



THOMAS'S FUND

2025 - 2026

Founded in 2007



Charity No. 1214984

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

*Should you require this report to be presented in a different format/manner
please contact the charity on 07395 962072*

WHAT IS THOMAS'S FUND?

Thomas's Fund benefits the public through the provision of Music Therapy to support children/young people's development; preserve and protect good health and enrich the lives and experiences of the most vulnerable children/young people (aged 0 to 19 yrs) in Northamptonshire, who have a life-limiting or life-threatening diagnosis, or disability with multiple complex needs, resulting (for medical reasons) in being unable to attend school (or an Early Years setting) for prolonged periods, often leaving them isolated.



Charity No. 1214984

WELCOME

Welcome to our Annual Report – 25 to 26!

I hope that you enjoy finding out about everything that our amazing Music Therapy Team and, incredibly dedicated, team of volunteers have achieved! I, also, hope that the comments and evaluations, from the families whose lives are touched by our sessions, support why it is essential that our charity continues well past its 20th birthday (next year).

You will find many individuals, groups and organisations, who are thanked throughout this report. I would like to thank everyone mentioned too. Without the kindness and support of everyone, within these pages, there is no way that we could raise the amount required to run our service. When we set up, in 2007 we needed approximately £10,000 per year – to run the service that we provided then. Due to an expanded service at home; across the community and in hospitals and Neonatal departments (coupled with increased fuel costs) we are now looking at needing at least £120,000 per year – to offer our service across Northamptonshire.

I am so grateful that we have managed to keep going, for so long, but am constantly aware of the need to 'future-proof' Thomas's Fund within today's shifting sands.

JAN HALL - CO-FOUNDER & CHAIR

For this reason (and following advice) a lot of our time and energy, this year, has been spent on changing the legal structure of Thomas's Fund to that of a 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation' (CIO). This is why, the more 'eagle-eyed' amongst you will have noticed that our charity number (*formerly 1123075*) has changed to **1214984**. In all other ways, our charity and service is exactly the same.

Thank you so much for reading this and thanks for your support. **Jan**

p.s. I would just like to add that one of our, highly valued and supportive, Trustees – Laura Clarke – received an MBE, at Windsor, this year. Well done Laura!



THOMAS'S FUND'S MUSIC THERAPY TEAM REPORT 2025 – 2026

COMPILED BY ESTHER MITCHELL -
LEAD MUSIC THERAPIST

The sessions were a lifeline for me as a parent. In the overwhelming NICU environment, they brought joy and normalcy, becoming my favourite part of the week. They reduced my anxiety; helped me bond and connect with my babies and made a challenging experience more bearable. Miranda's compassionate, individualised approach made these sessions truly special.

[parent/carer]

It's fantastic. The sessions themselves are so much more than expected, and working together with other professionals. Fantastic end therapy report which has been so useful to share with so many other professionals involved in O's care.

[parent/carer]



OUR MUSIC THERAPY TEAM

INTRODUCTION

2025 – 2026 has been a busy year for Thomas's Fund. The therapy team – myself, Lynn Connor and Miranda Bray, have continued to work across the Community, with sessions in the home; our group project across County; weekly sessions on the children's wards (at Kettering and Northampton General Hospitals) and continued development of our NICU Music Therapy Project. We have been hugely fortunate, this year, to have ongoing funding from the National Lottery Community Fund grant; support from Northants Community Foundation with grants from the Queens Institute Fund and Cecil Pettit Legacy Fund and support from the Albert Hunt Trust all supporting clinical work.

In February we, also, began new work – supported by the Radcliffe Trust and a further grant from the D'Oyly Carte Fund. With increasing time needed for project management, we have worked hard to seek core funding and were delighted to have (in addition to support from the Masonic Charitable Trust – our final year of 3 year funding), funds from the Postcode Lottery, which has supported both the Lead Music Therapy post and financial administration. Whilst grant funding is absolutely vital, we could not continue without donations from our community, across Northamptonshire – people who go out of their way to think of, and initiate, wonderful fundraising events to support our work (often topping up or even match funding grants). Without this help projects would, at times, not happen.

This year has seen an increase in our Neonatal Music Therapy work, with a pilot on Northampton General's Gossett Ward. NICU Music Therapy is only in its early development within the UK, with work mostly taking place in the large children's hospitals, such as Great Ormond Street Hospital. Our work, now spans across the whole County and is therefore really groundbreaking, especially as it is paired with support into the home and the community post-discharge. This provides wrap-around support for many.



MIRANDA'S NEONATAL WORK

With a growing interest, amongst our team, around Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) and the realisation that this affects a number of individuals referred to us, Thomas's Fund mounted an online 'CVI Training Morning' with Janet Harwood (Visual Impairment Specialist and Chair of the CVI Society). This event was attended by parents and professionals, with recordings sent out to those who could not make it on the day. We have since, with the support of volunteers, funded and had made 6 orange tents for use within therapy and for loan to families, who have children with CVI, to support with visual processing and sensory regulation.



ORANGE MATERIAL FOR SUE,
OUR TREASURER



THE NUMBERS

From April 1st 2025 to March 31st 2026

During the year [2025 to 2026] the Thomas's Fund therapy team has seen:

a total of 361 children/young people for therapy



an increase of 27 individuals from last year

We have provided:

904 sessions in total - which is 825 individual and 79 group sessions



Our Music Therapists continue to travel considerable distances, across Northamptonshire, to provide music therapy sessions in the home, hospital and community throughout the week.



Sometimes, as in any service of this type, sessions do not/cannot take place. Over the year, this has averaged out to be around 3 to 4 per week across the service. This might be due to the child/ young person being unwell; falling asleep just before the session or at an appointment. Indeed, sometimes the Music Therapist, themselves, might be unwell. Where feasible, where a face to face session is not possible, our therapists will offer an alternative online session or will provide video material or suggestions for activities during the week. To maximise the efficiency of our service, we encourage early communication if a session needs to be cancelled. However, it is worth noting that 11 sessions were cancelled, with no notice and no reason given.

Community referrals this year have come predominantly through North Northamptonshire's 'SEND Support Team' and 'Community Nursing Team'; through West Northamptonshire's 'Inclusion and Intervention Support Team' (IIST) and Community Nursing Team; through the Macmillan Children's Nurse and via the Neonatal and Play Teams in the hospitals. In addition, parents/carers, who have heard about our work, have submitted referrals. Individuals referred continue to have a range of conditions, from chromosomal disorders to degenerative conditions; varying cancer diagnoses and severe forms of epilepsy. Those seen, within the hospital wards and the neonatal work, are prioritised for support due to their level of vulnerability; difficulties with treatment; pain issues and anxiety. Those seen, as part of the group project, include individuals with a range of complex needs, communication difficulties and developmental delay.

Therapists continue to travel considerable distances to provide therapy in the home, hospital and community throughout the week. Over this year, the team travelled around 13,665 miles. Whilst we try our best to keep travel to a minimum (to reduce both costs and the environmental impact of our work), we also do our best to fit around families' schedules – e.g. with regard to parents who work and other appointments. By necessity, due to the nature of our service, Thomas's Fund's Music Therapists often spend a considerable amount of their days in the car between sessions.

My child uses the sessions to express how she is currently feeling, which she really struggles with outside of the sessions. I think it has been invaluable to have the same therapist over the years because my child has built up a trusting bond with her and thus feels able to show her true self without fear. I have seen my child share a whole range of emotions over the sessions and sometimes a whole range within one session! It's important for her to have that outlet and we're particularly grateful to have been supported by the charity during a very difficult time when school has been impossible for her.

[parent/carer]



PACKING THE CAR AGAIN!

