

## **DSO TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

### **I. Intro**

Covid regulations and restricted working practices in the Care sector since March 2020 continue to challenge our Charity yet we are proud to say that DSO has continued to thrive. This Annual Report is produced at a juncture when we, have endured the logistical challenge of restricted Care Homes' participation. We are eternally grateful for the resilience and continued commitment of our supporters and benefactors. Our charitable objectives remain unchanged though we have had to adopt a more flexible and imaginative approach in all of our activities simply to ensure that the charity thrives.

### **II. Overview of Activities**

Whilst continuing our online sessions we also returned to in-person Thursday morning singing sessions in the summer of 2021. We decided to commit to a hybrid provision despite the inevitable technology challenges and have been forced to invest in improved equipment to make the experience more rewarding. We also took the decision to build upon our ongoing dialogue with Care Homes by conducting Trustee visits to promote our activities, and by providing material for song lyrics and offering IT advice. We have found, however, that there are wide variations in the approach of Care Homes. Some are far more receptive than others to our support because a Thursday morning singing session demands manpower resources which are stretched in the current climate. It has been a highlight when on a precious few occasions Care Homes have been able to attend in person. Every Care Home is different in its resourcing and staffing and this is why the Trustees have made determined attempts to build our personal relationships across Northamptonshire with those involved. One benefit of our online facility is that we now have Care Homes in neighbouring counties attending on Thursdays as well as family members across the UK being able to connect with their loved ones who are attending in person.

We were able to secure our base at the Champions Centre in Wellingborough when there was a threat of having to seek an alternative weekly venue. The actual singing sessions, run by our inspirational choirmaster Gareth Fuller, have developed in terms of a broader repertoire of songs and, very successfully, we now incorporate choreography and the use of percussion instruments.

In numerical terms these weekly sessions now attract in the region of 40-50 attendees with often 20-30 of these online. Our client base also includes a number of people who attend with individual carers, relatives or friends and some perhaps have not yet received a diagnosis of dementia; all are treated equally respectfully. The trustees have also taken the decision to provide refresher dementia awareness training for our growing band of supporters.

The Trustees have embarked upon a renewed marketing and publicity campaign to raise the charity's profile. This tireless programme has focused upon presentations to a variety of local community groups. Logistically we are confident that we can also now build upon our contacts with local schools in particular to develop the mutual benefits of collaboration between our clients and young schoolchildren.

As well as regularly considering our Trustee responsibilities we have discussed the feasibility of recruiting further trustees to improve our understanding of the Care Sector. We have been greatly helped in this area by the practical support of a number of professional care workers. At the time of reporting we are progressing through a process to interview possible trustees to strengthen further the breadth of our Board of Trustees.

We continue to value the feedback which we receive from Care Homes, family members and carers, examples of which are readily available on our social media platforms. In our first report we referenced attendees who were otherwise isolated during lockdown and who have continued to benefit from our singing sessions as a means of social interaction which otherwise would have been denied them. One benefit of this has been that young children and those recovering from strokes have provided added ingredients which have made for an increasingly eclectic mix in our participants. The charity's focus will continue to be upon the obvious benefits of singing for all those living with dementia but this broader element has, in our view, provided an opportunity to broaden the experiences and social interaction. The trustees' considered collective opinion is that anything which enhances the awareness of dementia in the community is to be worthwhile.

### **III. Specific Activities**

- Promotion of an awareness of dementia
- Weekly Zoom and in-person singing sessions
- Safeguarding training for all trustees
- Delivery of song booklets to Care Homes
- IT teaching support for private individuals and Care Homes
- Monitoring of success of DSO activities/provision via website analytics
- Promotion of DSO activities through increased media publicity campaigns
- Publicity given to promoting the broader benefits of singing

### **IV. Future Planning**

The DSO Trustees have reached the point in the Charity's development where, given the demands faced by running a hybrid provision, we are ready to reassess our strategic longer-term aims and objectives. A specific longer term strategy meeting is planned for the autumn for this express purpose.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Dementia Sings Out

No (if any)  
1186115

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

Period start date  
01/12/2020

To

Period end date  
30/11/2021

### 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>					
National Lottery Grant	-	9,727	-	9,727	-
Voluntary Donations	11,772	-	-	11,772	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	11,772	9,727	-	21,499	-
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	11,772	9,727	-	21,499	-
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Choir Director Fees	-	7,050	-	7,050	-
Use Of Venue	-	320	-	320	-
Refreshments	-	95	-	95	-
Equipment	-	817	-	817	-
Stationery & Printing	-	-	-	-	-
Website Hosting	149	-	-	149	-
Website Support	1,080	-	-	1,080	-
Gifts	92	-	-	92	-
Misc	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	1,321	8,282	-	9,603	-
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	1,321	8,282	-	9,603	-
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	10,451	1,445	-	11,896	-
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	2,088	2,088	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	11,595	643	-	12,238	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	24,134	-	-	24,134	-

## 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>	Current a/c	24,134	-	-
	Petty Cash	18	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>24,152</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details			
	Gift Aid to be claimed	1,250	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<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>	Details			
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details			
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	