



Johnstone Song Weavers

Pilot Project 2025
Evaluation Report



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Summary

This evaluation explores the impact and learning gained from a pilot project led by Luminate in Johnstone, Renfrewshire.

Luminate – with support from Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership – brought together three partners (Singing Buddies inclusive singing group, Lancefield and Adams House care homes) and worked with experienced song leader Bryan Marshall to deliver a series of singing sessions, culminating in a sharing event at Elderslie village hall in December 2025. Together, the partners named themselves the *Johnstone Song Weavers*.

This project expanded on Luminate's longstanding commitment to dementia-inclusive singing through the Dementia Inclusive Singing Network it established in 2018. The growth of the Network has stalled since the 2020-21 pandemic. This project aimed to explore whether by responding to local interest and delivering initial activity, Luminate could initiate a sustainable expansion of activity in the area.

Freelance evaluator Eric Hildrew was embedded in the project, participating in six singing sessions and interviewing participants, song leaders, partners, and the Luminate team.

His findings supported the conclusions of previous research about the demonstrable short-term impacts of group singing for those living with dementia. Singing participants became engaged and animated, musical memories were activated, and the potential for social connection with others was maximised. In addition to positive impacts on participants, the Johnstone Song Weavers sessions helped to embed and inspire best practice with other professionals and demonstrated to care settings what positive impacts group singing can have. All of the partners and participants interviewed for this evaluation wanted to extend the singing practice and collaborative working established in this project further.

The project was less successful in building a sustainable local network in Johnstone to support future shared singing opportunities. Local partners face significant challenges around their capacity to engage in wider strategic, collaborative, work. The pilot had envisaged facilitated opportunities for peer networking which (with the exception of the sharing event) did not prove possible to deliver.

Whilst all partners expressed a desire for further activity and collaboration, a model for enabling this without Luminate's close support has not yet been established in Johnstone, though work to achieve this is ongoing.

Through this pilot Luminare has reiterated that it is well-positioned to deliver best practice dementia-inclusive singing activity and demonstrate its value in care settings. Looking to the future, Luminare may need to do more to highlight potential long-term gains for partners from expanding practice and collaborative working by themselves.



1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Luminate established Scotland's Dementia Inclusive Singing Network in March 2019, with the goal of improving access to singing opportunities for people living with dementia.

The benefits of singing in a group to those living with dementia (and their support/caring networks) have been well researched and established. In 2023, an evaluation of the [Alzheimer's Society's Singing for the Brain programme¹](#) found that singing helped:

- Support people's wellbeing by reducing anxiety, promoting relaxation and happiness, and providing a sense of identity
- Increase opportunities for meaningful connections with others with a shared experience
- Provide opportunities for peer support
- Support people's memory, word recall and energy levels.

Luminate's own research and evaluation since 2019 has reached similar conclusions.

Singing - especially singing with other people – can improve your mood and give you energy. Singing makes our brain release endorphins that make us feel positive. Perhaps the most important thing about singing together is that it helps us to feel that we are part of a community.

Why sing together? Luminate [online resource](#)

An [evaluation²](#) of the first two years of the Singing Network by the University of the West of Scotland (2022) found additional benefits to the establishment of a Scotland-wide Network in the form of:

- Improved access to dementia-friendly singing
- Sharing of best practice
- Stronger leadership
- Improved peer support for practitioners

¹ Weblink: alzheimers.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/evaluation-report.pdf

² Weblink: luminatescotland.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Dementia-Inclusive-Singing-Network-Evaluation-Report-March-2022.pdf

Similarly, a 2024 [evaluation](#)³ of Luminata's Dementia Inclusive Singing Network Skills Exchange Programme demonstrated the developmental benefits of singing leaders observing each other's practice, talking about issues they face, and seeing other groups sing.

1.2 Challenges

Despite the strong evidence base for the benefits of dementia-inclusive singing and of maintaining a Scotland-wide network for groups and practitioners, there are significant challenges to Luminata further developing the network.

In numerical terms, the Singing Network has struggled to bounce back from the 2020-21 pandemic and there are now fewer subscribed groups (30 across Scotland in total) than pre-Covid⁴. Contributory factors identified by Luminata include a lack of available volunteers to run groups, a lack of funding streams (and sector understanding of potential funding streams) and the rising cost of living, transport, and local venue hire.

