
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

<b>Type of adviser</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

Neil Paris – Artistic Director
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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

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

Constitution

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

Charitable Incorporate Organisation (Foundation)

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

Appointed by Charity Trustees

### 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.

DRTT is governed by a board of trustees. Prospective trustees are identified on a rolling basis by the Board and matched against the findings of an annual Board skills audit. They are initially approached by the Chair, a trustee or The Artistic Director who discusses with them the work and aims of the trust and requests that they join a board meeting as an observer. Following a satisfactory outcome, the prospective trustee is formally approached in writing by the Chair. The new trustee is then given an induction pack which includes information on the role and responsibilities of trustees, terms of appointment of trustees, a copy of the latest annual report and accounts, a copy of the current artistic plan, as well as policies including equal opportunities, child protection and vulnerable adults protection and health and safety policies. All trustees are offered places on relevant training courses as and when appropriate.

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- an annual review of the risks the organisation may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan;
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the organisation should those risks materialise.

The work has identified several risks related to ongoing changes in the prevailing funding environment in particular regarding the acquisition of funding through local grant schemes, National Lottery funded schemes, and charitable trusts and foundations. A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy and its regular review by trustees.

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

The objects of DRTT are as follows:

- To advance the arts, culture and heritage for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively, by promoting and facilitating access to and performances of music and other art forms; and
- To provide for the recreation of people of all ages in Northamptonshire and elsewhere for the benefit of the public by providing facilities and services to them in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving their conditions of life; and
- To advance education within the framework of music and arts for the benefit of the public of Northamptonshire and elsewhere.

### 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)

The Trustees of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on Public Benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The activities undertaken to further DRTT's purpose for the Public Benefit consist of arts and arts education projects, performances and events, providing opportunities for our beneficiaries to collaborate with professional musicians and artists of the highest calibre.

Our regular core activity is a community choir and a dancetheatre group whose membership consists of people living in the local area and beyond. The choir focuses on writing, arranging, rehearsing and performing songs alongside local amateur and professional musicians under the direction of our Music Director. The song repertoire comprises almost entirely original songs and we support our beneficiaries in taking an active part in the songwriting process. The dancetheatre group similarly works with our Artistic Director to create new bespoke pieces of work.

We run workshops and events based around singing and songwriting, dance and movement and related activities. These are offered out to the people in the choir and dancetheatre groups, the general public, and other organisations including local community groups and clubs and schools and colleges.

We also organise special music and arts projects that are larger in scale than our core activity. These include further opportunities for beneficiaries to collaborate with professional musicians and artists as well as offering:

- music and arts education workshops for the local community
- performances and arts events incorporating the work of other artists working across a range of different genres and forms in collaboration with the choir, our Artistic Director and Music Director;
- performance events open to the general public.

## 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.

Beneficiaries involved in our core activities (e.g. choir and dancetheatre groups) are also active as volunteers throughout the year supporting the operation of DRTT both in our regular activity as well as public events.

The management and running of the choir along with other activities is supported by Working Groups. These are voluntary groups open to all our beneficiaries. They also play an important role in helping to formulate the artistic planning of the organisation.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Deep Roots Tall Trees provides accessible arts and cultural activities for the people of Corby and surrounding areas. We empower participants to explore their creativity as a means through which to express themselves, develop new skills, and raise aspirations.



Based in the town of Corby, Northamptonshire, the organisation was set up in 2012 (first as an unincorporated association and then, in 2016, as a registered charity) as a response to the significant post-industrial social and economic changes the town was undergoing.

Working alongside professional artists, our singers, musicians and dancers create and perform their own songs and choreographies. Over the past 9 years, they have worked with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Sinfonia Viva, performed for the Queen, sung in Gaelic, Polish and Latvian, and performed in a football stadium, a theatre, an art gallery, in Corby's urban woodlands, and on film.

By enriching people's lives through arts and culture, our work impacts personal and social health and well-being, creates stronger communities, and builds a brighter and more fulfilling future for our beneficiaries.

Our vision for Deep Roots Tall Trees is to expand its offering of arts and cultural activities to all sectors of the local community as well as further afield, empowering individuals and partner organisations to achieve personal growth and societal change.

In response to the many difficulties local people face, we offer a programme of aspirational arts activities:

Deep Roots Tall Trees Choir and Deep Roots Tall Trees Dancetheatre - inclusive, open-access groups for adults that enable individuals to express themselves and their ideas through song, music, and dance.

Ring of Fire - a song-writing collective which writes songs and music drawing on the stories and life experiences of people in Corby for the choir to sing and perform.

Corby Future Voices - a singing and music production project for young people living on the Kingswood Estate, one of the most deprived and economically depressed wards of the town.

During 2022-2023, the organisation was run by:  
Neil Paris - Artistic Director and Dancetheatre Director  
Gareth Fuller - Music Director  
Simon Steptoe - General Manager

**ACTIVITIES AND PROJECT****Regular sessions**

Throughout the period both choir and dancetheatre continued their regular sessions. Whilst a blended live and online offer was retained the vast majority of participants chose to attend in-person and activities.