WORK IN THE HOME

Over this financial year we have had 27 community referrals (which is more than usual). These are for individuals who are out of school, or of pre-school age, who meet our criteria. Referrals include:

- more families choosing to home-school their children – with very complex needs – who, they feel, are too vulnerable to be in school
- children/young people with 'Education Other Than At School' (EOTAS) packages
- individuals who are awaiting a school place
- those who are at home following surgery
- those of pre-school age.

Therapists continue to offer individuals, referred for work in the home, an initial 4 week assessment, a detailed assessment report and a subsequent block of up to 10 weekly sessions followed by a final therapy report. Team members liaise with other professionals working with the child and attend annual reviews; the 'Team around the Family' and 'Children in Need' meetings (where they can – balancing these needs with their case work).

I think the music therapy sessions are an amazing way to help J's confidence around strangers and she really enjoys it! She loves all the instruments and songs that Lynn sings for her. I love to see J's smiley face when she gets to play the instruments.

[parent/carer]



Developing an awareness of cause and effect – ESTHER



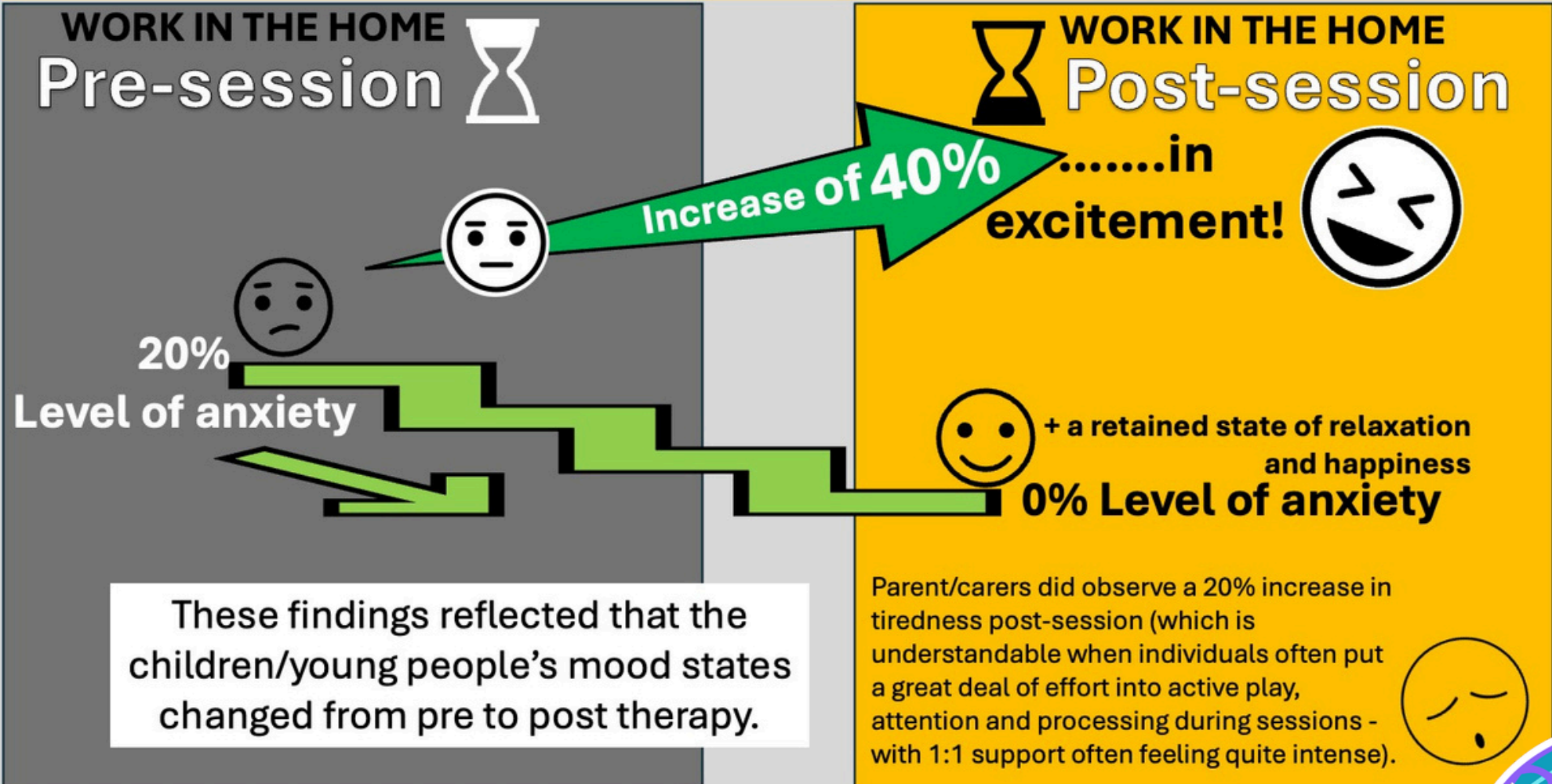
Choosing a song using Song Symbol Cards – ESTHER



Watching Mummy doing the actions – ESTHER

EVALUATION

To monitor and improve the effectiveness of our service and to be able to provide feedback to funders, we request evaluation (through post-session questionnaires) from clients, where feasible, or from parents/carers at intervals during therapy.



Parents/carers completing the, more detailed, telephone questionnaire (at the end of a block of therapy) observed significant changes in how their children engaged within sessions.

WORK
IN THE
HOME

Start of block of
Music Therapy



Child/young person
not communicating
with intent.

75%

100%

WORK
IN THE
HOME

End of block of
Music Therapy



Child/young person
communicating with
intent.

He was very quiet to begin with but, definitely, more communicative towards the end.

100% of respondents felt that their children were interacting more than usual at the end of therapy.

Music therapy was a great distraction, i.e. helping with kneeling.

75% of parents and carers observed an increase in physical movement and/or co-ordination.

She couldn't wait for the sessions.

He really changed towards the end of the sessions. He loved the drums.

I felt massive improvement. She is like a different child after the sessions. Her skills grew. She started showing emotion.

100% of respondents, who replied to questions around pain, felt that music therapy supported a reduction in pain.

