

Charity registration number 1188584 (England and Wales)

Company registration number CE021156

**TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

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**TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

**Objectives and activities**

To relieve the needs of those with special and/or additional needs through the provision of musical based activities.

The charity promotes inclusion and diversity within its service. No one is excluded from the benefits of our provisions - although a particular focus is placed within disability and mental health.

The charity aims to reach areas that have limited to no funding and engage with an audience that would otherwise miss out on the therapeutic, social and sensory stimulants our delivery provides.

Our objectives are to provide social inclusion, promote confidence, increase awareness of self-development via creative engagement, encourage expression and enable sensory and therapeutic benefits.

**Achievements and performance**

*Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

**Charitable activities**

The charity has continued its expansion and reach during our 5th year of operation.

**Grants Applications**

**Basildon Council - Grant to Organisations**

This project was outlined in the previous years annual return - however, funds were not due to arrive until April 2024. The following run of sessions, have now been completed:

TIME visited 4 elderly & dementia care homes in Basildon. Each home received 4 inclusive music sessions, spread over 12 months. Our sessions entailed performances of popular songs from the 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's, that aided positive wellbeing and physical stimulation. Each resident was offered the opportunity to participate with accessible musical instruments and moments were set aside to encourage conversation and reflection, that performances such as this regularly spark.

Sessions include sensory & relaxation experiences, via the use of calming music (both live & pre-recorded). Attendees experienced instruments such as wind chimes and singing bowls, and their corresponding vibrations and soothing nature.

In addition, residents with previous instrument experience, had this ability encouraged, incorporated & showcased during the sessions delivery.



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### **ASDA - Empowering Local Communities**

Due to the documented success of projects such as the one outlined previously (Basildon Council - Grants to Organisations) - TIME are continually seeking opportunities to expand this initiative and increase the amount of attendees in receipt of the resulting therapeutic benefits.

The ASDA Empowering Local Communities bid provided an additional opportunity to visit a further 4 dementia care homes in the Basildon area, that received the charities inclusive music sessions.

In addition, a portion of the fund enabled TIME to purchase sensory equipment, that expanded the array of therapeutic engagement our instructors are able to provide.

### **Postcode Places Trust**

TIME were successful with our first application to the Postcode Lottery Fund - Postcode Places Trust - a fund that will provide a 3rd of a charities turnover. Therefore, TIME were awarded £6,479.

This 'unrestricted' pot was utilised for admin duties (client acquisition, management, promotion), marketing materials (flyers, social media campaigns) - and to further the charities reach and impact (targeting new environments that had not yet benefited from TIME's services).

### **Essex Association of Local Councils**

Due to the success of TIME's project delivery at The Billericay Mens Shed (for adults living with dementia), and the overwhelmingly positive feedback received from attendees, TIME sought funds to extend the project. The Essex Association of Local Council provided a project grant of £991.

Our initial project culminated with the group composing their own song. This new fund enabled our instructors to provide a full recording experience for the participants. Each member contributed their own lyrics and musical ideas - and was then able to perform and capture each of them.

This extended project lead to further opportunities, as Basildon Council contacted the charity and invited The Mens Shed to perform their original composition at the councils Volunteer Awards. This presented another unique experience for the group, that added a further boost in confidence and pride, for all involved.

Another extension occurred, when sponsors of the volunteer awards, c2c, invited the group to perform at one of London's busiest train stations (Fenchurch Street), for the VE Day 80 celebrations.

This group have defied perceived limitations, demonstrated incredible creativity and dedication - and provided their loved ones and support networks with numerous heart warming moments of connection and pride.

### **Essex County Council**

TIME were approached by commissioners from Essex County Council, after they became aware of the work we were delivering in the local community. Initial discussions took place to see how they could potentially support one of our initiatives. It was agreed that the charities inclusive club night (Involve) aligned well with the councils priorities - and that 12 months of financial support would be provided. The aim of this grant, was to make Involve a free entry event, that would help increase attendance, raise awareness and further the impact of its many social benefits for the disabled community.



# **TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### **Area Committee Fund**

TIME were successful with an application to Basildon Council Area Committee Fund. The finances enabled TIME to acquire a range of equipment to enhance the experience for all attendees of the Involve club night. Items included guitars, lighting and sensory instruments - with each purchase aiding the inclusivity and creative accessibility of this event.

### **Donations**

Alongside some monthly direct debits from members of the public, the charity has received donations from some of the care home settings we have visited. This has been particularly present at environments we have delivered numerous free sessions for - or acquired a period of grant funding, to remove the cost for this client. As a result, staff have liaised and conducted small fundraising events, with proceeds donated to TIME.

In addition - a local music promotions company organised a fundraising evening with DJ's and live music, with all proceeds donated to the charity.

The charity would like to increase its public donations, as these unrestricted funds are vital for sustainability of such initiatives as our 'first session for free' policy. They also aid with general running costs (HR, insurance, accounting), admin & management.

