

# FRIENDS OF THE CHOIR STUDIO



Trustees  
Report  
2023/24



I am delighted to submit our Annual report for Friends Of The Choir Studio. The 2023/24 year has been another successful year for our charity, full of creativity, music making and friendship..

We have had many successes and achievements this year that are highlighted within our report. We are extremely grateful to our music professionals and committee members who have worked tirelessly this year to enable us to learn, develop as a charity and most importantly to bring singing and music to the hearts of those who need it the most.

This year has reinforced the importance of music in making the world a happier and healthier place. We have seen the benefits our projects have brought to our members and local community. We look forward to more opportunities, welcoming new people into our choir family and continuing to spread joy through our music and song

Lisa Flanagan

# Committee Information

## 2023/24



# NIC108238

Chairperson  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Trustee  
Trustee  
Committee member  
Committee member

Lisa Flanagan  
Linda O Hagan  
Sinead Drummond  
Joelle Stamp  
Ann Reid  
Keva Quinn  
Brenda Kellaghan

### Artistic operations

Kathy McCaughey  
Gareth Hughes  
Mark Hughes

Contact  
The Choir Studio  
5G Greenbank Service Station  
Warrenpoint Rd  
Newry

## Friends Of The Choir Studio



*Creating a healthier and happier world through music & song*

**Music  
Charity  
Community  
Song**



### OUR Charity aims

Our belief has been in the power of singing and music to improve health and wellbeing for ALL.

We aim to build a sense of community, family & belonging

We produce, promote & create opportunities to learn with a commitment to charitable purposes.

We support the physiological, social, psychological, behavioural and medical benefits of music and singing.

Lending support through music & performances to highlight important social causes.



The **Charity Commission**  
for Northern Ireland



# Charity Aims

## **Music & Singing accessible to ALL**

Our charity was established to ensure everyone, irrespective of age, gender, religion and beliefs find happiness and joy through the power of music & singing.

Our emphasis on inter-generational singing will be at the forefront of our objectives for the foreseeable - building community relationships and friendships, enhancing the lives of our members young and old, through a shared love of music and song.

## **Providing skill's & opportunities**

Our Charity aims to produce, promote and create opportunities for our members.

We aim to provide singing workshops with industry professionals from all genres of music, and to provide performance opportunities both locally and nationally.

We hope to lend support through music & performances to highlight important social causes and to assist other charitable organisations through our music.

## **Creating a happier & healthier world through music and song**

We support the physiological, social, psychological, behavioural and medical benefits of singing and the transformative power that singing can have for so many.

# In 2023/24 Friends Of The Choir Studio,

**Held over 50  
in person events,  
performances &  
workshops**



**Partnered and supported  
10 organisations from the  
charity, health and  
educational sector**



**Welcomed new  
members age 4-82  
years from all walks of  
life!**

**Our performances,  
workshops and music  
videos, have benefited  
over  
750,000 attendees, both  
in person and online**

**Welcomed  
Broadway star  
Rachel Tucker to  
facilitate a  
number of  
workshops**



# *Vision & Aims* A Masterclass with *Broadway & West-End Star* **Rachel Tucker**

July 1st 2023  
The Choir Studio  
Newry

*Wickedly Wild*  
Age 10 -14 years  
*Musical Theatre*  
Masterclass



## *Music & Performance*

2023/24 proved very successful in terms of performances, workshops, outreach charity work, festivals and welcoming new members to our choir family. The studio was a flurry of excitement with the arrival of singer Brian Kennedy for a series of rehearsals, filming of a documentary and subsequent magical performance alongside our Uplifted Choir in front of thousands of festival-goers!

West End and Broadway star Rachel Tucker facilitated a series of Musical Theatre workshops that were attended by singers from all over the island of Ireland. It was a wonderful accolade that Rachel chose our performance space and highlighted the wealth of talent we have within our choir family.

We presented our Big Band Night in Newry City Hall, featuring 100 performers aged 4-82 years.

Our Christmas programme saw us visit and perform for the most vulnerable people in our community. We had the privilege of singing in four local care homes, Daisy Hill Hospital, The Southern Area Hospice and an emotional performance singing at Belfast City Airport for a group of terminally ill children as they embarked on a trip to Lapland.

Our recorded song for Newry Hospice went "Viral" over 1 million views online!

We partnered with several other charities and groups including The Southern Area Hospice, The Road Ahead Group, Newry Heritage Charity, Angel Wishes and PIPS.





# Financial Review

Friends Of The Choir Studio's total income for 2023/24 is £23,420. We were delighted to have secured funding from The National Lottery NI of £5866 to facilitate our very successful community projects.

Our core source of income was generated from our own fundraising initiatives and performances including our Big Band Night, in-house concerts, Christmas Light switch on, community movie night, our annual Carol service and our members subsidies.

Please refer to our treasurer's and the independent examiners report to show income and expenditure in more detail.

We have ensured compliance with the governance obligations of our funders and donors,

**Friends Of The Choir Studio**  
**Income & Expenditure**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>
Donations	3,830
Fundraising	4,899
Lottery Fund	5,866
Prize money	200
Venue Hire	5,340
Workshop	3,285
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>23,420</u>
Accountants fees	300
Affiliation fee	50
Bank charges	75
Equipment	1,327
Events	15,027
Insurance costs	259
Rates	(461)
Rent	5,200
Venue hire	916
	<u>22,693</u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>	<u>727</u>

# A year in pics.....



The Choir Studio

## Shake a tail feather Big Band Show

Sat 25th May  
Newry Town Hall  
7.30pm

£15

 Tickets here

 

Bar facilities 🍷 🍹  
Doors open at 6.50pm

-  The Uplifted Gospel Choir
-  Little Voices & Rise Up Choir
-  Leon
-  Emily-Jane Flanagan
-  The Young At Heart's





