

**THE STRINGCREDIBLES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 MARCH 2018**

**THE STRINGCREDIBLES**

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**THE STRINGCREDIBLES**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

<b>CIO REGISTERED NUMBER</b>	1158652
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Calum Nisbet Ann Tennant Peter Hill Sarah Gee
<b>BANKERS</b>	The Co-operative Bank
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	John Yelland OBE FCA MA Chartered Accountant Home Farm House Drakes Broughton Pershore Worcestershire WR10 2AG
<b>CONTACT</b>	Ms Helen Edgar 131 Sellywood Road Birmingham B30 1XA
<b>THE STRINGCREDIBLES MUSICIANS</b>	Catherine Arlidge (Violin) Helen Edgar (Cello) Amy Thomas (Viola) Bryony Morrison (Violin)

## **THE STRINGCREDIBLES**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comply with statutory requirements, the charity's governing document and the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice 2005.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

The Stringcredibles is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation having number 1158652.

The trustees during the year under review and up to the date the accounts were approved were:

Calum Nisbet  
Ann Tennant  
Peter Hill  
Sarah Gee

New trustees are appointed by existing trustees.

The principal address of the charity is 131 Sellywood Road, Birmingham, B30 1XA.

The Independent Examiner is John Yelland OBE FCA MA Chartered Accountant, Home Farm House, Worcester Road, Drakes Broughton, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10 2AG.

The bankers are The Co-operative Bank.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which was registered with the Charity Commission on 24 September 2014. The trustees make strategic decisions and ensure overall control but delegate day to day management and delivery of this objective to the Stingcredibles musicians who are:

Catherine Arlidge	(Violin)
Helen Edgar	(Cello)
Amy Thomas	(Viola)
Bryony Morrison	(Violin)

#### **OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES**

The objects of the charity are to advance the education of the public in the art of music, in particular, but not exclusively, by facilitating creative learning experiences which allow participants to discuss and develop their individual capabilities, skills and potential.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The trustees have complied with their duty in Section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The objects of the charity have been achieved by:

- Enabling children to be active participants in classical music.
- Encouraging young performers to communicate better through their music.
- Sharing and developing dynamic performance practice among professionals.

## **THE STRINGCREDIBLES**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018** (Continued)

The Stringcredibles continue to perform in schools and community settings, work creatively with young children and support communication skills in instrumental learners.

#### **Summary**

In 2017-18 we:

- Performed for a total of 4,047 children
- In 13 schools, 2 higher education institutions and 1 festival
- Through our residency at Pinfold Street Primary School we worked with 420 children on creative music making
- Created 48 new pieces of child led music
- Supported the development 32 conservatoire music students and 16 school age young musicians in our Pitch Pace Perform programme
- Delivered two sessions of Continuing Professional Development training for the peripatetic music staff of Birmingham Music Service
- Ensured our work was well resourced through support from Arts Council England, the Grimmitt Trust, Baron Davenport Trust, Edward and Dorothy Cadbury Trust, St Thomas Dole Charity and a pool of supportive individuals.
- Implemented a robust system of evaluation of our work and its impact with the support of an evaluation consultant.

In 2017 new connections led to presentations of our Tunes From The Trenches interactive performance at The Beeline Festival in Worcester and two performances of Making Music at Tiverton Primary School. A grant from St Thomas Doyle Charity enabled us to perform both shows to Alston Primary School and Wyndcliffe Primary School in Birmingham.

Our residency at Pinfold Street Primary School in Wednesbury, West Midlands, continued with two intensive creative weeks. In the Summer term, taking the BBC Ten Pieces AS inspiration, the children wrote a song "No Place Like PINFOLD", which the whole school learnt, performed and still regularly sing, alongside topic led creative music making. In the Spring, the Headteacher challenged us to focus on Growth Mindset and we created work with all the children focusing on the messages of Growth Mindset and developing their own potential.

#### **Pitch Pace Perform Year 1**

In 2017, with support from Arts Council England, The Stringcredibles launched the Pitch Pace Perform programme for sixteen 15 to 18 year old musicians who had been identified as Pupils of Promise by Birmingham Music Service.

There are three strands to the project, The Apprentices, Music Conservatoire students and "Cascade" Music Staff of the Birmingham Music Service.

