



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	01 08 2021	To	31 07 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Sheringham and Cromer Choral Society

Other names charity is known by

SCCS @shezzachoral

Registered charity number (if any)

281467

Charity's principal address

Brownwood, Pond Hills Road

Hempstead

Holt

Postcode

NR25 6TP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Josephine Hurrell	Chairman & Hon Sec		
2	Diana Sallon	Hon Treasurer		
3	Pamela Thompson	Hon Librarian		
4	Stephen Green			
5	Karen Sims			
6	Peter Hickling			
7	Michael Bossingham		From 07.06.22	
8	Jonathan Anderson		From 30.07.22	
9				
10	Philip Adams	Accompanist / Ex officio Trustee		
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
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20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bank	The Co-operative Bank plc	PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP
Resources and information	Making Music, The National Federation of Music Societies	8 Holyrood Street London SE1 2EL

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution as amended on 20 September 2021
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Choral Society managed by Committee of Trustees
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by Members at AGM and co-opted in accordance with the Constitution

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Constitution states: The management of the Charity shall be in the hands of a Committee totalling up to ten members, to include a Chairperson, Honorary Secretary or Secretaries, Honorary Treasurer, and Honorary Librarians, all of whom shall be deemed Trustees of the Charity. Officers and committee members shall be elected by and out of the Charity's members in Annual General Meeting. They shall hold office for one year and be eligible at the Annual General Meeting for re-election. In addition, the Accompanist shall be invited to be an ex-officio Trustee of the Charity for the period of his/her office. If this invitation is not accepted, he/she may attend committee meetings in an advisory capacity but not have the right to vote. The Musical Director shall also be invited to attend committee meetings in an advisory capacity but without the right to vote. The Trustees have in place appropriate policies in respect of: Equal Opportunities Safeguarding Privacy Reserves The Charity is a member of Making Music, the National Federation of Music Societies.

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

The object of the Charity shall be to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as the Charity through its Committee of Trustees shall determine from time to time.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Sheringham and Cromer Choral Society is a community choir which performs at least 3 public concerts each year. In addition there is an annual Come and Sing event open to the whole community. Membership is open to all without audition, as approved by the Trustees, although they may require prospective members to provide evidence of musical ability and to have attended a reasonable number of rehearsals before taking part in concerts.

Rehearsals take place weekly in term time and include training in technical musical skills as well as the learning of specific musical works. Concert performances provide members with the benefit of performing alongside professional soloists and musicians. These concerts provide the public audiences with access to affordable live choral music. In an effort to reach a wider community we from time to time sing works which involve collaborating with a children's choir.

The Society maintains a public presence through its active website www.sheringhamandcromerchoral.org.uk, Twitter feeds, Facebook page and frequent press releases and highly informative concert programmes. In all aspects of planning the Trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance regarding public benefit.

During the 2021-22 season, the Society performed a wide-ranging programme including music from the renaissance and baroque periods, Joseph Haydn's 'Creation', Christmas carols, John Rutter's 'Mass of the Children' with the Broadland Youth Choir, and a newly-commissioned work by Thomas Hewitt Jones.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

All the Trustees are members of the Society and give their services free of charge. Together with other volunteers from within the membership they deal directly with all the administrative and practical aspects of operating the Choral Society including presenting concerts of a high standard.

We have an excellent team of Trustees and member volunteers who all take their designated roles and responsibilities very seriously and ensure a professional approach to every aspect of our activities.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This season, 2021-2022, has been another tough one for the Society. Covid 19 has been a constant presence and resulted in a marked drop in membership numbers. Despite the vaccine many of our older and more vulnerable members were hesitant about returning and this trend continued into the summer. Members came down with the virus as the country opened up and this left them with weakened singing voices and prolonged fatigue, which meant that the choir had to be boosted with some visiting singers for the summer concerts.

In spite of these continual setbacks we did manage to rehearse on a weekly basis, perform 5 excellent concerts and hold a successful Come and Sing event in the course of the season.

The Come and Sing and 'Sing North Norfolk!' open rehearsals events did result in some new members joining the choir and the latter was successful in introducing choral singing to several people, who although they enjoyed themselves decided this was not for them.

There were two new ventures for the Society this season. The first was a Christmas Carol concert in collaboration with Sheringham Little Theatre and the second took place in the summer, when the choir put on the same concert programme in two different venues. The pandemic took its toll on the attendance numbers for the carol concert, but our MD is confident that in more normal times this would have been a sell-out event and we are going to repeat the endeavour again this Christmas time.

The first of our summer concerts was held in a new venue for the choir: a church with wonderful acoustics and somewhere renowned locally for their annual series of concerts. Unfortunately the attendance here was very disappointing, but it did serve as a wonderful dress rehearsal for the second concert, which was a joyous occasion when the choir put on an outstanding performance for a near capacity audience.

In January Sir Norman Lamb, former MP for North Norfolk and a champion of Mental Health, agreed to become our new President. He was there to give a welcome introduction on the evening of the final concert and emphasised the important role that music and singing can play in supporting good mental health.

It was very encouraging to have his support and to close this difficult season on such a high was a welcome boost for the hard working MD, Accompanist, Trustees and Members.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees endeavour to balance income against expenditure on an annual basis. The Trustees were able in January 2015 to establish a modest Reserve Fund and adopt a Reserves Policy "to support actions that will protect the future sustainability of SCCS and preserve the delivery of its charitable purposes through the provision of public benefits". A separate Reserves Policy was established in March 2020 following the receipt of a significant Bequest. This is subject to the same requirements for protecting sustainability and charitable purposes as our existing Reserves, but has specific allocation.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's principal source of funding is members' subscriptions and concert ticket sales, supported by fundraising by way of grants and donations.

During 2021-22, we were able to bring projects previously deferred by the COVID-19 pandemic to fruition and local authority grants held over for those projects were utilised. In addition, the Society received a significant donation from the Norfolk Community Foundation raised by MP Duncan Baker's 2021 Marathon Run.

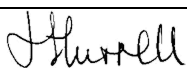
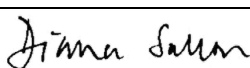
All expenditure during the year was directly related to the preparation and performance of the various concerts and events referred to in Sections C and D.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Josephine Caroline Hurrell	Diana Mary Sallon
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Treasurer
Date	8 September 2022	