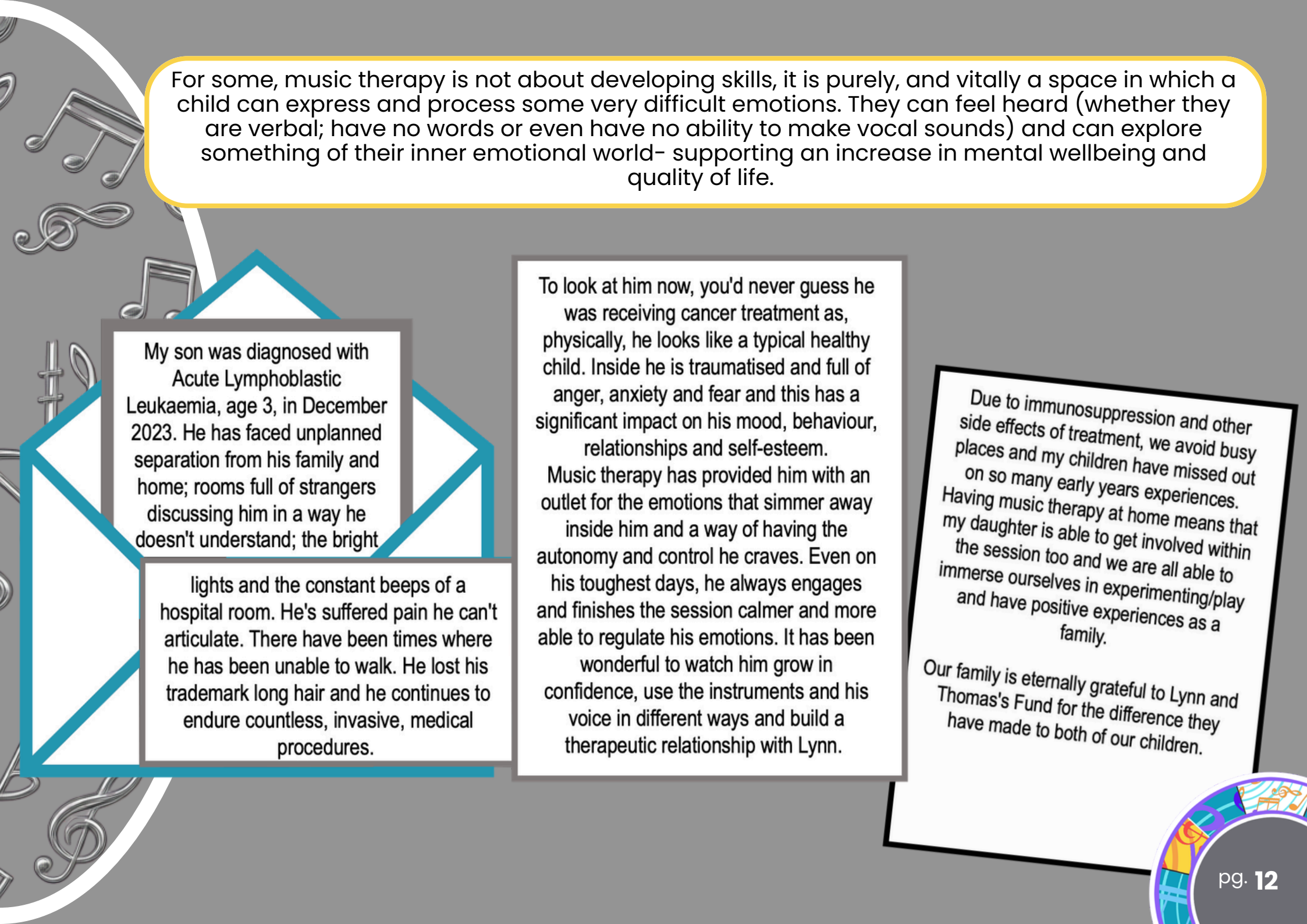
He does suffer pain [but] music, definitely, is a good distraction.

Whilst parents and carers know their children better than anyone, at times they do, very understandably, need a little support in reading some non-verbal cues and in seeing what their children ARE doing. In music therapy we focus very much on what a child is able to do and are always keen to verbalise what they are seeing and to support parents in helping their children move to a new level of development, where possible. Modelling ways of supporting children in making choices; in having time to process and respond to what is being asked; in how to position objects to encourage a child to work their weaker side or to hear their own sounds or actions when given space within a focused environment can all make a huge difference for children and young people and also for parents/carers in feeling they can support their children. In this way parents/carers are able to see how their children can make choices; can initiate interaction; can take control and can develop vital communication, social, cognitive and physical skills.



It's been amazing for her. She has loved it; really responds to it so much - and parents have knowledge how to progress with things. The fact it was offered at home made a huge difference.

[parent/carer]



For some, music therapy is not about developing skills, it is purely, and vitally a space in which a child can express and process some very difficult emotions. They can feel heard (whether they are verbal; have no words or even have no ability to make vocal sounds) and can explore something of their inner emotional world- supporting an increase in mental wellbeing and quality of life.

My son was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, age 3, in December 2023. He has faced unplanned separation from his family and home; rooms full of strangers discussing him in a way he doesn't understand; the bright

lights and the constant beeps of a hospital room. He's suffered pain he can't articulate. There have been times where he has been unable to walk. He lost his trademark long hair and he continues to endure countless, invasive, medical procedures.

To look at him now, you'd never guess he was receiving cancer treatment as, physically, he looks like a typical healthy child. Inside he is traumatised and full of anger, anxiety and fear and this has a significant impact on his mood, behaviour, relationships and self-esteem.

Music therapy has provided him with an outlet for the emotions that simmer away inside him and a way of having the autonomy and control he craves. Even on his toughest days, he always engages and finishes the session calmer and more able to regulate his emotions. It has been wonderful to watch him grow in confidence, use the instruments and his voice in different ways and build a therapeutic relationship with Lynn.

Due to immunosuppression and other side effects of treatment, we avoid busy places and my children have missed out on so many early years experiences. Having music therapy at home means that my daughter is able to get involved within the session too and we are all able to immerse ourselves in experimenting/play and have positive experiences as a family.

Our family is eternally grateful to Lynn and Thomas's Fund for the difference they have made to both of our children.

CASE STUDY - WORK IN THE HOME

**BY LYNN CONNOR -
MUSIC THERAPIST**

Music therapy was offered to H, aged five, following a number of difficult medical experiences. Sessions were attended by H alongside his Mum, Nan and younger sibling. The aim of the work was to help H develop musical tools for self-expression; strengthen his confidence and resilience and support positive shared experiences with his family through music.

From the beginning, music provided a motivating medium for H. He showed great curiosity about instruments and often asked thoughtful questions about how they worked. Music therapy also became a space for imaginative play. H frequently transformed instruments into “engines” that produced sound and energy. Over time, he began to sing more; compose his own songs and plan group improvisations with his family. H communicated clearly both verbally and through music. He often narrated his actions during sessions and confidently explained his musical ideas. Over time he increasingly invited others into his musical play and began sharing instruments and musical experiences with his younger sibling. A wide range of emotions were present during the sessions. Pride, humour and frustration were frequently seen, alongside moments where H was able to safely express vulnerability. In particular, I felt he showed much vulnerability while singing, using music as a way to express feelings that may have been difficult to communicate in other ways.

H appeared to value the sessions, engaging consistently and showing enthusiasm. Music became a meaningful shared language between H, his family and I, supporting communication; emotional expression and connection.



GROUP WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

The Thomas's Fund County-Wide Group project has continued into its second year (funded now by the Lottery Community Fund), providing blocks of 10 weeks of group music therapy to pre-school children, with additional needs, across Northamptonshire. In addition, a further project started in February of this year, providing support to individuals, both in the home and in groups, following grants from the Radcliffe Trust and the D'oyly Carte Charitable Trust. This has enabled us to develop, in addition to our work with pre-existing groups, a group for children we have seen or are seeing on a 1:1 basis in the home. The group, taking place at Pen Green in Corby, is supporting individuals with complex needs who have had very little social opportunity to date.

Holding a group outdoors -
ESTHER



This group has been running for four weeks and this week G was definitely more engaging. She was making sounds and shaking the shakers which she learned last week. She is nearly one but functions about 6 months and really enjoys the music/ activities and other children around.

[parent/carer]

Over this year we have had the pleasure of working with Daventry Hill School 'Sensations' Group and the 'Stay and Play' Group, at Pen Green in Corby. Monthly groups run in Wellingborough and Irthlingborough (facilitated by the SEND Support team in North Northants) and the West Northants new Family Hubs with new independent music therapy groups in both Towcester and currently Kingsthorpe, Northampton.

Over this year 37 group sessions have taken place, with 69 children accessing the groups. Sessions are structured to include a range of musical activities, focused on development of early communication and social skills, with opportunities for taking turns, listening, sharing, taking the lead and choice-making all built into each session. Some activities remain the same each week, to support individuals in gaining confidence within predictable activities they know. Repetition also supports parents/carers in seeing just how much their children are developing.

P is very enthusiastic with the sessions generally, especially when he sees the guitar! The repetitiveness is helpful to him, as he copes better when he knows what to expect. [parent/carer]



Parents/Carers Group Questionnaire



63%

My child's interaction, within group sessions, is flexible and free.



79%

My child communicates with intent during sessions.



73%

My child engages more than usual, within the music therapy group sessions, compared to how they would engage in other groups.

Staff Questionnaire



100%

Sessions are beneficial to children/young people and parents/ carers. Sessions have motivated and engaged children/young people; have supported parent /carers in having new ideas for ways in which to engage their child through music and have supported development of basic social and communication skills.

