



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month 09	Year 2018		Day 31	Month 08	Year 2019

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	The Society of Recorder Players
Other names charity is known by	SRP
Registered charity number (if any)	278751
Charity's principal address	120 Hopgarden Road Tonbridge Kent Postcode TN10 4QX

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	Victor Morris	Chairman	to 12/04/2019	Annual Conference
2	James Grant	Chairman	from 12/04/2019	Annual Conference
3	April Munday	Secretary		Annual Conference
4	Ursula Burchette	Treasurer		Annual Conference
5	Sandra Foxall	Country & Overseas Secretary		Annual Conference
6	Penelope Clarke	Membership Secretary		Annual Conference
7	Moira Usher	Chairman Walter Bergmann Fund Training Coordinator		Annual Conference
8	Sarah Langdon	Competition Administrator		Annual Conference
9	Helen Hooker	Musical Adviser		Rotation
10	Alyson Lewin	Musical Adviser	to 12/04/2019	Rotation
11	Josée Beeson	Other committee member	to February 2019	Annual Conference
12	Ciara Flanagan	Branch representative		Annual Conference
13	Mary Tyers	Branch representative	from 12/04/2019	Annual Conference
14	Frances Tuffery	Branch representative	to 12/04/2019	Annual Conference
15	Pamela Flanagan	Musical Adviser	from 12/04/2019	Rotation
16	Caroline Jones	Branch representative	to 12/04/2019	Annual Conference
17	Evelyn Nallen	Musical Adviser/ News Editor	to 16/01/2019	Annual Conference
18	Deborah Nicholas	Branch representative		Annual Conference
19	Jill Taylor	Branch representative	from 12/04/2019	Annual Conference
20	Stephanie Sutherland	Branch representative	from 12/04/2019	Annual Conference

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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)	The Rules of the Society, as adopted on 24 May 1981 and amended from time to time by the annual Conference, most recently on 19 April 2015.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the annual Conference, officers annually and others for a 3-year term. The elected Musical Advisers serve as Trustees in rotation.

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.

* Trustees are elected or re-elected by the annual Conference and before being first elected must declare that they are not disqualified from serving as charity trustees. Those newly elected are made aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on the roles and responsibilities of trustees.

* The trustees, and other officers of the Society, form the central Committee, which meets 2 or 3 times a year. A sub-committee has delegated responsibility for the Society's Walter Bergmann Fund, which awards grants to support young recorder players. Other key activities, such as training and the SRP/Moeck Competition, are managed by individual trustees or officers.

* The Society has 49 geographical Branches throughout Great Britain and one in Ireland, plus a central Country & Overseas Branch for people who are not members of a geographical Branch. The Branches in Great Britain and Ireland organise meetings usually weekly or monthly for group playing, and one or more Branches jointly organise the Society's annual Festival. Most members belong to the Society centrally and to one or more Branches, or to the Country & Overseas Branch.

* The activities of the Society carry only a slight risk of major unexpected expenses, adequately covered by the reserves and insurance. The Society has Public Liability, Employer's Liability and Professional Indemnity insurance.

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

The objects of the Society are the education of the public in the study, practice and appreciation of the art of music and the allied arts and, in particular, to promote the study, practice and appreciation of the recorder and its repertoire.

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)

* Any person who agrees to abide by the Rules and pays the annual subscription to the Society nationally (£25.00 individuals, £37.25 households and £10 for young persons under 30 for 2018/19), plus a sum to cover the costs of any local Branch(es) they join, may become a member and attend Branch and Society meetings. Each Branch is entitled to a subsidised visit, sometimes called a Pastoral Visit, each year by a conductor from the Society's Panel of Conductors. Each member receives the quarterly *Recorder Magazine*, which includes several pages of Society news. Visitors are welcome at Branch meetings.

* The Society organises and subsidises training workshops in topics such as baroque music and dance, conducting, technique, theory and unbarred music. Attendance is open to all for fees of £12 or £17.

* The Society's Walter Bergmann Fund, named after one of its founders, awards grants to young people under the age of 30 to support their development as recorder players. These grants can be for the purchase of instruments, lessons, attendance at courses, entry to competitions, educational activity promoting recorder playing etc and are available to qualifying groups as well as individuals. Awards are usually subject to applicants providing evidence of financial need.

* Other grants are given from time to time to individuals or groups when these would further the objects of the Society.

* With Moeck UK and the Early Music Shop, the Society organises and subsidises a biennial international solo recorder playing competition for young players. The competition is held in odd-numbered years, with the winner giving a public recital the following year.

* The finals of a new competition for composers, launched in April 2018, were held at the national festival in Durham in April 2019.

* Following the launch of their 'schools' initiative' at Conference in April 2018 the Society continues to support one school's ensemble. Several branches have made contact with schools but more needs to be done to make the project more effective. The Society supports school visits by a young professional quartet in order to promote the instrument and enable pupils to experience live concerts.

