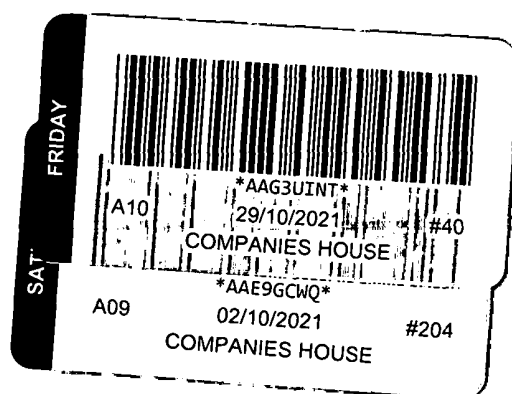


CITIZENS OF THE WORLD CHOIR COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Registered Number
12116848
(England and Wales)

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended
31 December 2020



CITIZENS OF THE WORLD CHOIR COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

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CITIZENS OF THE WORLD CHOIR COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Company Information for the year from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

Directors	DELL, Rebecca Lucy
	DONALD, Thomas
	ESSEN, Peter George
	HATTINGH, Rachel Sylvia
	LAVENDER, Mark Edward Owen
	MERCATALI, Tamasin Elizabeth

Registered Address	194 Stanley Road
	Teddington
	TW11 8UE

Registered Number	12116848 (England and Wales)
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CITIZENS OF THE WORLD CHOIR COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Profit and Loss Account

for the year from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Turnover	48,843	20,939
Staff costs	(1,742)	(4,781)
Other Charges	(50,381)	(8,933)
Profit/(loss) for the year	<u>(3,280)</u>	<u>7,225</u>

CITIZENS OF THE WORLD CHOIR COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Current Assets	20,400	10,480
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(13,500)	-
Net current assets (liabilities)	6,900	10,480
Total assets less current liabilities	6,900	10,480
Accruals and deferred income	-	(300)
Net assets (liabilities)	6,900	10,180
Capital and reserves	6,900	10,180

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. It was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

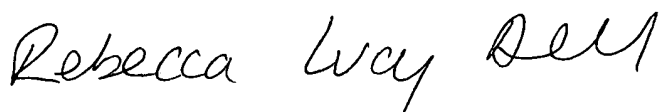
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The average number of persons employed by the company in the period was 3 (previous period: 0).

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 11 March 2021, and are signed on its behalf by:



DELL, Rebecca Lucy

Director

Registered Company No. 12116848

001559/15

CIC 34

Community Interest Company Report

For official use
(Please leave blank)

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*Please
complete in
typescript, or
in bold black
capitals.*

**Company Name in
full**

CITIZENS OF THE WORLD CHOIR COMMUNITY
INTERST COMPANY

Company Number

12116848

Year Ending

31/12/2020

(The date format is required in full)

Please ensure the company name is consistent with the company name entered on the accounts.

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

(N.B. A Filing Fee of £15 is payable on this document. Please enclose a cheque or postal order payable to Companies House)

PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a description of how they have benefited the community.

Citizens of the World Choir is a choir based in South East London for people seeking sanctuary, refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, as well as friends and allies. Formed in 2017, and incorporated as a CIC in 2019, our 50 members represent 28 different nations from around the world, with around one third of our membership employed as key workers.

"We are more than a choir, we are more than a community. We are a family." - Sonia, choir member

"The choir means a lot to me. It's like a soothing balm to my inner mind." - Abiola, choir member

2020 has inevitably been a challenging year. Lockdown restrictions have meant further hardship and increased need in our community. We have needed to work fast to develop and deliver new and adapted services to our choir members, as well as find ways of surviving financially given the decimation of the live performance industry in the wake of Covid-19. But it has also been a year of growth and resilience, with a renewed commitment to maintaining, sustaining and nourishing our community, and uplifting the diverse and powerful voices that find a home in our choir.