Promotional videos were created towards the end of this year's operations, which increased levels of engagement via our social media pages and a slight boost in donations. The charity believe they are well placed to expand on this, now we have data that demonstrates what media campaigns had the most impact.

Additional funds were received by Colin Kingsnorth to aid the charity's growth. This was utilised for HR duties (policies & contracts), Business Plan expenses (constructed with a freelance writer) and music instructor/session delivery costs.



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### Operations

TIME have continued to seek environments that have limited to no funding resources, and will ensure TIME can provide our services free of charge.

If no project specific grant has been acquired - we have continued our ongoing 'first session for free' policy, which allows care homes, day centres and other organisations to experience what we offer before committing to bookings. Whenever possible, we look to provide full sessions at no cost - ensuring accessibility, and helping us reach new groups who may otherwise never experience the benefits of musical engagement.

We've broadened the range of people and settings we work with, and have continued seeking new environments where our sessions could bring meaningful impact. Alongside this, we've increased the number of grant applications submitted, resulting in a higher turnover than the previous year.

Larger funding pots were also approached this year, including Big Lottery and Children In Need. While we were unfortunately unsuccessful, both funders noted that changes to their programmes and criteria led to significantly higher volume of applicants than usual. We're confident that the improved turnover in the current year, compared to the previous year's lower figures, will strengthen our position in future submissions.

We've also begun developing a more details business plan, helping us to clarify the charity's long-term vision, income strategy and operational structure.

Our inclusive club night, INVOLVE, has grown in attendance and community benefit, particularly due to the even becoming fully funded and free to attend. This has allowed us to reach more of the local disabled community and provide an inclusive music hub that people can depend on.

Awareness of the charity and our therapeutic aims has grown, with improved visibility both online and within the local communities. Relationships with local councils have strengthened, leading to increased referrals, collaboration, and recognition of the service's value.

Following plans outlined last year, we proceeded with engaging Sophie Brewer of Phronesis Operations. Her advice and guidance have been instrumental in aiding the charity's growth. With highly relevant experience and a strong understanding of our value, Sophie has provided invaluable support, particularly around systems, planning and long-term strategy. We meet on a monthly basis and will be continuing the working relationship for a further 12 months.

### Financial review

#### Principal funding sources

The charity has received a combination of public donations and funds from the successful grant applications. The charity uses the services of the 'Peoples Fundraising Platform' to receive donations. They also collect gift aid on the charities behalf.

Grants have been received from the following:

ASDA: Empowering Local Communities - £770  
Postcode Places Trust - £6,479  
Essex Association of Local Council - £991  
Essex County Council - £16,800  
Basildon Council: Area Committee Fund - £3,726

#### *Reserves policy*

#### Reserves policy

The charity wishes to maintain a minimum reserve of £10k in its accounts at all times. A financial review has taken place and it is agreed by all trustees that this amount meets our overheads. A financial review will take place each year, and as the charity grows, this reserve will increase in line with financial needs.



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### **Plans for future periods**

The charity will continue to place strong focus on the elderly and dementia care sector, which is a core area of our work. We believe these environments benefit enormously from our approach, and we will continue to utilise unrestricted funds and public donations to deliver free or subsidised music sessions to care home and day centres whenever possible.

Over the past year, song writing projects delivered with Peaceful Place and The Billericay Men's Shed have shown us the profound impact these creative experiences can have. The song writing process, combined with the confidence-building, and live performance opportunities that followed, provided immense emotional and physical benefits for those involved. This has highlighted a real desire from both participants and staff for us to continue developing this strand of work, and we will be seeking further funding to expand and sustain these projects.

To support our ambitions for long-term sustainability, we have acquired the services of an assistant bid writer, who will now be working closely with the charity moving forward. Their involvement is expected to increase both the number and value of funding applications submitted. Our aim is to secure longer-term grants spanning 2-5 years, enabling us to offer more stability for staff and participants alike, and ensure a continued delivery of high-impact sessions to those most in need.

A funding extension for our inclusive club night, INVOLVE, will also be sought. The event has proven to be one of the most vibrant and valued parts of our weekly output, particularly since becoming fully funded and free to attend. As the event grows in reach, so does its significance within the local disabled community and we are committed to make sure it continues to thrive.

We will also continue to strengthen relationships with councils, community groups, and local arts organisations, building partnerships with services whose aims align with ours, particularly in areas of disability, vulnerability, elderly care and mental health. These connections are vital in helping us identify new opportunities, share learning, and increase the number of people our charity can benefit.

The idea of acquiring a permanent premises will be revisited this year. Although it was decided last year that funds would be better directed towards service delivery and staffing, our growing workload and programme size means there may now be value in securing a small base. Ideally, this space would support administrative work and act as a venue for occasional 1-1 or group sessions.

