

*"Making available the fullness of Jesus Christ through singing and sharing gospel music"*

**Registered Charity Number 1117440**  
**An unincorporated association governed by Trustees under Rules**

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## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

The following Trustees held office throughout the year:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simon Berry</li> <li>• David Cumming</li> <li>• Lynda Horsman</li> <li>• Jane Morris</li> <li>• Samantha Vyner-Brooks</li> </ul>
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The following Management Committee Members held office throughout the year:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair</li> <li>• Concerts Manager</li> <li>• Missions Co-ordinator</li> <li>• Administrator</li> <li>• PAC representative</li> <li>• Prayer Co-ordinator</li> <li>• Sound Team</li> <li>• Music Director</li> <li>• Secretary</li> <li>• Treasurer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Horsman</li> <li>• Di Berry</li> <li>• Andy Blackman</li> <li>• Carole Johnson</li> <li>• Ivan Smith</li> <li>• Jane Smith</li> <li>• Michael Perris</li> <li>• Robin Perris</li> <li>• Samantha Vyner-Brooks</li> <li>• Roberta Whiteside</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bankers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barclays Bank PLC, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria</li> </ul>
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Mission Statement: *"Making available the fullness of Jesus Christ through singing and sharing gospel music."*

## Our Mission Statement

"Making available the fullness of Jesus Christ through singing and sharing gospel music"

## Introduction

The Lakes Gospel Choir was founded by Robin and Michael Perris in 2003, as an 'affinity group' of their local church. The aim of these groups is to offer friendship by doing activities in the community with people through a common interest or hobby. Although the choir is Christian in ethos and foundation, it is open to both Christians and non-Christians in order to share the common joy of singing and the experience of its message. It is a community choir that is run by volunteers and it welcomes a variety of ages and abilities. Many choir members have not previously sung in choirs or read music but Robin believes that, through practice and experience, the majority of people can sing in a group – especially gospel music.

*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord..... Psalms 150, verse 6*



## Choir statistics 2010-2011

Members	80
Committee	10
Trustees	5
Concerts	9

- ◆ 25 Sep 2010 – St James Church, Clapham
- ◆ 9 Oct 2010 – Lakes Christian Centre Open Day, Bowness
- ◆ 16 Oct 2010 - Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster
- ◆ 20 Nov 2010 – Open Arms International Annual Dinner, Stockport
- ◆ 5 Dec 2010 - Low Wood, Ambleside
- ◆ 12 Mar 2011 – New Life Baptist Church, Northallerton
- ◆ 25 Jun 2011 – Christ Church, Cockermouth
- ◆ 31 July & 28 Aug 2011 – Lakes Christian Centre, Bowness

## Choir Director

'...He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Christ..' Eph 1:9. I praise God who holds all things in His hands to work out his good pleasure for me, my family and this choir.

At the very start of the 2010 – 2011 season (July 2010) we set forth in full swing ministering every Sunday night of the 7 week summer holidays holding free concerts and time of testimony at the Lakes Christian Centre, Bowness where we rehearse each Monday night during term. We saw a packed church each evening with hungry hearts praising or searching for God.

This blessed and busy time was truly a summer of ministering but it was the beginning of the end in every respect for me. God has allowed me to serve Him and be a part of great things over the last 8 previous years of the choir (and I loved serving Him). However, I found myself exhausted and burned out striving to serve Him to best of my ability. By the end of the summer our wonderful prayer and management team agreed with me to remove all choir administration and responsibility from me and allow me to simply rest in the Lord and focus on what I was called to do, 'ministering at choir rehearsals and concerts'.

I salute the choir and many dedicated people that have risen up to run the choir so efficiently since September 2010 (and in years past leading up to that point). Looking back I believe that when I stepped back to rest in the Lord, roles were being fulfilled which I had wanted to happen for years but labouring to make happen in my own strength.

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I was brought to the end of myself (along with many others) so that I could exercise what Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" Matthew 11:28- 30.

What a joy and life changing experience it has been to learn from Jesus and find rest in Him. The ministry of the choir has never been so easy. We as a leadership team and choir totally depend on Him to lead and guide us in every step and even provide the power and strength to perform it!

As God has been speaking to us about the choir being moulded and purified to be made ready for what His plans were for His choir, we have learned to worship Him in Spirit and truth, so that the work of His good pleasure may be carried out which He purposed in Christ Jesus.

Therefore, since September 2010 onwards, I have been set free in life and the ministry of the choir. I have seen God do exceeding abundantly beyond what I could have asked or thought because it was His power working in us. (Eph 3:20). Now with last year behind us and 2012 ahead God is doing even greater things in the life of the choir, their families and those who hear us sing and minister! May we as a choir always look to God who is able to set us free and bring the hope of Jesus to those He sends us to, and may we never depend on our own talent or own ability to serve Him.

*"Because He is the reason I sing".....Robin Perris*

### **Concerts Manager**

We continue to be asked to sing further afield as well as near to home in our local church where we practice. We have come to feel that every rehearsal is a concert, as members of the public flood in off the streets to hear us sing. It has been such a blessing to be rehearsing in Lakes Christian Centre that lends itself to this as the door opens straight onto the pavement.

We have supported some very worthwhile charities through our concerts including charities from Africa and the very worthwhile Copeland Tragedy Fund in Whitehaven. We have felt an increased gifting to minister as we sing the Word in song. We are also receiving invitations to support in singing with some gifted and high profile ministers and Christian professional performers. However we continue to pray about where and what we should sing.

We look forward to another year of concerts as we praise and glorify the One who makes it all possible.

**Di Berry**

### **From The Trustees**

Earlier this year we were pleased to welcome Dave Cummings as a Trustee; Dave joins us with a wealth of experience and is already making a strong contribution to the oversight of the Choir.

This December sees the standing down as a Trustee of Jane Morris; Jane has served the Choir both as a singing member and a Trustee almost since day one. We all join in thanking her for her hard work over the years.

As Trustees, we have the task of ensuring that the choir keeps the objects as its focus - the study, practice and performance of gospel music. We do that in various ways such as overseeing that money is used appropriately to meet the running costs of the choir and by being strong advocates for the work of the choir. We work closely with the management committee to ensure the smooth running of the Choir affairs.

The choir members are our greatest asset and we wish to commend their continued dedication and enthusiasm in all they do.

The Trustees would also like to thank all the volunteers who do so much administering the various committees. Without their hard work and dedication the choir would not function

I must also, on behalf of the Trustees, thank Robin Perris our Choir director. Robin's ability to direct the Choir has always been great but without question she has grown in the last year, we are certain the Choir is in very safe hands.

**Simon Berry**  
**Chair of the Trustees**  
**November 2011**



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