84% of staff had an awareness of music therapy, prior to attending the group sessions, but only **57%** had made any referrals to our service. **93%** of staff respondents, however, felt that observing sessions had given them a greater understanding of how group music therapy could support children/young people whilst **79%** stated they would like to know more about music therapy.

These sessions provide, for some children attending the group, one of the first experiences of interacting with others their age and also provide a crucial opportunity (for parents/carers who often feel very isolated - living much of their lives at home supporting their children with complex needs) to meet other parents, with similar experiences, and to forge supportive relationships.



Esther is very warm and friendly. E has a lack of concentration and gets distracted very easily. However, Esther was very helpful in supporting us when we needed it. E responded, really well, to the sessions. He really enjoyed the shakers.

[parent/carer]

S is currently 11 months old but is developmentally delayed. During the session, we noticed a positive change in his engagement and overall demeanour. He appeared more stimulated and responsive, which was really encouraging to see. We feel the session was beneficial for him and provided a good level of stimulation. We were very happy with how he was supported throughout.

[parent/carer]



Thanks for yesterday. It's the first time F hasn't cried shouted and clung to me in a group so amazing to see!

[parent/carer]

HOSPITAL WORKING

Oh, it's amazing! I can't believe you guys do this and it, definitely, brings happiness to the little kids.
[Patient on Children's Ward]



During the course of this year, 199 sessions have taken place on the wards at Northampton and Kettering with 148 individuals aged 0 – 17 being seen. Work continues to be mostly one-off sessions but there are individuals, staying in both hospitals more long-term, who have accessed several weekly sessions – with some, then, being referred for more long-term support, within the community, upon discharge. Individuals are referred to Miranda and Lynn, on their arrival on the wards each week, with those with complex needs and life-limiting conditions prioritised for sessions but with the therapists, also, supporting individuals struggling with anxiety; those with acute mental health problems and individuals coping with pain issues. At times therapists are, also, called in to provide music therapy to support individuals through specific treatments.

The work consists mostly of 1:1 sessions but, occasionally, group working is feasible. Following the group work Lynn did in Northampton General Hospital, as part of National Lottery Open Week in March 2025, she has recently started to offer a weekly open group session within the Activities room on Paddington Ward.



We feel very fortunate that Thomas's Fund provide music therapy on the children's wards at Northampton General Hospital. Their work makes such a difference to the children and young people in our care, and provides opportunities for self-expression, relaxation and comfort during what can be a stressful time. Some of our patients spend a long time with us, and having weekly sessions from Lynn is something they can look forward to each week and becomes part of their routine. This is a vital service that we would otherwise not be able to offer without the support of Thomas's Fund, and we really appreciate everything they do.

[Emma Fee, Play Team Lead
Northampton General Hospital]

**When I hear that
instrument, it makes
me tingle!**

I feel good!



EVALUATION

Of those receiving Music Therapy, who were able to complete evaluations



100%

I have proactively joined in with sessions through playing, talking, singing and listening.

Pre-session

33% of individuals stated they were in pain pre-session, **33%** were bored and **16%** were worried. **33%** of individuals felt, understandably, shy during sessions.

MUSIC THERAPY SESSIONS in the HOSPITALS

Post-session

100% stated they were happy afterwards, with **66%** also feeling excited and **33%** feeling relaxed. No more negative emotions were felt post-session.



She was looking forward to the session all day. It has really brightened her day.

[Parent of child inpatient long-term on ward]



Music Therapy, on Skylark Ward, continues to be hugely beneficial to the patients that Miranda visits. As a team, we are immensely proud to be able to offer this service to our patients and their families. It is a highly anticipated day of the week for our frequent attenders and long-term patients, as it becomes part of their routine that provides a therapeutic outlet that is non-medical.

[Claire Green, Play Team Lead
Kettering General Hospital]

CASE STUDY - WORK IN THE HOSPITAL

**BY LYNN CONNOR -
MUSIC THERAPIST**

T, a teenager, engaged positively in a music therapy session while receiving chemotherapy. Despite the clinical environment and length of treatment, she showed strong motivation to participate and interact musically. T chose to play the keyboard, performing her preferred songs. The session then developed into a lengthy period of improvisation. T explored the large resonant tongue drum while I supported on the keyboard. This created a responsive and collaborative musical interaction, allowing T to express herself freely.

T appeared to enjoy the session throughout, demonstrating sustained attention, musical engagement, and emotional responsiveness. She told me that the session had helped her that afternoon. Both T and her mother expressed gratitude at the end of the session.

Music therapy provided T with not only a positive distraction from the medical procedure, but also opportunities for choice, control, and self-expression. Additionally, the emotional support within this challenging treatment context was welcomed.

This session highlights the value of a one-off music therapy in Hospital Settings. Even during intensive treatment such as chemotherapy, music therapy can enhance wellbeing, reduce distress, and create moments of connection, enjoyment, and emotional relief.



CASE STUDY - WORK IN THE HOSPITAL

BY MIRANDA BRAY -
MUSIC THERAPIST

J was an 11-year-old boy with complex disabilities who was admitted to hospital while awaiting an appropriate care package. He spent an extended period on the ward with limited access to stimulating and expressive activities. J was referred to music therapy to support engagement, provide meaningful stimulation, and offer opportunities for self-expression during his hospital stay. From the outset, J showed a strong interest in music, particularly in creating DJ-style tracks. Thus far J has had 5 music therapy sessions on the hospital ward. J was invited to engage in music therapy through singing, songwriting, and the use of music technology, including creating and layering beats. Sessions were both structured and child-led, allowing J to explore his musical preferences while developing his own creative ideas.

Some of J's progression includes:

Self-expression: J demonstrated a clear enthusiasm for expressing himself through music technology. He independently selected sounds, built layers, and structured his own DJ-style tracks. These sessions provided him with a meaningful outlet to communicate his preferences, identity, and creativity in a way that was accessible and motivating.

Engagement and stimulation: J showed high levels of engagement throughout sessions, remaining focused and motivated while creating his music. The interactive and sensory nature of music technology appeared to increase his alertness and participation, providing valuable cognitive and emotional stimulation during his time on the ward.

Social connection: J was eager to share his creations with others, often inviting staff and peers to listen to his tracks. This created opportunities for positive social interaction and helped foster a sense of pride and connection within the ward environment.



THE NICU PROJECT

This year has seen further development in our Neonatal Music Therapy service, with extension of our work in Kettering and North Northants into West Northants. We were thrilled to be awarded further funding from the Albert Hunt Trust and, in July, commenced a 6 month pilot on Gossett Neonatal Unit at Northampton General Hospital. The pilot was another huge success, with evaluation from both parents and staff members overwhelmingly positive. In total Miranda, our qualified NICU Music Therapist, has seen 116 infants and 129 parents/carers during sessions on the units, in the home and the community, providing 310 sessions in total. Presentation of the pilot evaluation to Child Directorate management and the ward Matron was warmly received and the NICU has since applied for, and been awarded funding from the hospital charitable funds to support towards ongoing ½ day per week NICU Music Therapy.



Miranda visited me and my baby each Friday. The sessions were, honestly, one of the highlights of me and my babies first months. Miranda showed me how to use singing and music to connect with my baby. Not just nursery rhymes, but how to adapt songs to match her mood, energy, and little cues. It was amazing how quickly she started recognising certain songs and relaxing when I sang to her. Miranda also gave me so many ideas for using music at home. We learned little things, like singing during nappy changes or using a gentle rhythm to soothe her before naps. It made our days feel more connected and less stressful.

