



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	APRIL	2023		31	MARCH	2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

THE SITAR MUSIC SOCIETY

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1170299

Charity's principal address

93 EMPINGHAM DRIVE, LEICESTER

Postcode

LE7 2DL

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	D. S. Dhadyalla	Chairman		
2	Atul Patel	Treasurer		
3	Anita Mistry			
4				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NONE	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser

Name

Address

NONE

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

NONE – VOLUNTEERS ONLY

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 INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (CIO)

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

Appointed By Governing Body

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.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and can receive reasonable expenses incurred in the course of their duties but do not receive any remuneration.

A number of Volunteers help to programme, promote and run our events. Volunteers can receive reasonable expenses incurred in the course of their duties and may receive token honoraria for services rendered.

Declarations of Interests are made by Trustees and Volunteers, as applicable, and maintained in a register. Payments to one related party have been previously cleared with the Charity Commission.

SMS is a member of Making Music through which it has access to training resources, policies, and various insurances.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

- (a) 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.
- (b) To advance the education of all aspects of Indian classical music and dance, for the general public in Leicester and the United Kingdom.
- (c) To create opportunities for teaching, mentoring, training, and gaining qualifications at all levels of sitar playing and related instruments.
- (d) To promote excellence in all aspects of performance of the sitar and related instruments for UK-based musicians and the wider public.

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)

SMS has no staff or premises but relies on volunteers, and partnerships with established institutions. The programme is carried out in hired premises, or volunteers' homes, or the premises of partner organisations.

In devising our programme of activities, we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Our events are open to the general public, and some are free. Partner organisations are public bodies or charities or non-profits.

We have an Artistic Policy and Strategy that informs each year's programme of events and performances. The Trustees have an important role in maintaining artistic excellence. The Chairman is a professional artist and educator of high standing. Other Trustees and volunteers are also artists or have considerable knowledge, experience and networks in their arts field.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We are very pleased to note the significant increase in activity this year after a slow start coming out of the pandemic close-down. We held 10 public events:

- 5 Sitar Open Sessions – innovative sessions where participants could try out holding and playing a sitar, or bring your own and get some initial tutoring and mentoring, or find out more about how to string and maintain your instrument.
- Yuva Kala, Concert presenting three very promising young musicians.
- Annual Guru Purnima event showcasing a range of student abilities with lots of proud audience support from families, friends and SMS supporters.
- A Sitar Recital by Mehboob Nadeem accompanied by Hanif Khan, two high-calibre performers based in UK.
- Revival of our annual Diwali Concert at The Guildhall in partnership with Leicester Museums and Leicester Cathedral – featuring Guru and disciple, Ustad Dharambir Singh with Roopa Panesar, accompanied by Shahbaz Hussain; and
- Our Annual Tribute to Ustad Vilayat Khan.

Seven out of the 10 were sold-out events, indicating how popular our events have become. In total we attracted an audience of 398 people representing 91% of capacity.

Nine of the 10 events were held at the Attenborough Arts Centre - we benefit greatly from their unstinting support, and we are most grateful to them for being our much-valued partner.

Congratulations to all our volunteers and musicians for their enormous support too! It puts us in a very good position for head towards 2025 as our 10th year anniversary.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Income is sourced from charges for events, which are kept reasonable and affordable, and donations from companies and individuals. Some donations qualify for Gift Aid. SMS is registered with the HMRC for this purpose. We have a prudent financial strategy to ensure each event covers its costs and makes a small contribution to the overall surplus. We do not receive any other grants or public funding.

At the end of the year, SMS has £14,662 in unrestricted reserves. Reserves are presently maintained as a risk-buffer and for cash-flow management. Our aim was to grow it to £10k for these purposes, and to be able to provide match-funding in grant applications that we may choose to make in future. We are pleased to have achieved this goal.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

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.

We had a good year financially thanks to a donation of £7,142.72 from Ms Basanti Chatterjee of Mrritika Arts Coventry. Her organisation was being dissolved and the surplus funds were to be given to a similar charity. Thanks to her previous contacts with our Chairman and positive references from others, they decided to give all the surplus funds to SMS. Our grateful thanks are acknowledged on our website.

All the income, and some of the artistic fees expenditure, relating to the 15 March 24 Tribute to Ustad Vilayat Khan Concert will fall into the following year due to invoice processing times by University of Leicester.

The Society ends the year with a very healthy balance of £14,462 the highest it has ever been as we go into our 10th Anniversary year in 2025.



Section F Other optional information

None

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)	Dharambir S. Dhadyalla, MBE	Atul Patel, MBE
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Treasurer
Date	26 June 2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

THE SITAR MUSIC SOCIETY

No (if any)

1170299

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01 April 2023

To

Period end date
31 March 2024

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					
DONATIONS	7,293	-	-	7,293	21
BOX OFFICE	2,963	-	-	2,963	-
GIFT AID	-	-	-	-	5
PARTNERSHIP FUNDING	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from reserves at year end	-	-	-	-	608
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,255	-	-	10,255	634
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,255	-	-	10,255	634
A3 Payments					
VENUE HIRE, PR & TECH FEES	187	-	-	187	-
ARTISTS FEES	2,103	-	-	2,103	-
ARTISTS T&S	67	-	-	67	-
INSURANCES	158	-	-	158	417
OTHER/WEBSITE COSTS	-	-	-	-	-
Marketing & Printing	65	-	-	65	0
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	23
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,580	-	-	2,580	440
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,580	-	-	2,580	440
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,676	-	-	7,676	194
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,986	-	-	6,986	6,792
Cash funds this year end	14,662	-	-	14,662	6,986

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				
	BANK ACCOUNT	14,662	-	-
	Petty Cash	-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	14,662	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

		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	Details			
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		ATUL PATEL, TREASURER	26-Jun-24