Citizens of the World Choir started 2020 on a high, performing on 26 January at Union Chapel, as part of the Singing Our Lives project, reaching an audience of over 900. Then on 20 February, the Choir performed to 330+ people in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse at Shakespeare's Globe, as part of a fundraising event for survivors of sexual violence, where the key speaker was Nobel Peace Prize nominee and founder of RISE, Amanda Nguyen, who spoke movingly about her parents' own journey as refugees from Vietnam to the US.

The choir transitioned to online only from 23 March 2020, in line with Government lockdown restrictions. Our immediate focus was on sourcing tech and data packages for members who were suddenly extremely cut off, and being a consistent place of continuity and solidarity in uncertain times. We were grateful for Arts Council emergency funding in April, enabling us to provide online musical services through the summer. We have since provided 14 devices and funded 8 regular data packages for choir members for whom digital access was severely limited.

"It's a very positive experience for me to record songs with the choir during lockdown. It makes me feel that I'm not disconnected from the entire world anymore" - choir member

Rehearsing throughout the first lockdown, in May we co-hosted four online 'Big Sing' concerts with fellow choir London Contemporary Voices on Facebook and Youtube, which included guest performances from Imogen Heap (17K views), Ian Shaw, Felix Buxton (10K views) and Emily Watson OBE (1K views).

Refugee Week would usually have been the standout point of the choir's gigging calendar, and the point in the year where the opportunity to raise public awareness on the risk of social exclusion that the choir's purpose is to counter is most pointed: in previous years, performances have included at the Houses of Parliament, at Shakespeare's Globe theatre, and on the BBC. This year instead we ran an Open Rehearsal on Zoom, with 130+ people from across the world joining us online to mark World Refugee Day.

As restrictions were lifted in the late summer, we cautiously planned opportunities to rehearse in-person, responding to the desire within our community to return to making music together as safely as we could. Having sought advice, and with extensive risk assessments, an overhaul of our rehearsal protocols, and strictly capped attendance numbers, we started re-rehearsing in-person in late August, while continuing to offer simultaneous access to rehearsals online for members who were shielding or unable to attend. In early September 2020, the New York Times ran an article on the choir as one of the first to be coming back together to rehearse under the headline, *At In-Person Choir Rehearsals, a Balance Between Joyful and Careful*.

In September we performed for Peace One Day as part of their Global Digital Experience to mark International Peace Day on September 21, resulting in our first experience in a professional recording studio and the single, *The Love Frequency*, produced by Felix Buxton of Basement Jaxx due for release in Spring 2021. The Global Digital Experience had an audience throughout the day of 6000+ unique viewers.

We were featured artists at KindFest 2020 - an online celebration of World Kindness Day - in November, in an extraordinary line up of artists that featured Billy Bragg, Frank Turner and Captain Sir Tom Moore. We also recorded performances for the online end-of-year celebrations of Euromonitor and fellow not-for-profit organisation, Action Foundation, who work with displaced people and communities in the North East of England.

We also performed two further full length digital concerts, streamed live on Zoom, where we sang together, at social distance: firstly as part of LSE's Centre for Women, Peace and Security's Visions of Feminist Peace festival in September, with an audience of c. 150; and secondly our own Winter Fayre concert in early December (75+ people viewing), which for the first time allowed us to feature contributions from choir members still joining us remotely.

We are pleased that through this time, we have been able to maintain and extend our reach, including welcoming 10 new members to the choir and continuing to develop sustained relationships with other local organisations including Mycenae House, Lewisham's Refugee Cafe, Create Without Borders and RAAH Fest. We brought Matilda James on board as Executive Producer, with whom we had formed a relationship over the previous 2 years through our collaborations at the Globe, and we were honoured too to welcome Gulwarli Passarlay on board as a Patron this year, and are grateful to him for his wisdom and ambassadorship.