[parent/carer]

Thomas's Fund is now working hard along with both hospitals to raise the funds needed to provide ongoing music therapy on both neonatal units – Kettering and Northampton, continuation of the ongoing 1:1 music therapy sessions in the home, the NICU music therapy group in the Community in the North, and, it is hoped, a further extension to provide a further NICU Music Therapy group in West Northants, enabling Thomas's Fund to provide an equitable NICU Music Therapy service across the County.

NICU music therapy supports the infant's physiological and psychological development, increasing relaxation, oxygen saturation, sensory regulation and sensitivity to sound amongst other benefits, whilst supporting a decrease in heart rate. Infants attending music therapy were noted to be in quiet alert, active alert, drowsy states, or asleep post session. No babies have ended sessions in distress. In addition to support for the infant, NICU Music Therapy promotes parents/infant interaction and positive attachment. Miranda works alongside every parent to support them in developing an understanding of early infant cues of engagement, which is vital in supporting shared interaction at times when the infant is ready and able to engage.

My baby and I started Miranda's music therapy and baby massage sessions, when he was just a week old, and they became such a lovely part of our week. The combination of gentle touch and singing was so calming for both of us. I was quite nervous at first, but Miranda made everything feel so natural and comfortable. We spent time learning little massage routines that helped my baby relax. He often pushed into my touch and cuddled. I started noticing how much he responded to my voice during the sessions, especially when I sang to him. It really helped me feel more confident and connected as a new mum. One of the most special parts for me was when we adapted the song 'Que Sera'. My grandad used to sing it to me when I was little, so reworking the words to include my hopes for my baby made it feel really meaningful. It brought back so many lovely memories.

[parent/carer]

Parents/Carers NICU Evaluation

NICU MUSIC THERAPY



100%

I/ we have noted that my/our baby interacted more during sessions.



90%

I/we have noted confident body language and active engagement.



100%

I/we felt highly involved in the music therapy session.



80%

I/we felt confident interacting with our baby in/after the sessions.

Staff Evaluation



100%

I think that Music Therapy is good for bonding, positive stimulation and relaxation. I feel that it is a beneficial intervention for both infants and parents/carers.

The NICU music therapy group continues to provide a vital space for parents to meet with their infants, to support their babies with development of early communication and social skills. The world outside of the NICU unit can feel very daunting upon discharge and meeting other parents with similar experiences is vitally important for parents – the NICU music therapy group therefore provides a safe, nurturing environment.

1:1 sessions in the home support infants with more complex needs on discharge from hospital, allowing parents more time to develop confidence in engaging in shared pre-verbal interaction with their infants, supporting further parent/infant bonding whilst also supporting cognitive and physical development and providing continued physiological support to the infant. During this year, Miranda has found that the provision of 1:1 therapy in the home often coincided with sleep time for the infant. She has therefore moved these sessions to online, enabling her to be more flexible in supporting infants at times that suit them.

Miranda visited me and my baby each Friday. The sessions were honestly one of the highlights of me and my baby's first months. Miranda showed me how to use singing and music to connect with my baby - not just nursery rhymes, but how to adapt songs to match her mood, energy, and little cues. It was amazing how quickly she started recognising certain songs and relaxing when I sang to her.

Miranda also gave me so many ideas for using music at home. We learned little things like singing during nappy changes or using a gentle rhythm to soothe her before naps. It made our days feel more connected and less stressful.

[parent/carer]



EVALUATION

My twin daughters, born at 30 weeks, spent 9 weeks in the NICU, during which they attended multiple music therapy and baby massage sessions. These sessions were incredibly beneficial for both my babies and me. I noticed significant positive effects on my twins.

They often appeared more alert, with increased head-turning and eye contact. When unsettled, the therapy calmed them, reduced grimacing (they have very expressive faces!), and helped them to sleep. I noticed that, during massage, they would often stretch or extend their arms or legs in response to touch, indicating enjoyment.

Additionally, the sessions appeared to stabilise their heart rates and breathing, as evidenced by more consistent readings on the NICU monitors. One of my twins initially disliked touch, reacting negatively to routine care like temperature checks or cleaning. However, through the massage sessions and additional practice, she grew to tolerate and even enjoy touch, which significantly eased her ongoing care. Miranda was brilliant at adapting sessions to each twin's cues and needs.

For example, when one twin showed discomfort with neck massage by turning away, Miranda adjusted her approach until it was tolerated. When they were distressed due to bad constipation, she tailored the massage to help.



She closely monitored vital signs, ensuring positive effects and adjusting if one of them showed discomfort. During one session, the twins were particularly unwell with bronchiolitis post-RSV. They were back in an incubator, on breathing support, and highly stressed, with elevated heart rate, increased work of breathing, and frequent desaturations and bradycardia episodes. Miranda adapted the session, focusing on containment holding and gentle singing instead of active massage with one of the twins who was more unwell. This had a calming effect, observed through body language and stabilised oxygen saturation and heart rate on the monitors. The sessions were a lifeline for me as a parent.

In the overwhelming NICU environment, they brought joy and normalcy, becoming my favourite part of the week. They reduced my anxiety, helped me bond and connect with my babies, and made a challenging experience more bearable. Miranda's compassionate, individualised approach made these sessions truly special. Since returning home, I have continued with the massage structure advised by Miranda alongside the singing and continue to notice positive effects noted above, including my twins reaching out to my face and smiling at times. Miranda has discussed arranging some sessions at home which I am really looking forward to. *[parent/carer]*

CASE STUDY - NICU WORK

**BY MIRANDA BRAY -
MUSIC THERAPIST**

Background

Twin girls born at 30 weeks gestation spent nine weeks in the NICU and received regular music therapy and parent-guided infant massage sessions during their admission.

Intervention

Sessions incorporated responsive live singing, containment holding, and structured infant massage. Interventions were adapted according to each infant's behavioural cues and physiological stability (heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiratory effort). Parent coaching was integrated throughout to promote confidence and carryover at home.

Music Therapist observed and parent-reported outcomes included:

- Increased alertness, eye contact, and orienting responses
- Reduced distress behaviours and improved settling
- Stabilised heart rate and breathing during sessions
- Positive sensory engagement (stretching into touch)
- Improved tolerance of touch in a twin who initially demonstrated hypersensitivity
- Reduced anxiety
- Increased confidence
- Strengthened bonding

Mum noted that strategies introduced have continued at home, with ongoing positive infant engagement and social responsiveness.



CONCLUSION

As we near the year end and bring together the statistics, I am always amazed at how many individuals we have supported within therapy and also how many family members have been involved in sessions. One of our many strengths as a team, working with the incredible, universal power of music, is our ability to, not only work with individuals with a huge range of needs, but also to support them, where appropriate, with family members. Engaging parents within sessions to support young children, supporting them in developing confidence in using the music medium and taking elements of what we do outside of sessions enables the benefits of using music as a therapeutic tool, as we do to support changes in communication, neurological, physical and cognitive development to happen that much quicker.

It has been wonderful this year to see our service expand further with developments in the NICU Music Therapy work and its extension across County, and the group project supporting engagement with new organisations and groups, enabling us to raise further awareness of Thomas's Fund and the benefits of music therapy.

Demand for Thomas's Fund's 1:1 therapy has grown considerably over this year, with unprecedented referral levels reflecting the ongoing need for our service (and the value that those, repeatedly referring, place on music therapy as a valid, evidence-based treatment tool). I would like to take this opportunity, as always, to thank-on behalf of the therapy team- the incredible, ever present, support offered to us by Jan Hall (Chair) and the Board of Trustees - with particular mention to Lucy Smith, (Fundraising Lead); Ros Wooding and her team of volunteers; Laura Clarke (Safeguarding Lead); Sue Westall (our ever-patient Treasurer) and Perry Hall, a volunteer, who works behind the scenes tirelessly to support Jan and all at Thomas's Fund. Thomas's Fund could not exist without its dedicated team of therapists and I would also like to thank Lynn and Miranda for their ongoing work and for going the extra mile to support families, in listening and signposting, to liaise with professionals and to support the continued development of Thomas's Fund.