#### **Apprentices**

Over ten weeks, young school age musicians were coached by The Stringcredibles in performance skills which go beyond the traditional instrumental exam criteria. They learnt how to perform from memory, present themselves physically, speak with confidence, select and structure a musical programme and create audio-visual materials to accompany their performance before being divided into four string quarters. The culmination of the project's first year was performances by the 2017 cohort of apprentices using their new skills to deliver concerts to 1,564 pupils at the eight Birmingham primary schools.

As the Stringcredible Apprentices are close in age to the primary school children, their performances proved more inspirational than a similarly pitched performance might have been when performed by adults. Their skills seem attainable to the young audiences.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018** (Continued)

**Apprentices** (Continued)

Evaluation of the project with our first cohort of 16 apprentices, nine of who came from BAME backgrounds, showed us that the coaching programme was particularly effective in increasing confidence in these are:

1. Speaking in front of large groups.
2. Holding the attention of a young audience.
3. Performing in front of others.

All the apprentices noticed that they were worrying less about the technical perfection of the notes they were playing and were more aware of how they were communication with and responding to the audience. The skills developed through the Pitch Pace Perform project are important outside music too, particularly when thinking ahead to how best to present oneself in university or job interviews.

As part of the project, music was commissioned from professional composers Timothy Jackson and Sarah Freestone.

**Cascade**

The second part of the project supports peripatetic music teachers to teach stage presence and communication skills to their students. Through one day workshops we share the Pitch Pace Perform learning which then ripples out to a much wider group of young musicians than we could ever reach alone.

**Students**

The final part is in partnership with The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and The Royal Northern College of Music, where we work with in an intensive session with individual musicians and chamber ensembles, not just strings, also wind, brass and percussion players, exploring our Pitch Pace Perform ethos of how to connect the musician and the audience.

**Higher Education and School Visits**

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire  
Royal Northern College of Music  
Wheeler Lane Primary School  
Anderton Park Primary School  
Chad Vale Primary  
Ark Tindal Primary Academy  
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School  
Rookery School  
Chilcote Primary School  
Clifton Primary  
King David Primary School  
Tiverton Primary School  
Alston Primary School  
Wyndcliffe Primary School  
Pinfold Street Primary School  
Worcester Beeline Festival  
Services for Education (Birmingham Music Service)

**Reserves Policy**

The trustees' policy on reserves is to maintain sufficient funds to enable the charity to continue operating for a reasonable period and to finance overheads and administration for a period of six months. The charity's unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2018 were £8,886 (2017 £6,977).

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Total unrestricted income for the year was £16,695 (2017 - £13,388) and total expenditure was £14,786 (2017 - £12,341) giving net income of £1,909 (2017 – income £1,047).

**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018** (Continued)

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of affairs of the charity and of incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees' are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**On behalf of the Trustees:**

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**C Nisbet**

**Dated: 7 January 2019**

## **THE STRINGCREDIBLES**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2018 which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section s.130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and the regulations made there under have not been met;or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**John Yelland OBE FCA MA**  
**Chartered Accountant**  
**Home Farm House**  
**Worcester Road**  
**Drakes Broughton**  
**Pershore**  
**Worcestershire**  
**WR10 2AG**

**Dated : 7 January 2019**

**A REGISTERED CIO CHARITY NUMBER 1158652**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

	<u>Notes</u>	<b>2018</b> <b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b>2018</b> <b><u>Restricted</u></b> (Note 9)	<b>2018</b> <b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>2017</b> <b><u>Total</u></b>
<b>INCOME</b>					
<b>Incoming from generated funds</b>					
Voluntary income	2	<b>2,110</b>		<b>2,110</b>	23,781
Incoming from charitable activities	3	<b>14,585</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>14,820</b>	9,650
		-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>16,695</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>16,930</b>	33,431
		=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Charitable activities	4	<b>14,786</b>	<b>10,472</b>	<b>25,258</b>	15,425
		-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>14,786</b>	<b>10,472</b>	<b>25,258</b>	15,425
		=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>NET INCOMING BEING</b>					
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>1,909</b>	<b>(10,237)</b>	<b>(8,328)</b>	18,006
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		<b>6,977</b>	<b>15,459</b>	<b>22,436</b>	4,430
		-----	-----	-----	-----
<b><u>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</u></b>		<b>8,886</b>	<b>5,222</b>	<b>14,108</b>	22,436
		=====	=====	=====	=====

The notes form part of the financial statements

**A REGISTERED CIO CHARITY NUMBER 1158652**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2018**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>Restricted</u> (Note 9)	<u>2018</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>2017</u> <u>Total</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	7	7,407		7,407	1,512
Cash at bank		7,129	5,222	12,351	21,424
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		14,536	5,222	19,758	22,936
<b>CREDITORS</b> : Amounts falling due within one year	8	5,650		5,650	500
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) BEING</b>		-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		8,886	5,222	14,108	22,436
		=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		8,886	5,222	14,108	22,436
		=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>					
Restricted Funds			5,222	5,222	15,459
Unrestricted Funds		8,886		8,886	6,977
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total		8,886	5,222	14,108	22,436
		=====	=====	=====	=====

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 7 January 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

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C Nisbet

The notes form part of the financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES:**

**Basis of Preparation of Accounts**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities SORP and the Charities Act 2011.

