



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month 09	Year 2021		Day 31	Month 08	Year 2022

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) 282751, SC038422

Charity's principal address

2 Cromwell's Hide
Stapleton
Bristol
Postcode BS16 1TA

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	James Grant	Chairman		Annual Conference
2	Valerie Giltrow-Tyler	Secretary		Annual Conference
3	Erica Crabtree	Treasurer		Annual Conference
4	Penelope Clarke	Membership Secretary		Annual Conference
5	Mary Tyers	Branch representative, and Publicity	To April 2022	Annual Conference
6	Jill Taylor	Branch representative, and Insurance Co-ordinator		Annual Conference
7	Stephanie Sutherland	Branch representative, and Training Co-ordinator		Annual Conference
8	Deborah Nicholas	Branch representative		Annual Conference
9	Samuel Constable	Branch representative		Annual Conference
10	Rodney Callow	Branch representative	Co-opted 10 th July 2022	Co-opted by Trustees

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)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	The Constitution of the Society, and the Rules of the Society, as adopted on 16 August 2020.
How the charity is constituted)	Association
Trustee selection methods	Officers and trustees are elected by the annual Conference for a 5-year term.

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 form the central Committee, which meets approximately 6 times a year. Two SRP Trustees attend the Society's Walter Bergmann Fund sub-committee which awards grants to support young recorder players. Other key activities, such as training and the SRP/Moeck Solo Recorder Competition, are managed by individual named post-holders, responsible to the Trustees.

* The Trustees are advised by two of the Musical Advisers, who attend Trustee meetings in rotation.

* The Society has 48 geographical Branches throughout Great Britain and one in Ireland, plus personal members who are not members of a geographical Branch. The Branches in Great Britain and Ireland organise regular meetings weekly or monthly for group playing, and one or more Branches jointly organise the Society's annual Festival.

* The Society also has two corporate members, and 31 affiliated groups, such as recorder orchestras and bands.

* 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, Professional Indemnity and Trustee Insurance.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the Society shall be the education of the public in the study, practice and appreciation of the art of music and the allied arts and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) the promotion of the education of the public in 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, £37.50 households and £10 for young persons under 30 for 2021-22), 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 publication *The Recorder Magazine*, which includes some 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, members or non-members, for a fee of £15 for most workshops, and £17.00 for the Advanced Conducting Workshop. Face-to-face workshops run for a minimum of 5 hrs contact time. On-line workshops were introduced during the pandemic, and remain available at £3.00 per hour, per participant.

* The Society's Walter Bergmann Fund, named after one of its founders, awards grants to young people under the age of 30, born or studying in the UK and Ireland, 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 subject to applicants providing evidence of financial need.

* The Philip Cole Bursary, named after a member, is available to be used for workshops in schools, or travel of prize-winners to the SRP/Moeck competition's final recital, on the recommendation of the WBF committee.

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

* The Society organises and subsidises a biennial international solo recorder playing competition for young players at the London International Festival of Early Music, with support from Moeck. The competition is held in odd-numbered years, with the winner giving a public recital the following year.

* 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. These 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. Branches may also commission new music for special events, such as anniversary meetings.

* 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 and Workshops.
- * The Conference and SRP National Festival were once again held in person, in Ipswich, as originally planned for 2020. 33 branch members were able to attend the Conference, as branch delegates, with 14 officials.
- * The Ipswich Festival attracted 85 players across the weekend, with playing sessions led by 18 conductors from across the country, and two massed playing sessions for all participants. A masque was performed by and to all participants on the Saturday evening.
- * A special piece of music had been commissioned by Stephen Watkins, a local composer, for the occasion, and this Septet was played during the weekend. Copies of this Festival piece were made available to all branches and affiliated groups.
- * In 2021-22 most branches were able to resume playing meetings, with additional considerations of suitable spacing and ventilation, in some cases necessitating moves to new venues. Players were asked not to attend if suffering from any symptoms of infectious disease.
- * Branch members have been able to benefit from the extra Pastoral Visitor sessions offered by the Trustees, replacing opportunities missed during the pandemic.
- * Six workshops were held between 1 Sept 2021 and 31 Aug 2022, two on-line, on the topics of The Round and Catch, and Technical Tips, and four face-to-face, on the topics of Klezmer Music, French Baroque Music, Conducting Level 2 and Level 1.
- * Various recorders belonging to the Society continue to be on loan to the National Youth Recorder Orchestras (charity 1153705) for the use of participants in their training courses, although not all courses have resumed at the previous level of activity.
- * In addition the Society awarded a grant of £3,000 to NYRO to support its activities in 2021-22. During the year the Trustees approved a further grant of £3,000 for the coming year, split as £1,500 initially, plus a further £1,500 conditional on NYRO raising matching funds from other sources during 2021/22.
- * The 2021 SRP/Moeck Solo Recorder Playing Competition took place in Blackheath, London. The Competition and biennial recital are organised by the competition administrator, on behalf of the Society, and sponsored jointly with Moeck and the Early Music Shop. Four participants took part, with Charlotte Schneider winning the first prize, which includes a recital at the 2022 London International Festival of Early Music.

* The Society's Walter Bergmann Fund continued to give grants to support young recorder players in financial need to purchase instruments, attend courses etc. Most recipients were teenage or college students needing to buy decent instruments for their studies. The Fund has also provided funds from the Philip Cole Bursary for workshops in schools, and for assisting with travel expenses for a group to take part in a competition. Many members and non-members contributed cash, instruments or music to support the Fund.

*The Philip Cole Bursary was awarded in 2020 for an educational event which has been paid out, now that events in schools can take place again.

* The Society receives a share of the sales income and the Performing Rights fees for music computer set from bequeathed arrangements.

* The Society's public website at www.srp.org.uk continues to be 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 some 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.

* An electronic newsletter is produced monthly by a volunteer, on behalf of the Society, and is circulated to anyone who signs up to receive it.

* The Society operates under the Constitution and Rules adopted by Conference in August 2020, which were presented to the charity regulators. These new arrangements reduced the number of Trustees, with additional responsibilities carried out by named post holders.

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.

* After two years of virtually no activity, 2021/22 saw a welcome return to in-person meeting and recorder playing. Branch activities resumed with increased income from subscriptions and attendance at meetings, also with increased expenditure on venue and conductor costs. Support for Pastoral Visits to branches increased as branches caught up with their entitlement to visits and several workshops were able to take place.

* The National Festival and Conference took place in person rather than remotely, with associated costs.

* The SRP/Moeck Solo Recorder Competition took place in November 2021, with associated costs.

* The accounts reflect the result for the year and show a reduction in reserves as events postponed during the pandemic can now take place.

* 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. General donations to the SRP are allocated to the Arthur Ingram Fund to ensure spending on charitable activities such as training workshops, the SRP/Moeck competition, general grant giving and funding for commissioned music.

* 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.

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

ty's trustees

Signature(s)




Full name(s)

James Grant

Valerie Giltrow-Tyler

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc

Chairman

Secretary

Date

26th Feb 2023

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