C Esther Mitchell
Lead Music Therapist



**Thanks to Esther, for working so hard to collate
all the information and data for this report.**

THOMAS'S FUND ANNUAL FUNDRAISING REPORT APRIL 2025 – MARCH 2026



**BY LUCY SMITH -
FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR**

What a busy year we have had again, fundraising and raising awareness of Thomas's Fund. I would like to thank everyone once again as, after 19 years, we are still growing strong. This is down to the amazing people who support us, and our volunteers, trustees and ambassadors, who all do such an amazing job.

We have had lots of support from local choirs including 'Long Buckby Choir' who have chosen to support Thomas's Fund this year. They have already held two concerts, with proceeds raised donated, and another concert planned for the summer of 2026. 'The Shoe Town Big Band' have also held, another, concert for Thomas's Fund. Trevor Dyson organised a terrific concert, for our charity, this year performed by the 'NMPAT Sinfonietta'. Thanks go to 'Singing for All Choir', who have donated their closing funds to us. Thanks, also, go to Jay Lucas (Trustee) and his family and friends, who celebrated 25 versions of their 'Six Go'...shows by presenting a fabulous show, in Wellingborough, titled 'Six at 25' (and their annual Christmas show too!) in aid of us. More, brilliant fundraising concerts were organised by Ian Lavender. We are so grateful to all of these hardworking organisers and singers for supporting our charity. We really love these musical connections.

Boughton Village Hall and Boughton Pocket Park merged to organise 'Carols Around the Tree' and collections were raised for us. 'Rotary Club Kettering Huxloe' chose to support several charities (with Thomas's Fund being one of the choices) at their summer concert, so we are thankful to them too. We are grateful to 'Wellingborough Technical Players' too for their support. Once again, we were grateful to have the fundraising help of 'Owen's Troopers' at a 'Star Wars Day' event.



'Dance 'til Dawn and Nigel' have been amazing supporters, again, this year and we are always grateful for the ongoing support from Dawn, Nigel and the generous dancers, who attend their dances (particularly Belinda, who donated the most beautiful quilt that she'd sewn to be auctioned for us and those who helped with the CVI orange tents too). Thanks to, regular supporters, Duston Village Bakery who, along with the annual support from the Christmas raffle and the carrier bag fees, also celebrated 100 years with a big raffle on their celebration day. Weston Favell shopping centre celebrated 50 years and made a generous donation to our charity. St Crispins Club invited Thomas's Fund again to another Disco Bingo, which is immensely popular, and donated funds from the raffle and the bingo too. Welland Valley Cycle Club once more donated some funds raised at their annual Sportive, organised by Macmillan charity.

Tim Forster Guitars got in touch with us last year about a collaboration to raise funds for us and has kindly been donating regularly from sales of merchandise on his website. Thanks, too, to Darren Copson (Promor).

Once again regulars, Wellingborough Buffs, kindly donated to Thomas's Fund following the sad death of Bob, who was such a keen supporter. Thanks to the families of Richard Cooper, Rose Harrison and David Cook (the father of our Lead Music Therapist Esther Mitchell), who all sadly died this year, asking for donations to be made in their memory. We are always humbled when families support us at such a sad time for them.

Thanks to individuals who also chose to support Thomas's Fund; Becca West kindly donated 3 paintings which were sold in aid of our charity and Mrs Pailton, who generously donated as well. Many thanks to Dan Gray and Stuart Frost who took on the massive challenge of cycling from John O' Groats to Land's End with sponsorship for Thomas's Fund. Thanks to Croughton Square and Compass Club, who donated from their fundraising efforts during the year. I met Dave Crossley, who is involved in the club (which is affiliated with the Masonic organisation), a few years ago at a talk in his lodge. We are also grateful to supporters who donate monthly and to the players of The Giving Lottery and those who use Easy Giving.

360 Play at Rushden Lakes invited us along to promote the fund and I was invited to talk about the charity at Daventry Tuesday Fellowship. I was also incredibly delighted to be invited to Windsor Castle, a reception and concert with The King, to celebrate supporters of music across the country. I was fortunate to meet and chat extensively to Katie Derham, from The BBC Proms. She seemed very interested in all that our charity do. Thanks to volunteer Richard Tomalin and trustee Ros Wooding who organised and manned the stall at the Northampton Balloon Festival, along with other volunteers too. Also huge thanks to Jan (Chair) and Perry Hall who organised and manned a stall at The Homes and Garden stall at Boughton House, both in the summer and at Christmas too. Jan and Perry are the engine behind the scenes and work incredibly hard promoting the fund in all sorts of ways. Perry produces our monthly newsletter which goes out to over 300 supporters every month.

We are grateful to all the grant makers who support us. Thanks to The Radcliffe Trust; The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust; The Postlethwaite Music Foundation; The Northampton Trefoil Guild; The Northamptonshire Community Fund (who promote and manage grants from The Queens Institute Fund; Cecil Pettit and Albert Trust). Many thanks to both The National Lottery Community Fund and GlobalGiving.



These grants are all applied for and managed by our Lead Music Therapist, Esther Mitchell. Thanks to Esther for all the hard work involved in applying and reporting on these.

We are now looking forward to next year, during which we will start to celebrate our 20th anniversary!

THOMAS'S FUND LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity number

1214984

Registered Address:

c/o 4, Poplar Street,
Wellingborough
Northants
NN8 4PL

Governing Document

Constitution

Patrons

Earl Spencer
Andrew Collins
Professor Andrew Williams

Musical Patrons

Jonathan Gunthorpe
Damien Thantrey
John Bowman

Ambassadors

Sophie Baylis
Andy Dickson
Thomas Redmond
Matt Redmond
Jenni Smith
Richard Tomalin
Audrey
Calvin
Florence
Kaiden

Independent Examiner

Lorraine Scullion -
MAAT

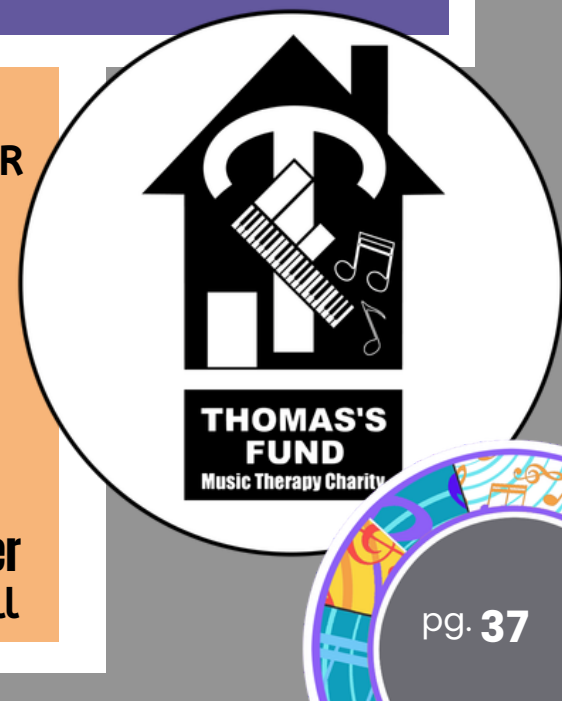
Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd.
25, Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Trustees

Jan Hall - CHAIR
Lucy Smith - FUNDRAISING & PUBLICITY CO-ORDINATOR
Laura Clarke - SAFEGUARDING LEAD
Paul Parker - DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING LEAD
Kate Tollan - SECRETARY TO THE COMMITTEE
Ros Wooding - VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR
Chris Featherstone - HEALTH AND SAFETY
Cindy Baylis - TRUSTEE
Jay Lucas - TRUSTEE (Appointed Oct 2024)

Treasurer
Sue Westall



THOMAS'S FUND'S RESERVES POLICY STATEMENT

In our efforts to keep our vital service going, each financial year, Thomas's Fund strives to maintain funds and sufficient cash flow for known commitments and the replacement of certain assets.