**Orchestral Collaboration with Sinfonia Viva: 'One Step at a Time'**

In May 2022, we completed our second project with the East Midlands-based orchestra, Sinfonia Viva. This began in March 2022 with all-day songwriting workshops that involved the whole choir and a composer and musicians from Sinfonia Viva. In May the choir and musicians (cello, oboe, vibraphone, double bass and drums) came back together to record both the new song and an existing DRTT song



'Changing Corby' which had been arranged for the quintet. Following this, a stop-motion animation film was produced by artist Ruth Pigott to accompany the song and complete the project. Ruth devised the animation alongside the choir who supplied the objects that featured in the film.

**Corby Pole Fair**

The choir were scheduled to perform on the main stage at this large-scale community festival which is held only once every 20 years and had written a song to mark the occasion. Due to a Covid outbreak within the choir, their performance had to be cancelled. However, several singers who were unaffected by the outbreak decided to perform the song acoustically, giving several unscheduled 'pop-up' performances during the day at different locations around the festival site.

**Benefit Concert for Ukraine**

The choir performed The Core at Corby Cube alongside other local groups and artists as part of a fundraising concert 'Brassed Off About Ukraine' organised by Oakley Vale Community Association and Corby Silver Band.

**Queens Jubilee celebration with Corby Community Arts**

The choir performed at a community event organised by Corby Community Arts to mark the Queens Jubilee. The event also included a performance from Barb Jungr who co-founded Deep Roots Tall Trees.



**DRTT Dancetheatre and Fermynwoods Contemporary Art**

In Autumn 2022, DRTT dancetheatre worked with Johannes Zits, a Canadian artist who was Artist-in-Residence at Fermynwoods Contemporary Art.

Together they developed an intuitive, durational public performance 'A Gathering With Young Birch Trees', which was performed in Barnwell Country Park near Oundle in North Northamptonshire.



The performance was filmed and the final version was displayed at the country park as part of Fermynwoods Treewilder exhibition and hosted on Fermynwoods website.

**Corby Future Voices**

DRTT continued to work at Kingswood Youth Club providing instruments, equipment and guidance for vulnerable young people on Corby's Kingswood estate to explore and express themselves through music. This work was



expanded to include Hazel Leys Happening Youth Hub, reaching more young people. Activities were delivered weekly and through specific half-term music clubs. The sessions continued to be delivered in partnership with a young man who grew up on the estate and we provided opportunities for him to develop his skills and experience through music training and theatre visits.

**10th Anniversary Concert**

In October 2022, a concert was held at The Core at Corby Cube to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Deep Roots Tall Trees Choir. The songs for the concert were chosen in consultation with choir members and spanned the choir's complete repertoire. The choir was joined onstage by founder member Barb Jung, a 5-piece band of professional musicians and local singer-songwriters. The event



also featured an exhibition put together by choir members of photos and memorabilia charting the choir's 10 years. Former choir members returned for the concert and other singers and musicians attended as invited guests.





**EARTHEART**

Funded by a Project Grant from Arts Council England, DRTT began a new 18-month project EARTHEART. Devised as a result of our organisational and artistic consultation process in 2021-2022, the project is the first step to achieving a more sustainable and financially resilient organisation over the next 5 to 10 years.



The artistic concept of the project is captured in the title and centres around the question: 'What do the words earth and heart mean to you?' The process began with a series of 'creative consultations' with our beneficiaries.



During the period the Artistic Director maintained links with the local business community through membership and attendance at networking events run by Love Corby. This led to securing a cash donation of £1,000 and in-kind print and design towards the 10<sup>th</sup>-anniversary concert.

He undertook Disability Awareness Training, Digital Rights Seminars, networking events and community consultations with North Northamptonshire Council.

**GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Board of Trustees for the year ending 5th April 2023 were:

Chair: Diane Goldsmith

Trustee: Eddie Arthey

Trustee: John Mellor

Trustee: Bridget Watts

Quarterly board meetings were held in person during the period.

**Steering Group**

Deep Roots Tall Trees Steering Group is made up of four members of the choir, dancetheatre and songwriting groups, the Artistic Director and General Manager. It met in January 2023 where it was decided that in its present form, it was no longer functioning effectively and that for the foreseeable future a new format of specific 'working groups' should be trialled. These groups would continue to be voluntary and made up of members of DRTT and allow a wider group of people to take an active role in the organisation. Feedback to the management team would be gathered through a process of community consultation both in-person and online.

Day-to-day and overall project management was undertaken by the Artistic Director and the General Manager.

**PARTICIPATION AND AUDIENCE**

During this period, across all activities, DRTT worked with approximately 110 participants and reached a combined audience of over 20,000. This figure includes live performances, views online via social media platforms and website visits.

**FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING**

During the period, DRTT received the following awards and grants to support EARTHEART:

- An award of £98,000 from Arts Council England with a first instalment of £49,000 being received in October 2022.
- £5,000 from the Kenneth Fund
- £1,584 from North Northamptonshire Council

In addition, for Corby Future Voices, a final payment of £2,297 was received from Youth Music, and a new grant of £4985 was obtained from Northamptonshire Community Foundation through the Kingwood and Hazel Leys Community Fund Big Local Fund.