Following a successful first year working alongside Sophie Brewer (Phronesis Operations), we will continue the relationship for a further 12 months. Her advice has been instrumental in helping shape and clarify our development plans, systems and future direction.

To further our growth and increase awareness of our work, we will also seek the support of a marketing strategist or consultant and potentially someone with sales experience, to help us reach new client groups, diversify income streams, and increase the charity's overall visibility and impact.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation, that received charitable status in March 2020.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Sherry-Ann Cribben

Colin Kingsnorth

Jemma Keyes

### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The charity aims to ensure that its trustees are able to bring a variety of different skills to the team. Our board is made up of individuals with great amounts of knowledge within the arts, education, social care and financial sectors. We believe this broad range of experiences, will lead to the successful delivery of the charity's purposes.

Trustees positions will be reviewed at each AGM, where opportunities to retire from the office will be presented. However, if trustees wish to leave their role before such AGM, then written notice will be supplied to remaining trustees, and the board will seek a suitable replacement.



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### *Organisational structure*

#### **Organisational structure**

Trustees will oversee the delivery of the charities purposes, via the arrangement that is in place with TIME limited was outlined in the charities registration to the commission.

### *Induction and training of trustees*

#### **Induction and training of new trustees**

All new trustees are provided with details of the responsibilities, by way of the relevant Charity Commission policies, agreements and documents. Further training is available to any trustee who wishes to receive it.

### *Other matters*

#### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The trustees also undertake regular risk assessment reviews covering the charity's operational, strategic, legal, insurance and employment risks, and where appropriate, system or procedures have been established to mitigate these risks.

### *Relationship with wider network*

#### **Wider network**

The charity will continue to strengthen links with organisations that have already been established, and will continually seek to form new relationships that increase the reach and effectiveness of its charitable purpose.

The trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Sherry-Ann Cribben

Trustee

Date: 3rd July 2025



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Together In Musical Expression (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

#### **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 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

**Michael Davies**

51 Churchill Avenue

Basildon

Essex

SS14 3SB

England

Date: .....



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	2	2,431	-	2,431	2,689	-	2,689
Charitable activities	3	6,479	33,888	40,367	100	2,210	2,310
<b>Total income</b>		8,910	33,888	42,798	2,789	2,210	4,999
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	4	13,433	25,488	38,921	10,855	2,210	13,065
<b>Total expenditure</b>		13,433	25,488	38,921	10,855	2,210	13,065
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds</b>		(4,523)	8,400	3,877	(8,066)	-	(8,066)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		17,225	-	17,225	25,291	-	25,291
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2025</b>		12,702	8,400	21,102	17,225	-	17,225

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand		21,427		17,525	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	(325)		(300)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			21,102		17,225
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	9		8,400		-
Unrestricted funds	10		12,702		17,225
			21,102		17,225

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025



Sherry-Ann Cribben  
Trustee

Company registration number CE021156 (England and Wales)

Date 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Together In Musical Expression is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is .

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	2,431	2,689



**TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**3 Charitable activities**

	Charitable income 1 2025 £	Charitable income 1 2024 £
Grants	40,367	2,310
	<u>40,367</u>	<u>2,310</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	6,479	100
Restricted funds	33,888	2,210
	<u>40,367</u>	<u>2,310</u>

**4 Charitable activities**

	Charitable expenditure 1 2025 £	Charitable expenditure 1 2024 £
Management fees	11,635	9,795
Printing, stationery and advertising	886	761
Equipment	2,724	1,679
Insurance	368	340
Room hire	135	190
Professional fees	3,650	-
Project delivery	19,198	-
	<u>38,596</u>	<u>12,765</u>
Accountancy	325	300
	<u>38,921</u>	<u>13,065</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	13,433	10,855
Restricted funds	25,488	2,210
	<u>38,921</u>	<u>13,065</u>

**5 Trustees**

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.



**TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**6 Employees**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Total	-	-

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

**7 Taxation**

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

**8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	325	300

**9 Restricted funds**

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
	-	33,888	(25,488)	8,400
<b>Previous year:</b>				
	-	2,210	(2,210)	-

**10 Unrestricted funds**

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	17,225	8,910	(13,433)	12,702



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 10 Unrestricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	25,291	2,789	(10,855)	17,225
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025:			
Current assets/(liabilities)	12,702	8,400	21,102
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	<u>12,702</u>	<u>8,400</u>	<u>21,102</u>

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:			
Current assets/(liabilities)	17,225	-	17,225
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	<u>17,225</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,225</u>

### 12 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).



# TOGETHER IN MUSICAL EXPRESSION

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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Trustees	Sherry-Ann Cribben Colin Kingsnorth Jemma Keyes
Charity number (England and Wales)	1188584
Company number	CE021156
Principal address	49 Chalkwell Park Drive Leigh on Sea Essex England SS9 1NH
Independent examiner	Michael Davies 51 Churchill Avenue Basildon Essex England SS14 3SB

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