Ideally, to ensure we can meet our commitments to the families and to maintain an exceptional team of Music Therapists (by providing as much job security as we can) Thomas's Fund aims to hold, ideally, at least one year of anticipated running costs in our bank accounts.

We feel that, should our incoming funds decrease drastically (as we are solely dependent on grants, donations and fundraising events for our income and as funding for the charitable sector is increasingly unpredictable year on year), this would allow us time in which to find, research and hopefully secure other funding streams – whilst still enabling us to provide our service (or to wind-down our service, sensitively, should funding not be secured).

Our bank accounts include 'Restricted Funds' (that will vary year on year, dependent on grants secured) and 'Designated Funds'.

The Trustees should aim to ensure that the 'Designated Funds' comfortably cover 6 months of our work across the community and in hospitals (and related costs), taking any 'restricted funding' into account.

Regarding our 'Reserves' (i.e. readily available money that has not been earmarked as 'restricted' or 'designated') our policy is this:

A: We will aim to keep 6 months of running costs in our Reserves. (This would enable us to 'top-up' the six months of Designated Funds – to reach our goal of a year +) as stated at the beginning of this policy.

B: We are aware that there might be additional funds required – to replace or renew instruments and equipment; to meet any sharp rises in fuel costs or/and to 'future-proof' the charity (by funding any additional training, equipment or professional costs incurred when meeting new requirements, initiatives or the lack of a voluntary alternative).

Our Reserves Policy, therefore, is to aim to ensure that there is enough money, within our 'Reserves' to cover the amount and **B** combined, as predicted yearly by the Trustees.

WHY THIS REPORT HAS TWO SETS OF ACCOUNTS

As Jan said, in her 'Chair's Report', Thomas's Fund changed its legal status (in September 2025) from its original 'charity' status, with reference number 1123075, to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with reference number **1214984**. This was done, based on sound advice, and to 'future-proof' the charity as much as we can. Apart from our legal status, our service continues to operate exactly the same.

Therefore, on the following pages you will see an overview, and examined accounts, for the two time periods that fell within the year covered by this report: **from 1st April to 16th September 2025** (during which time we were a regular Charity ref:1123075) and **from 17th September 2025 to 31st March 2026** (during which we were a CIO ref:1214984).



FINANCIAL PERIOD 1/4/2025 – 16/9/2025

CHARITY REF: 1123075

Our overall balance on the **1/4/2025** was **£116,195**. This was made up of our CAF Cash Account **£63,540** and our CAF Gold Account **£52,655**

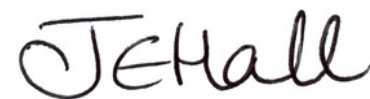
During the financial period, from **1/4/2025** to **16/9/2025**, we raised **£71,665** and our total expenditure was **£50,624**

At the start of operating as a **CIO (17/9/2025)** Thomas's Fund charity (ref:1123075) transferred all of its funds, **£137,236**, to Thomas's Fund CIO (ref: 1214984)

Thomas's Fund (CIO) still has two CAF accounts and the balance, when entering CIO status on **17/9/2025**, was **£137,236**, made up of:
CAF Cash Account – £84,077
CAF Gold Account – £53,159

Thomas's Fund was founded in 2007 (becoming a registered charity in 2008). It continues as Thomas's Fund CIO (from September 17th 2025) but the service that we provide and the ways that we fund that service remain the same. Our hope, as we continue as a CIO, is that we can find sources of regular funding to aid the sustainability of the fund.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, at a Committee Meeting held on 10/8/2026 and signed on their behalf



Jan Hall (Chair)

**SUE WESTALL -
TREASURER/FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of:
THOMAS'S FUND
Registered Charity Number: 1123075**

Page 41

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period 01.04.25 – 16.09.25, which are set out on the attached pages 42 to 46.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 4(1)(c) of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- 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 of the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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:

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 2011 Act: and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

LJSculion

Lorraine Sculion MAAT
16th August 2026

THOMAS'S FUND					
Registered Charity Number 1123075				Page 42	
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT					
For the Period 1st April - 16 September 2025					
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	01.04.25 - 16.09.25	2025
		£	£	£	£
Income From					
Voluntary income - donations	1	15,113	-	15,113	40,407
Interest		539	-	539	1,353
Grants	2	25,000	29,242	54,242	57,545
Income other	3	1,771	-	1,771	1,564
Total receipts for the Year		42,423	29,242	71,665	100,869
Expenditure					
Charitable activities					
Music therapy fees, expenses		20,378	26,738	47,116	82,926
Training		-	-	-	-
Musical instruments		146	156	302	1,716
BNI Lighthouse Chapter		-	-	-	-
Publicity/Fundraising		-	-	-	321
Just Giving charge		90	-	90	216
Administration, stationery		25	-	25	350
Volunteer Costs		-	-	-	-
Other costs		655	-	655	710
People Safety Devices		-	-	-	-
Insurance		-	-	-	876
Accountancy support		1,500	-	1,500	3,000
Examiners fees		475	-	475	425
Website/Hosting/IT		297	-	297	1,278
Trustee Expenses		164	-	164	118
Professional Fees		-	-	-	-
Total Payments for the Year		23,730	26,894	50,624	91,936
Surplus/(Deficit) in year		18,693	2,348	21,041	8,933
Transfer between Funds		426	(426)	-	-
Balance Brought Forward		103,854	12,341	116,195	107,262
Assets transferred to CIO number 1214984		(122,973)	(14,263)	(137,236)	-
Balance Carried Forward		-	-	-	116,195

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

For the Period 1st April - 16 September 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	01.04.25 - 16.09.25 £	2025 £
Assets:					
Cash at bank and in hand	4	122,973	14,263	137,236	116,195
Debtors		-	-	-	521
		122,973	14,263	137,236	116,716
Liabilities					
Creditors - IE		-	-	-	(425)
		-	-	-	(425)
Assets transferred to CIO number 1214984		(122,973)	(14,263)	(137,236)	-
Net Assets		-	-	-	116,291

Represented by:

Unrestricted/Designated Reserves

Unrestricted/Designated Reserves	Opening Balance	Movement	Movement		Closing Balance
	01.04.25	In	Out	Transfer	16.09.25
	£	£	£	£	£
General Reserve	63,854	42,423	(23,730)	426	82,973
Designated - music therapy fees	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
	103,854	42,423	(23,730)	426	122,973

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds	Opening Balance	Movement	Movement		Closing Balance
	01.04.25	In	Out	Transfer	16.09.25
	£	£	£	£	£
The True Colours	2,704	-	(2,704)	-	-
NCF - Queens Institute	-	5,000	(1,667)	(200)	3,133
NCF - Cecil Pettit Fund	-	5,000	(1,724)	(226)	3,050
Masonic Charitable Foundation	1,851	5,000	(2,480)	-	4,371
National Lottery Community Fund	7,786	14,242	(18,319)	-	3,709
	12,341	29,242	(26,894)	(426)	14,263

The True Colours - To provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs

NCF - Queens Institute - to provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs

Masonic Charitable Foundation - to provide project management and associated costs

National Lottery Community Fund - to provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 10th August 2026

TEHall

Jan Hall

Chair

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Period 1st April - 16 September 2025

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued January 2019, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Thomas's Fund is a registered Charity controlled and managed by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on a receivable basis.

Intangible Income

Intangible income, in the form of donated facilities and voluntary help etc., is not included in the financial statements since it is not considered practicable to quantify such income.

Expenditure

Expenditure is stated inclusive of value added tax, and is brought into account in the year in which it is due. Costs are allocated to functional headings on the bases of direct costs plus overheads on a fair and reasonable estimated basis.