**Incoming Resources**

***Recognition of incoming resources***

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

***Incoming resources with related expenditure***

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

***Grants and donations***

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

***Tax reclaims on donations and gifts***

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

***Contractual income and performance related grants***

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

***Volunteer help***

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

***Investment income***

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

**Expenditure and Liabilities**

***Liability recognition***

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

***Charitable activities***

These costs relate to the musicians fees etc for the provision of concerts etc.

***Governance costs***

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

***Grants with performance conditions***

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

**THE STRINGCREDIBLES**  
**A REGISTERED CIO CHARITY NUMBER 1158652**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018** (Continued)

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES:** (Continued)

**Expenditure and Liabilities** (Continued)

**Grants payable without performance conditions**

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

**Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

**Assets**

**Tangible fixed assets for use by charity**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

2. **VOLUNTARY INCOME**

	<b>2018</b> <b>Unrestricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>2018</b> <b>Restricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>2018</b> <b>Total</b> <b>Funds</b>
Grants	1,200		1,200
Donations	750		750
Gift aid repayment	160		160
	-----	-----	-----
	<b>2,110</b>	-	<b>2,110</b>
	=====	=====	=====

	<b>Unrestricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>Restricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>Funds</b>
Comparative figures – year to 31 March 2017			
Grants		20,043	20,043
Donations	3,100		3,100
Gift Aid repayment	638		638
	-----	-----	-----
	<b>3,738</b>	<b>20,043</b>	<b>23,781</b>
	=====	=====	=====

3. **INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2018</b> <b>Unrestricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>2018</b> <b>Restricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>2018</b> <b>Total</b> <b>Funds</b>
Fees from musical educational performances	14,585	235	14,820
	=====	=====	=====

	<b>Unrestricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>Restricted</b> <b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>Funds</b>
Comparative figures – year to 31 March 2017			
Fees for musical education performances	9,650	-	9,650
	=====	=====	=====

**THE STRINGCREDIBLES**  
**A REGISTERED CIO CHARITY NUMBER 1158652**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018** (Continued)

**4. EXPENDITURE – CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
Musicians' fees	12,704	6,150	18,854
Flash Cards			-
Travelling expenses		155	155
Project management		2,800	2,800
Website costs	280		280
Stationery	76		76
Insurance	256		256
Sundry expenses	105	271	376
Advertising			-
Consultancy	1,365		1,365
Music Production		1,096	1,096
	-----	-----	-----
	<b>14,786</b>	<b>10,472</b>	<b>25,258</b>
	=====	=====	=====

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
Comparative figures – Year to 31 March 2017			
Musicians' fees	10,200	1,500	11,700
Flash Cards		1,584	1,584
Travelling expenses	150		150
Project action	150		150
Project evaluation			-
Website costs	130		130
Stationery	48		48
Insurance	217		217
Sundry expenses	35		35
Advertising	126		126
Consultancy	1,285		1,285
	-----	-----	-----
	<b>12,341</b>	<b>3,084</b>	<b>15,425</b>
	=====	=====	=====

**5. STAFF COSTS**

There were no employees during the year.

No remuneration or expenses have been paid to any trustee.

**6. GOVERNANCE COSTS**

There were no governance costs.

**THE STRINGCREDIBLES**  
**A REGISTERED CIO CHARITY NUMBER 1158652**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018** (Continued)

**7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
	£	£
Debtors	5,885	150
Debtor – Gift aid	1,522	1,362
	-----	-----
	<b>7,407</b>	1,512
	=====	=====

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
	£	£
Musicians' fees	5,650	500
	=====	=====

**9. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

Grant from Arts Council England for the Pitch Pace Project to support Conservatoire music students and school age young musicians aged 15 to 18 years. There are three strands to the project, The Apprentices, Conservatoire students and "Cascade" Music Staff of the Birmingham Music Service.