* Each year one or more Branches of the Society host a national weekend Festival. In most years there is also a one-day Scottish Festival. The Festivals are open to everyone, whether Society members or not, and include conducted recorder playing sessions, recitals, workshops and other activities. Instrument and music shops attend to enable participants to see and buy items to enhance their playing.

* The Society centrally commissions new music for recorder consorts and ensembles. The organisers of each national Festival also commission a piece, often with a local theme, for first performance at the Festival, with copies for Branches and affiliated Orchestras for further practice and

performance.

When appointed, trustees' attention is drawn to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, including that on their roles and responsibilities. In the opinion of the Society all its activities, including those described above, are public benefits in accordance with the guidance.

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.

* The Society's grant making activities are described above.

* The Society does not hold or make investments as such. All the funds held by the Society nationally are kept in current or deposit accounts.

* Almost all the Society's activities are undertaken by volunteers, who can claim reimbursement from the Society for expenses only. Professional musicians may charge fees for conducting etc, but are not paid for their service as trustees.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

* The Society continued to promote the recorder as a serious instrument, to encourage the raising of standards, and to provide opportunities for learning and playing by members and non-members, through Branch meetings, Playing Days, Workshops and at the National and Scottish Recorder Festivals.

* The National Recorder Festival, held at Ushaw College in Durham on 13th and 14th April 2019, included concerts by Red Priest and Block4 as well as the finals of a new Composers' Competition, adjudicated by Jonathan Dove, with performances by the Block4 Recorder Quartet. Performances by young professional recorder players took place as part of the Festival Fringe programme including a family concert by Lux Musicae, all open to the public. On the Sunday young recorder players were able to take part in an especially organised Youth Strand and were invited to join all festival attendees for the rehearsal and performance of Rosemary Robinson's festival commission Dunholm Suite.

* The Society's annual Conference was held on the Friday afternoon of the National Festival weekend.

* A separate Scottish Festival was held in Edinburgh on 25th May 2019.

* Seven subsidised training workshops were held on the subjects of Gabrieli canzonas, Playing music without bar lines, Technique, the music of William Byrd, and three on Conducting.

* Various recorders belonging to the Society continued to be on loan to the National Youth Recorder Orchestras (charity 1153705) for the use of participants in their training courses. In addition the Society awarded a grant of £3,000 to NYRO to support its activities in 2018/19.

* Silvia Berchtold from Germany, winner of the 2017 International Solo Recorder Playing Competition returned in November to give her prize-winner's recital during the Early Music Festival in Blackheath, London. The Competition and recital are organised by the Society and sponsored jointly with Moeck UK and the Early Music Shop.

* The Society's Walter Bergmann Fund continued to give grants to support young recorder players in financial need to purchase instruments, attend courses etc. Many members and non-members contributed cash, instruments or music to support the Fund.

* The manuscript arrangements of music in the Chiltern Recorder Consort Series bequeathed to the Society by Alex Ayre continued to be

Section D

Achievements and performance

computer set. The series is available to buy, in either manuscript or set versions, from Recorder MusicMail. The Society receives a share of the sales income and the Performing Rights fees for this music.

* Branches and the Society's members continued to take part in many activities in the wider community. In recent years these have included playing in public places, schools, care homes etc, and giving concerts and workshops. Many Branches are developing links with other organisations, such as local U3A groups, for their mutual interest and benefit.

* The Society's public website at www.srp.org.uk continues to develop as a comprehensive source of information about the Society, its Branches and activities, and about the recorder and its music in general. It includes a catalogue of music held by Branches to facilitate sharing. It also includes extensive lists or links to details of concerts, workshops, Playing Days, suppliers, items for sale and wanted, etc of potential interest to members and non-members.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society's Central Fund maintains reserves equal to at least the annual turnover. The Arthur Ingram Fund is used for activities in support of the Society's charitable objectives. The Walter Bergmann Fund, which is a restricted fund, awards grants to support young players up to age 30. The awarding of grants from the latter two Funds will always be subject to the availability of funds.

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 main income derives from members' subscriptions to the Central Fund plus subscriptions levied by each local Branch to support its activities.

* The Arthur Ingram Fund was founded by a legacy and receives the Gift Aid payments from HMRC that the Society's claims on members' subscriptions to the Central Fund. At Conference in April 2018 it was decided to allocate all donations received for central SRP to the Arthur Ingram Fund to ensure that they are spent on charitable activities.

* The Walter Bergmann Fund is supported by donations of cash, instruments and music and by the Gift Aid payments from HMRC that the Society claims on qualifying donations.

Section F**Other optional information**

The Society is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) as a cross-border charity (number SC038422). Copies of this Trustees Annual Report and the accompanying accounts are being submitted to OSCR together with some information specific to the Society's activities in Scotland.

The Society also has Gift Aid status with Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

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)	April Munday	Ursula Burchette
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	16 th February 2020	16 th February 2020