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|  | | | **Trustees' Annual Report for the period** | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |
| **From** | | Period start date | | | | | To | Period end date | | | | |
| **Day**  **16** | **Month**  **April** | | | **Year**  **2022** | **Day**  **15** | **Month**  **April** | | | **Year**  **2023** |
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| Section A Reference and administration details | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Charity name** | | | | | | | **Wellington Choral Society** | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Other names charity is known by** | | | | | | | WCS | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Registered charity number (if any)** | | | | | | | 1051501 | | | | | |  | | | | | |
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| **Charity's principal address** | | | | | | | 25a Eight Acre Lane | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wellington | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somerset | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postcode | | | | | | TA21 8PS | | | | | |
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|  | **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 | | Rosemary Saunders | | Chair | | | |  | | | | | | See Trustee selection methods below. | | | | | |
| 2 | | Julie Harland | | Secretary | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | | |
| 3 | | Hugh Mitchell | | Treasurer | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | | |
| 4 | | Ann Holland | | Publicity | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | | |
| 5 | | Tim Knowles | | Membership | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | | |
| 6 | |  | |  | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | | |
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|  | | **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 | Lloyds Bank | 27 Fore Street, Wellington, Somerset TA21 8AF |  |
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| **Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)** | | |  |
| The Musical Director (MD) is a paid, part time, self-employed position. He is responsible for all the musical matters of the society in consultation with the Trustees, | | |  |

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|  | Section B Structure, governance and management | |  |
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| **Description of the charity’s trusts** | | | |
| Type of governing document  (eg. trust deed, constitution) | | Constitution | |
| How the charity is constituted  (eg. trust, association, company) | | Association consisting of around 80 members | |
| Trustee selection methods  (eg. appointed by, elected by) | | Trustees are elected by members at the Annual General Meeting or the Trustees may themselves, at any time, appoint anyone who is willing to serve as Trustee. | |
| **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. | | WCS is a member of Making Music (MM) which provides advice and guidance to associated organisations in the operation of music related charities, tailored insurance and liaises and represents them on legislative issues with the Charity Commission.  Management of the charity is delegated to the Committee which consists of the Trustees. The MD may attend committee meetings but is not a voting member or a trustee. The committee is supported by individual members, and working groups, as and when required, who report directly to it.  All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.  WCS has developed various policies based on MM templates to ensure that the legal requirements placed on charities of our size, and their Trustees, are met and that recommended best practices, where applicable, are in position. Full details are available on the website:  [www.wellingtonchoralsociety.org.uk](about:blank)    We purchased our own staging for use at our concerts and a trailer for transporting it. We have developed a risk analysis on its erection, takedown and use, and for use for hire by other performing groups. | |

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| **Section C Objectives and activities** | |
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| **Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document** | The objects of the Society are:  “to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by such ways as the Society through its committee 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)** | In planning and implementing the society’s activities during the year, the Trustees have had regard to the guidance of the Charity Commission on public benefit when making any decisions.  The society aims to meet its objects by recruiting members of the public of all ages and from all backgrounds to rehearse and perform choral music of both modern and classical origin. We encourage as wide a membership as possible by not requiring auditions. Previous experience or the ability to read music, are an advantage, but are not a requirement. Membership for under 19s is free and for those members who have problems paying the subscription, special arrangements can be obtained through a confidential discussion with the Chair or Treasurer.  We have autumn and spring singing terms with weekly rehearsals culminating in well attended concerts at a local venue. Children (under 18s), accompanied by an adult are welcomed free of charge at our concerts. We take the opportunity at our concerts to help local causes. A retiring collection is held in aid of a different one at each and the proceeds from refreshments go to the local church where our concerts usually take place.    During the summer we hold “Come and Sing Days” aimed at introducing newcomers to the music we sing and attracting new singing members.    WCS is keen to contribute to the local Wellington community. We do this through involving people in singing with the society and inviting local people to attend our concerts. We also support local events.  WCS recognises the importance of rehearsing and holding concerts in Wellington. We rehearse in one church and perform in another church paying hire rental for the use of both. |
| **Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)** | |
| You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:   * policy on grantmaking; * policy programme related investment; * contribution made by volunteers. |  |

| Section D Achievements and performance | |
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| **Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year** | **Concerts**  In the autumn term of the 2022, Wellington Choral Society performed the Haydn Nelson Mass and the Schubert Mass in G. A collection was held at the end of the concert in aid of Somerset Sight, a local charity which supports people with visual impairments.  In the spring term, 2023, we embarked on rehearsing and eventually performing the ambitious Bach St John Passion. A retiring collection was taken for the Red Cross in aid of the people affected by the devastating earthquake in Turkey.  **Come and Sing**  We held planned to hold a ‘Come and Sing’ event in June 2022 at Langford Budville Village Hall. The ‘Come and Sing’ event was an opportunity to attract new members and reduced the long break from singing for choir members between March and September. We have decided to make a ‘Come and Sing’ event in June an annual fixture each year.  **Staging and Lighting**  In both our concerts we were able to use our staging which is much easier to erect than the previous arrangements and enabled all choir members to be seated more comfortably.  **Staging and Lighting Hire**  We have also made the staging and lighting available to other performing societies to hire. The Staging was hired by Taunton Choral Society during this past year. |

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| **Section E Financial review** | |
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| **Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves** | WCS has a reserves policy in place and this was reviewed and updated by the Committee in February 2020. The policy identifies the cancellation of a concert as the main financial risk for the society and includes an unrestricted funds figure of £3,500 as the minimal amount of cash reserves that should be held at year end to protect it against that eventuality.  The policy specifies that the actual reserves held by the society should be reviewed at each Committee meeting in the light of the budgeted costs of the concert programme planned and action taken in advance to increase the reserves held by the society if required. Such action may include, but not be limited to, raising membership fees and concert ticket pricing. |
| **Details of any funds materially in deficit** | None |
| **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 Society’s sources of funds which finance the two singing terms it undertakes, are principally: -   1. The subscriptions paid by members 2. The income from ticket and programme sales at concerts   The society has been successful in acquiring its own lighting to compliment our staging making enhancing the experience of both members and audience at concerts. This has been achieved, through a grant specifically awarded for the project by Wellington Town Council to which the trustees and members of WCS are very grateful. |
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| Section F Other optional information |
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| **Section G Declaration** | | | | |
| **The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.**  **Signedon behalf of the charity’s trustees** | | | | |
| **Signature(s)** |  | |  | |
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| **Full name(s)** | Julie Harland | | Rosemary Saunders | |
|  | | | | |
| **Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)** | Secretary | | ChairChair | |
|  | | | | |
| **Date** | | 17 May 2022 | |  | |