

Our Dementia Choir
(Registered charity, number 1187483)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Page	Contents
2 - 4	Trustees' annual report
5	Independent examiner's report
6	Receipts & payments account
7	Statement of assets & liabilities
8 - 9	Notes to the accounts

**Our Dementia Choir
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

Full name Our Dementia Choir

Registered charity number 1187483

Principal address 3rd Floor, Butt Dyke House, 33 Park Row, Nottingham, NG1 6EE

Trustees

Grace Meadows	Colin Peacock
Mark De Lisser	Ajay Sethi
Thomas Dening	Robert Tomlinson
Les Marshall	Peter Coventry, from 30/06/23
Vicky McClure, until 4 April 2024	Daniela Smith, until 4 April 2024
Emma Cripwell, until 4 April 2024	

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

All Trustees are given an induction pack and an individual introductory session. All Trustees are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct, which sets our Trustees' responsibilities to the Charity.

The Trustees have a strategic vision for the organisation that is articulated in a plan. The plan ensures compliance with regulators' requirements (Charity Commission), the Trustees monitor financial performance and projections on a regular basis. Trustees ensure that obligations to funders are fulfilled through the monitoring and evaluation of the performance of the director/head of staff on a regular basis.

The Trustees ensure that there are adequate operational policies and procedures in place in relation to employment law, volunteers, health and safety, children and vulnerable adults. Although not rising often, the board of Trustees will deal with conflicts of interest on the committee in a way that is consistent with current requirements and the organisation's constitution. It is important to the Board of Trustees to ensure there is an appropriate range of expertise, experience and diversity to make it an effective governing body and that it receives adequate information in the right format and at the right time to make informed decisions.

The charity works with a wide range of external organisations to support the members, carers and wider communities. These include:

- Alzheimer's Society
- Universities for medical research
- Dementia Connect
- Social Prescribing
- BBC and Curve Media

Our Dementia Choir

- Music for Dementia
- Inspire Music
- Local NHS and Local Authorities
- Young Dementia Network

Objectives and activities

Our Dementia Choir offers a choir for a wide range of age groups who are living with dementia.

The charity's object is for the public benefit, to preserve and protect good health among people with dementia, their families and carers particularly, but not exclusively through the provision of a choir. The Trustees have considered the guidance issues by the Charity commission on public benefit and consider this charity to comply with the requirements.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

During the year we have supported people affected by dementia and their carers through the provision of a choir that is specifically organised for people living with dementia to join.

The charity provides help with the logistics and expenses involved with getting members of the choir to rehearsals and performances, as well as wellbeing events to support them.

We aim to provide a safe and suitable environment for choir members to come together and practise and perform. Members of the choir have direct benefits which flow from this that include a sense of purpose and well-being, an increase in self-esteem and confidence and the great bond of friendship.

We raise awareness of dementia for the public benefit by setting up the choir to perform at concerts and events nationwide. We support other dementia activities and charities, NHS, Local Authorities and businesses by performing at their events and hence contributing to their fundraising efforts.

The beneficiaries are the individual members of the choir, their carers and relatives as well as the general public who attend or view the choir's performances. During the year the charity was grateful to receive contributions to the activities of the charity by 10 volunteers.

Our Dementia Choir

Achievements, performance and challenges

There are almost 1 million people in the UK who live with a form of dementia, and despite the progress being made in the search for a cure, it is unlikely to come quickly enough to help them. For these people, what's essential is to find the best way of living with their dementia here and now.

The formation of the Choir is now established as what is now known as the 'Dementia Choir Family'. The choir has been involved in various high profile televised performances, raising awareness of the difficulties for those living with dementia. It participated in a part documentary featuring Vicky McClure; 'My Dementia Choir'. This aired in September 2019 with a Christmas Special in December 2020. The most recent production was aired on the BBC in October 2022 and most of the programmes are now starting to be played worldwide, including Europe, the USA and Australia.

The charity has been involved in dementia research with medical professionals to understand and see the power of music for those living with dementia. Public events have been attended, raising the profile and awareness of the choir and charity, as well as removing the stigma of those living with dementia. The choir has also recently recorded its own single.

We have been proud to appear at a number of events during this financial year, including our own special performances.

Challenges for the choir continue; keeping up with recruitment, there is currently a waiting list of potential members, fundraising during a financial crisis and the ongoing concerns around dementia care and support.

The Trustees are looking forward to growing the charity within the 3-year strategy.

Financial review

During the year, the charity raised funds totalling £229,996 (2023: £239,371) of the funds generated £32,424 (2023: £34,510) was from JustGiving donations received through our website, as a result of the public relations work undertaken with the BBC.

At the year end, the charity held unrestricted reserves of £91,292 (2023: £113,722). The Trustees have established a 3-year strategy that is on target and being developed as the charity becomes more established. Budget planning has shown that the choir requires £200,000 per annum to run successfully. This is being maintained at present.

The Trustees consider that the charity should carry reserves equal to one and a half times the total expenditure of the charity.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed _____ Date _____
Colin Peacock, Trustee

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Our Dementia Choir
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Our Dementia Choir (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed _____ Date _____

John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

Our Dementia Choir
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 August 2024

2023 £		Note	2024 £
	Receipts		
96988	Donations	2	81342
21000	Grants	2	69025
121383	Merchandise & fundraising		54791
-	Transport income		8485
-	VAT received		11629
-	Sundry receipts		4724
<u>239371</u>	Total receipts		<u>229996</u>
	Payments		
3250	Merchandise costs		10629
27778	Transport		22745
20986	Venue & food costs		33310
2026	Other staff expenses		95
10696	General expenses		8330
779	IT		5401
7683	Accommodation		8573
807	Safeguarding		110
746	Carer support		1992
100774	Professional fees		154726
389	Events		737
890	Bank charges		710
560	Insurance		1163
4713	Other charitable expenses		2229
31	Computer equipment		1676
<u>182108</u>	Total payments		<u>252426</u>
57263	Net receipts/(payments)		(22430)
56459	Cash funds at start of this period		113722
<u>113722</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>91292</u>

Our Dementia Choir
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 August 2024

2023			2024
£	Cash assets	Note	£
113722	Bank accounts		91292
<u>113722</u>			<u>91292</u>
	Other monetary assets		
1500	Debtors	3	8331
-	Prepayments - insurance		920
545	VAT		-
<u>2045</u>			<u>9251</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use		
	Three laptops purchased Nov 2023, totalling £1,241.		
	Liabilities		
(528)	Independent examination		(552)
<u>(1397)</u>	Creditors	4	<u>(12994)</u>
<u>(1925)</u>			<u>(13546)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed _____ Dated _____
Colin Peacock, Trustee

Our Dementia Choir
Notes to the accounts

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	£
Alzheimer's Society	30000
Nationnal Lottery - Awards for All	17250
FONO	10000
BNA - Tech grant	5000
MBF	5000
Tesco - Healthy Starts	1125
Centre for Ageing Well	650
Sundry grants & donations	81342
	<u>150367</u>

3. Debtors

	£
Merchandise & fundraising	2640
Other receipts	3946
Transport income	1745
	<u>8331</u>

4. Creditors

	£
Travel expenses	206
Catering & refreshments	3710
Consulting	9078
	<u>12994</u>

5. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received the following remuneration during the period for consultancy:

Mark de Lisser £7,622, (2023: £2,426)

Daniela Smith £7,137, (2023: £3,210)

Emma Cripwell £36,521, (2023: £11,419)

6. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the period.

Our Dementia Choir
Notes to the accounts (continued)

7. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.