Consequently there is a perception that the Network is spread thinly across Scotland, increasing the challenge of facilitating peer support and networking amongst groups and practitioners.

Luminata's resources are also stretched. Whereas previously the Network had dedicated funders in the form of Life Changes Trust and the Baring Foundation (along with a dedicated part-time Network Manager), the network is now supported by Luminata's core team and budget as a Creative Scotland multi-year funded organisation.

For all of these reasons, Luminata is keen to explore new approaches to increasing the availability and quality of dementia-inclusive singing in Scotland in under-developed areas where the organisation can add value. Key to this is to experiment with interventions which support local interest and capacity in Scotland, allowing Luminata to provide initial leadership and support but also to be able to step back and reduce its investment once local activity begins to thrive.

1.3 Aims and objectives of the pilot

This pilot project represents a new approach to nurturing dementia-inclusive singing at a local level in Scotland. Project plans grew organically out of identified interest, need, and consultation in Renfrewshire – an agile and locally-focused response which Luminata sees as a hallmark of its overall impact strategy.

³ Weblink: luminatescotland.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Dementia-Inclusive-Singing-Skills-Exchange-Report-2024.pdf

⁴ There may be other dementia-friendly singing groups which aren't formally aligned to the Singing Network.

Luminate first delivered dementia-inclusive training for social care staff and local creative practitioners at Johnstone Town Hall on behalf of Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership in 2024. Following the positive response to this training, Luminate and The Partnership organised successive meetings in Johnstone with local practitioners and community partners to discuss hopes and options for further developing practice locally.

“Maybe this looks like getting some people around the table who are leading on community singing, so some local charities, some musicians, singing leaders, to talk about what’s actually happening across the area, what’s not happening, and what are people’s hopes for developing this.”

Luminate

A plan then began to form for Luminate to lead a local collaborative project which would bring together three principal local partners which had expressed an interest in participating:

- Singing Buddies (an established, accessible, singing group created by Active Communities, Johnstone)
- Lancefield Care Home, Johnstone
- Adams House (Crossreach) Care Home, Johnstone

Luminate offered to bring in a trusted singing leader to deliver sessions with all three partners, culminating in a joint sharing event. By responding to identified local need and directly facilitating collaborative activity in this way, Luminate aimed to:

- Add value to the local network by initiating training, providing leadership/expertise, and facilitating collaborative working.
- Bring creative and care practitioners in Johnstone together to provide opportunities for peer support and shared practice.
- Demonstrate the potential for dementia-inclusive singing to reach more people living with the condition in the partner care homes and local area.
- Act as a catalyst for the development of dementia-inclusive singing in Johnstone, in the hope that it would continue to grow after Luminate decreased its operational involvement at the end of the project.

What would a successful project look like?

“The partners involved would really feel like they’d connected and were working together. The care homes would know what they wanted from singing sessions, not just someone to lead a session but knowing what good practice feels like for them. Activity co-ordinators would have more confidence in what they would like and what they could advocate for because it’s so essential to the creativity and wellbeing of residents.”

Luminate

In addition to these intended local impacts, the pilot project was also conceived as a means of testing the effectiveness of Luminate’s delivery methods and establishing whether this mode of project working might be extended elsewhere in the future.

1.4 Evaluation methodology

Independent evaluator Eric Hildrew was appointed to work with Luminate across a number of programme strands in 2025-26, of which this pilot was the first.

The nature of the project activity and profile of likely participants lent itself to an ‘embedded’ qualitative research approach which was flexible and responsive to the capacity and needs of partners and participants. Research fieldwork comprised:

- Attendance, participation, and observation at six singing sessions (over two days) at Singing Buddies and Lancefield/Adams House care homes
- ‘Vox Pop’ short interviews with participants at sessions (x6)
- ‘Pre’ and ‘post’ project interviews with Luminate’s Director, Programme Manager and freelance Singing Leader
- Post project interviews with the manager and activity co-ordinator at Lancefield care home
- Post project interview with the singing leader and programme manager at Singing Buddies/Active Communities
- Attendance of a project debrief meeting in February 2026.

2. Project Activity

2.1 Singing sessions

Experienced singing leader Bryan Marshall led a total of four sessions with each of the three project partners on

consecutive Mondays in November 2025. To help give the project and its participants a sense of identity, Bryan suggested naming the new singing network formed by the partners the *Johnstone Song Weavers*.