Pensions

The Charity has no employees at this time

Reserves

The current reserve policy is detailed in the annual report.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the Charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

The organisation has public, employer liability insurance to protect the Charity in case of a claim.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Note 1	Unrestricted	Restricted	01.04.25 - 16.09.25	2025
Donations:	£	£	£	£
Albert Hunt	-	-	-	4,000
St Crispins Club	683	-	683	-
Weston Favell Community	1,974	-	1,974	-
Duston Village Bakery	630	-	630	635
Gea Mechanical Equipment	1,663	-	1,663	-
Mrs Railton	500	-	500	-
Dance Till Dawn	2,130	-	2,130	7,510
HMRC - Gift Aid	525	-	525	1,438
Just Giving	3,124	-	3,124	5,753
Global Giving	-	-	-	-
Statutory Funded Music Therapy Sessions	880	-	880	2,576
The Melody Choir Christmas Concert	-	-	-	700
Rotary Club	-	-	-	600
Oundle Music Theatre	-	-	-	803
TK Maxx Homesense Foundation	-	-	-	500
Sound Foundation	-	-	-	2,077
DWIFA Golf Day	-	-	-	5,798
Redrow South Midlands Community Fund	-	-	-	1,020
The Frederick and Phyllis Cann Trust	-	-	-	1,752
Other Donations	3,004	-	3,004	5,245
	15,113	-	15,113	40,440

Grants:

NCF - Cecil Pettit		-	5,000	5,000	-
Strangward Trust		-	-	-	5,000
The True Colours		-	-	-	9,527
The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund		-	-	-	10,000
NCF - Queens Institute		-	5,000	5,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund		-	14,242	14,242	14,317
KGH NHS Trust		-	-	-	13,701
Postcode Lotter Fund		25,000	-	25,000	
Masonic Charitable Foundation		-	5,000	5,000	5,000
		25,000	29,242	54,242	57,545

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Note 3					
Other Income					
Balloon Festival		143	-	143	596
Pictures Sale		500	-	500	-
Boughton House		-	-	-	796
Six @ 25 Concert		1,128			
Other		-	-	-	172
		1,771	-	643	1,564

Cash at Bank:

CAF Cash Account		69,814	14,263	84,077	63,540
CAF Gold Account		53,159	-	53,159	52,655
		122,973	14,263	137,236	116,195

Donations - include so many kind donations from individuals, businesses, music and community groups (including young people's organisations). Inner Wheel, Rotary to name just a few.

FINANCIAL PERIOD 17/9/2025 – 31/3/2026

CIO REF: 1214984

Our overall balance on the **17/9/2025** was **£137,236**. This was made up of our CAF Cash Account **£84,077** and our CAF Gold Account **£53,159**

Thomas's Fund's total balance on the **1/4/2026** was **£128,211**

During the financial period from **17/9/2025** to **31/3/2026** we raised **£47,201** and our total expenditure was **£56,226**

Thomas's Fund has two accounts and the £128,211 balance, on the opening of our new financial year – beginning **1/4/2026**, is made up of:

CAF Cash Account – £74,608

CAF Gold Account – £53,603

The challenge for this financial year will, once, again be finding new sources of funding to ensure that Thomas's Fund can continue to offer the same level of service as we are now and to find sources of regular funding to aid the sustainability of the fund.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, at a Committee Meeting held on 10/8/26 and signed on their behalf

JE Hall

Jan Hall (Chair)

**SUE WESTALL -
TREASURER/FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of:

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THOMAS'S FUND**Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1214984**

I report on the accounts of the CIO for the period 17.09.25 – 31.03.26, which are set out on the attached pages 49 to 52

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 4(1)(c) of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- 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 of the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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:

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 2011 Act: and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

LJSculion

Lorraine Scullion MAAT
16th August 2026

THOMAS'S FUND
Registered CIO Number 1214984

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**For the Period 17th September 2025 - 31st March 2026**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	17.09.25 - 31.03.26 £
Income From				
Voluntary income - donations	1	19,679	-	19,679
Interest		565	-	565
Grants	2	2,000	23,222	25,222
Income other	3	1,735	-	1,735
Total receipts for the Year		23,979	23,222	47,201
Expenditure				
Charitable activities				
Music therapy fees, expenses		30,148	21,786	51,934
Training		200	-	200
Musical instruments		-	99	99
Outcomes Star Licence		364	-	364
Publicity/Fundraising		450	-	450
Just Giving charge		126	-	126
Administration, stationery		-	-	-
Volunteer Costs		-	-	-
Other costs		236	-	236
People Safety Devices		-	-	-
Insurance		671	-	671
Accountancy support		1,590	-	1,590
Examiners fees		-	-	-
Website/Hosting/IT		306	-	306
Trustee Expenses		-	-	-
Professional Fees		250	-	250
Total Payments for the Year		34,341	21,885	56,226
Surplus/(Deficit) in year		(10,362)	1,337	(9,025)
Transfer between Funds		592	(592)	-
Balance Bought Forward		-	-	-
Assets transferred from Charity number 1123075		122,973	14,263	137,236
Balance Carried Forward		113,203	15,008	128,211

THOMAS'S FUND					
Registered CIO Number 1214984					
Page 50					
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT					
For the Period 17th September 2025 - 31st March 2026					
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	17.09.25 - 31.03.26 £	
Assets:					
Cash at bank and in hand	4	113,203	15,008	128,211	
Debtors		-	-	-	
		113,203	15,008	128,211	
Liabilities					
Creditors - IE		(770)	-	(770)	
		(770)	-	(770)	
Net Assets					
		112,433	15,008	127,441	
Represented by:					
Unrestricted/Designated Reserves					
	Opening Balance 17.09.25 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer £	Closing Balance 31.03.26 £
General Reserve	82,973	23,979	(34,341)	592	73,203
Designated - music therapy fees	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
	122,973	23,979	(34,341)	592	113,203
Restricted Funds					
	Opening Balance 17.09.25 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer £	Closing Balance 31.03.26 £
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(667)	-	3,333
NCF - Queens Institute	3,133	-	(2,933)	(200)	-
NCF - Cecil Pettit Fund	3,050	-	(2,824)	(226)	-
Masonic Charitable Foundation	4,371	-	(2,190)	-	2,181
National Lottery Community Fund	3,709	14,242	(12,441)	(166)	5,344
The Radcliffe Trust	-	4,980	(830)	-	4,150
	14,263	23,222	(21,885)	(592)	15,008
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust - To provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs					
NCF - Queens Institute - to provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs					
NCF - Cecil Pettit Fund - to provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs					
Masonic Charitable Foundation - to provide project management and associated costs					
National Lottery Community Fund - to provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs					
The Radcliffe Trust - To provide funds for Session Music Therapists and associated costs					
Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 10th August 2026					
					
Jan Hall	Chair				

THOMAS'S FUND
Registered CIO Number 1214984

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 17th September 2025 - 31st March 2026

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued January 2019, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Thomas's Fund is a registered CIO controlled and managed by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on a receivable basis.

Intangible Income

Intangible income, in the form of donated facilities and voluntary help etc., is not included in the financial statements since it is not considered practicable to quantify such income.

Expenditure

Expenditure is stated inclusive of value added tax, and is brought into account in the year in which it is due. Costs are allocated to functional headings on the bases of direct costs plus overheads on a fair and reasonable estimated basis.

Pensions

The CIO has no employees at this time

Reserves

The current reserve policy is detailed in the annual report.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the CIO is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

The organisation has public, employer liability insurance to protect the CIO in case of a claim.

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For the Period 17th September 2025 - 31st March 2026

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AMONGST OUR WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS:



THANKS TO THEM AND TO EVERYONE WHO
SUPPORTS THOMAS'S FUND

