



**NEWRY MUSICAL FEIS (NIC107110)
CHARITY TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT TO
THE CHARITY COMMISSION FOR
NORTHERN IRELAND**

September 1st, 2022 – August 31st, 2023

Please read the notes at the end when filling in this form. When complete the form should be signed and scanned then uploaded up on to the CCNI website when completing your annual report.

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| 1. Charity Name as listed on the Charity Register | Newry Musical Feis |
| 2. Financial year the report is for | Year ending 31 st August 2023 |
| 3. CCNI Charity Registration Number | NIC 107110 |
| 4. The address from which the Charity Operates | <u>14 Windsor Hill, Newry, BT34 1ER</u> |
| 5. The names of all our Trustees at the date of this report plus any who stepped down as a trustee during the year | <p>Current Trustees Rowland Anketell, Geraldine Carr, Marie Cassidy, Roxanne Connor, Bridie Devlin, Jacinta Duffy, Lily Eccles, Eileen Ferguson, Rosie Ferguson, Fiona Flynn, Mary Flynn, Mary Goss, James Graham, Marie Graham, Anne Keenan, Catherine Kerrin, Jeananne Marner, Maria Moan, Anne Marie Murphy, Sheila Nolan, Elizabeth O'Connor, Dympna Rafferty, Diane Reilly, Ciara Wadsworth</p> <hr/> <p>Trustees who stepped down None</p> |
| <p>6. A summary description of the purposes of the charity</p> <p><i>The aim of Newry Musical Feis is to make its charitable purposes available to all. The range of performance classes and volunteering opportunities, available across the seven disciplines, ensure that there is something available for everyone who would like to be involved.</i></p> <p>The purposes of Newry Musical Feis are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation in the performing arts. • Provide adjudicated performance and learning opportunities to participants of all ages. | |
| *7. The name of any person, or body of persons, permitted by the trusts of the charity to appoint | |

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| <p>one or more new charity trustees and a description of the method used to make such appointments</p> <p><i>If there is any individual or organisation with the power to appoint charity trustees, such as another charity or a government department, provide their details, the relevant powers, and methods of appointment.</i></p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>* 8. Include details of any funds held by the charity as a custodian trustee</p> <p><i>This is mandatory for charities preparing accruals accounts.</i></p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>9. Charity's Main Activities and Achievements during the year.</p> <p>As the charity's work had to be carried out online in the previous two years due to Covid pandemic restrictions, the 2022-2023 year was the first to see an in-person festival since 2018-2019. With pandemic limitations removed all seven Sections: Music, Traditional Music, Speech & Drama (Open), Speech & Drama (Schools), Ballet & Theatre Dance, Irish Dance (Open), and Irish Dance (Confined) were able to offer a full schedule of Classes. Due to the efforts of the Section Leadership Teams, teachers whose disciplines could not be offered during the online-only years were encouraged to reengage, and performance numbers across all Sections were excellent, resulting in a total of almost 10,000 performances across forty-one, three-session days in up to five venues. Feedback from the thirteen specialist adjudicators was consistently positive; with particular emphasis on the high standards being achieved and the support shown for one another by the performers. Many of the Classes attracted large audiences of relatives and friends of performers – some with a long tradition of involvement with the arts and others who were experiencing the benefits of public performance for the first time. While many performers came from within a 40-mile radius of Newry, there was a significant number who came from much further afield. The youngest performer, a dancer, was aged 4 and the oldest, a member of a male voice choir, was 95. Opportunities for community involvement through volunteering were restored in 2022-23 with the return of in-person Classes. 41 days with three sessions per day and 5 officials/ stewards needed per session generated a conservative estimate of 2,460 volunteering hours during the run of the Feis. These were covered by Committee members supported by a team of over twenty voluntary helpers of all ages</p> | |

10. How is the Group doing financially?

The income and expenditure for the year ended 30th August 2023 is as follows:

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| Income | £47,472.36 |
| Expenditure | £42,901.40 |
| Cash At Bank | £30,236.94 |

Newry Musical Feis received its income from competitor entry fees, door takings, Programme sponsorship, and Amazon Smile.
The largest outgoings include adjudicator fees and the hire of performance spaces.

11. How has the Group ensured members have not come to harm?

Newry Musical Feis has Employer's Liability Insurance and Public and Products Liability Insurance renewed annually per calendar year. These certificates are on public display in all venues where festival sessions are taking place.

The charity has a regularly updated Child Safeguarding Policy which was made known, through their teachers, to all parents & caregivers of under-18s taking part. New Committee members and Voluntary Helpers completed a formal Child Safeguarding briefing when joining the team and signed a register confirming that they have understood their role in relation to all children and young people taking part in the festival. Should any issue arise, of whatever type, the charity can draw on additional support and guidance from The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech, to whom it is affiliated – this facility was not needed during the year in question.

12. How has your Group ensured that any private benefit to your volunteers has been incidental to the public benefit of your work?

Volunteers do not receive any private benefit from their involvement in the work of Newry Musical Feis.

13. A statement that the Trustees have had regard to the CCNIs guidance on Public Benefit.

We, the Trustees of Newry Musical Feis, can confirm that in setting our objectives and planning for the year that we have considered the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

14. This report was approved by the Trustees on

Date: 7th June 2024

15. Signature of Trustees.

Trustee: Mary Jo

Date: 7/6/24

Trustee: Mary Jo

Date: 7/6/24