We were also announced as one of Euromonitor's Regional Partners and at the end of the year were shortlisted in the Connecting Communities category at the Community Integration Awards for our work. We were featured in the first book about the modern volunteer movement, The New Internationalists by Sue Clayton (Goldsmiths University Press, 2020) and on BBC 5 Live in December 2020, as part of a feature on how music has helped people cope with Covid-19 and lockdown restrictions.

The constant fundraising effort continued throughout the year. Support from London Churches Refugee Fund and Calais Action enabled us to provide emergency relief to members, including data and food packages. We secured support late in the year from the National Lottery Project Grants and the London

Mayor's Back to Business fund, and ran a successful (and the choir's first ever) crowdfunding campaign in November / December, with 170+ unique supporters, which raised £10,000. Funds totalling £18,500, which were granted in late December to run projects in the first six months of the new year, have been deferred into 2021. This means that although the Choir's turnover was in the region of £67,000, after deferring £18,500 for these projects, the turnover for the year stands at £48,843 as per the accounts as filed.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company's stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.

Given the change to our practice that this last year has seen, we have regularly sought feedback from members during rehearsals, and evaluated and implemented change to our practice accordingly.

Thanks to the National Lottery's Digital Discovery Grant, we were able to undertake interviews with 16 members of the choir through the autumn, focussing particularly on how we could improve and enhance the virtual rehearsal experience, and instil increased digital confidence among our members.

With these findings in mind, we have been able to upgrade the technology in our in-person rehearsals with additional microphones and cameras, meaning that for members joining remotely, the experience is improved immeasurably: you can now see and hear the choir in the room, the Musical Director leading the rehearsal, and the rehearsal pianist, through 3 cameras and microphones, making the experience of joining in from afar more supported and more enjoyable. We have also introduced teaching videos, secondary rehearsals with our Assistant Musical Director, Meg, as necessary and coordinated the sending out of printed music packs to maximise engagement.

The Black Lives Matter protests across the summer and the murder of George Floyd rightly asked us to reflect on our commitments to inclusivity, representation and the eradication of racial injustice. The whole purpose of the choir is to bring people together to celebrate music and its healing, and to amplify the voices of those who are so often unheard, or under-listened to. However, the diversity of the choir is not reflected at management level, and we commit to improving that.

We have already undertaken two pieces of work on that front. Firstly, we have expanded and formalised the role of our Advisory Board, now composed of six choir members all of whom have lived experience of displacement, with whom we consult regularly on key strategic and developmental decisions. Secondly, to avoid causing further harm through the use of casual and/or inaccurate language and in light of the discussions around the limitations of the acronym BAME, and informed by the Inc Arts' #BAMEOver survey, we are now committed instead to using the qualifier *people who are ethnically and culturally diverse* and/or *people who experience racism in our society*. We recognise that an embedded change of language may take time to implement but from now on are prioritising this change.

The choir held its first AGM, with strong attendance from 25 choir members and patrons. Minutes were taken and shared to all members.

"I'm so happy to be in the choir. The supportive and friendly environment makes me feel good and ambitious to be a singer in future." - Kazim, choir member

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

PART 3 – DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, "There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed" (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that "no remuneration was received" below.

Fees of £7486 were paid to Rubybird Management Ltd, a company controlled by Rebecca Dell, in her role as Musical Director.

Fees of £9190 were paid to Rachel Hattingh, in her role as Member Manager.

Fees of £5677 were paid to Tamasin Mercatali, in their role as Fundraising and Donor Development.

PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that "no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made" below.

No transfer of assets other than for full consideration.


(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 5 – SIGNATORY (Please note this must be a live signature)

(DD/MM/YY)

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed


Rebecca Lucy Dell

Date

11/03/2021

Please note that it is a legal requirement for the date format to be provided in full throughout the CIC34 report.

Applications will be rejected if this information is incorrect.

Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

Lesley Cornwell	
194 Stanley Road	
Teddington TW11 8UE	
	Tel02089770901
DX Number	DX Exchange

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales: Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ
DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4th Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139
Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38
Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)