Our regular groups continued to draw in subscriptions from members totalling £6,952 with donations from private sources reaching £104.

**INVOLVEMENT IN THE WIDER ARTS NETWORK**

Throughout the year the Artistic Director has maintained relationships with strategic local partners and continued to develop his own artistic practice, running and attending in-person and online workshops in the UK and Europe and developing performances for other organisations.

The General Manager continued his work as Musical Inclusion Partnership and Programme Manager for Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust. Choir Director Gareth Fuller continued to lead other choirs across the country and direct Northants Sings Out, a massed choir event in Northampton.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees have reviewed the organisation's needs to generate free reserves in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance.

In the Trustees' view, DRTT needs free reserves in order to:

- Ensure that funds are available to safeguard the organisation for the benefit of the local people accessing our services (i.e. our beneficiaries);
- Ensure there is sufficient cash during the high spending periods of the projects enabling DRTT to meet its short-term financial liabilities as they fall due;
- Provide the financial resources to enable investment in resources (e.g. premises, facilities, staff, equipment, documentation etc.) to enhance the range of services DRTT provides to its beneficiaries;
- Maintain sufficient funds to enable operational activities to be maintained, taking account of potential financial risks, uncertainties and contingencies that may arise from time to time.

In light of the above, the trustees aim to maintain a target level of free reserves equal to three months of administrative and management costs. In 2021/22 this would have equated to £9,000.

The level of free reserves at the end of 2022/23 is £8,212.

This reflects the steady progress made to build the level of reserves from the previous year-end of £2,970 and is due in the main to the benefits of receiving support from Arts Council England via the Cultural Recovery Fund set up during the pandemic to provide arts and cultural organisations with necessary resources to improve our financial position and emerge from the pandemic with a strong foundation.

The strategy to continue to increase reserves towards the level designated above (i.e. £9000) will continue over the coming year.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

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

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

#### A) Funding Sources:

DRTT's principal sources are:

i) Subscriptions from our beneficiaries attending our regular core activities. This currently includes both the choir and the dancetheatre group. Trustees reserve the right to waive such fees for those individuals on benefits or who can demonstrate low levels of income or other forms of economic disadvantage.

ii) Grants from a range of sources including:

- National Lottery funded sources;
- Locally managed grants schemes through bodies such as Northamptonshire Community Foundation and local government departments;

- Charitable trusts and foundations.

In 2022/23, we received renewed grant support from Arts Council England for Eartheart and secured further support from Northamptonshire Community Foundations, The Kenneth Fund, North Northamptonshire Council, Corby Lottery and the Co-op Local Community Fund.

### iii) Donations from individuals

### B) Fund Accounting:

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. DRTT does not currently hold any designated funds.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the CIO for particular purposes.

As at 5th April 2023, DRTT held the following restricted funds:

Eartheart - £23,592

Future Voices 2 - £882



### C) Going Concern Issues

At the time of writing, the Trustees are confident that DRTT remains a going concern until March 2024.

**Section F****Other optional information****Section G****Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Diane Goldsmith	EDWARD ARTHET
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	TRUSTEE
Date	Oct 3rd 2023	3 OCTOBER 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Deep Roots Tall Trees

No (if any)  
1169357

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period  
from

Period start date  
06/04/2022

To

Period end date  
05/04/2023

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Charitable activities	2,813	76,623	-	79,435	47,942
Donations and Gift Aid	104	-	-	104	132
Bank Interest	11	-	-	11	6
Earned Income	550	-	-	550	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>3,478</b>	<b>76,623</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80,100</b>	<b>48,080</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3,478</b>	<b>76,623</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80,100</b>	<b>48,080</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of Charitable Activities	13,535	73,933	-	87,468	78,955
Cost of Fundraising	-	7,000	-	7,000	6,500
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>13,535</b>	<b>80,933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>94,468</b>	<b>85,455</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13,535</b>	<b>80,933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>94,468</b>	<b>85,455</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 10,057</b>	<b>- 4,311</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 14,368</b>	<b>- 37,375</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>15,481</b>	<b>- 15,481</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>51,847</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,635</b>	<b>92,010</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>8,212</b>	<b>32,055</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,267</b>	<b>54,635</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Deep Roots Tall Trees - current account	8,212	25,442	-
	Our Woods - current account	-	1,538	-
	Savings account	-	5,076	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>8,212</b>	<b>32,055</b>	<b>-</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-


	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Office equipment including IT	Unrestricted	-	-
	Musical Instruments	Restricted	-	-
	Audio Equipments	Restricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

CCXX R2 accounts (SS)

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	E. S. ARTHY	25/09/23
	D. E. Goldsmith	03/10/23
		29/09/2023





# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Deep Roots Tall Trees

On accounts for the year  
ended

5<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Charity no  
(if any) 1169357

Set out on pages

pl - 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent  
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below \*)~~

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, 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:

Zoe Jane Carrell

Date:

11/7/23

Name:

ZOE JANE CARRELL

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

BSc (Soc Sci)  
ACA (retired)



Address:

31 LATTIMORE CLOSE

WEST HADDON

NORTHANTS NN6 7GL

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.