Singing sessions lasted an hour each and were based around a series of popular songs from the 1950's onwards which Bryan had chosen as likely to be of interest to participants. Bryan also incorporated songs suggested by participants in the initial session.

Bryan led the singing, accompanying with his guitar. Alongside the established repertoire, Bryan aimed to teach the groups a contemporary song, *Travel These Ways*, by Karine Polwart (commissioned by Luminate specially for the Singing Network).

As Singing Buddies is an established singing group (led by musician and teacher Caron Cuthbert) Bryan felt confident handing out lyric sheets and immediately embarking on new material with the group. As an open to all and accessible group, Singing Buddies comprises members of varying levels of confidence, experience, and ability. A core group of regular attendees do have singing experience and act as a form of anchor for the rest of the group. Only one participant currently has a dementia diagnosis.

At Lancefield care home, sessions were delivered in the main common room with around 25 residents present, all seated around the edge of the room with Bryan at one end.

At Adams House, a slightly different approach was taken by care staff and a smaller group of around 8 residents with an interest in participating were gathered in a dedicated room for each session.

At both care homes, residents live with a wide variety of health conditions, including a significant number living with different types and stages of dementia.

"We've got a mix of residents, some with Alzheimer's, some with other types of dementia. Parkinson's. Everyone's different, no one dementia is the same. Our youngest resident is 57 and she has dementia. We also have residents with strokes who've not got dementia."

Care home Activity Co-ordinator

2.2 Sharing event

All three groups came together at Elderslie Village Hall in early December 2025 for a sharing event at which the rehearsed repertoire was sung collectively. The Hall was full almost to capacity, with friends and family of participants joining, along with Luminare staff.

Adams House care home was able to organise transport for most of its singing group and Luminare organised transport for a number of Lancefield residents to attend.

2.3 Peer networking

The original intention for this project was to integrate one or two peer networking sessions for project partners into the period over which singing sessions were taking place.

In the event, this proved too difficult to schedule alongside the singing sessions (in part a reflection of how time-pressured key project partner caring staff are).

A follow-up project partner meeting was scheduled in Johnstone in February 2026, however none of the partners were able to attend on the day. An online meeting is currently being planned.



3. Findings

3.1 Observations 'in the room'

A few singing session participants were able to share their views directly, but time and personal capacity for in-depth reflection was limited. The following account is intended to help bring the largely joy-filled singing sessions off the page and to life, within the obvious confines of using prose to communicate song-based activity.

Singing Session 2 (of 4) at Lancefield Care Home, 17 November 2025.

The session takes place in Lancefield's main lounge, where around 25 residents are gathered in armchairs, forming a semi-circle and outer ring around session leader, Bryan Marshall.

Bryan: *"Hello again Margaret! How are you doing today?"*

Margaret (care home resident): *"Alright since you're here!"*

As Bryan begins to strum his guitar, some faces in the room appear to soften or light up. Live music has a special presence in a space and the acoustic sound coming from the instrument is richer and more vibrant than a recording. Bryan leads the singing himself but is skilled enough to prompt singers with the next line to the song in between the bars.

Soon there are plenty of smiles. It's obvious some participants recognise the tune and the chorus, if not the verses. Even those who aren't singing are mostly participating in some way, tapping a foot or a knee, clapping, or mouthing some of the words they do know with their eyes closed.

Some of the care staff perch on chair arms and join in too, clearly pleased to see the residents enjoying themselves. It doesn't take long to feel as though the collective mood in the lounge has been boosted and animated.

When Bryan breaks into *The Wild Rover*, more of the group seem to know the song and participation increases. Lyric sheets haven't been distributed but aren't needed when the words appear so deeply imprinted on participant's memories.

One resident who has been largely silent so far begins mouthing the words to *Bye Bye Love*, which has obviously stirred her recollection. *Rock Around the Clock* picks the pace back up again, with hand tapping, armchair dancing, and swaying around the room. One resident is helped out of her chair by staff and uses a pillar for support so she can dance.

Wild Mountain Thyme is another song obviously well known to the group and many residents join in.

Bryan is a human jukebox with a seeming knack for knowing which songs (and from which era) will inspire the crowd. There is plenty of craic between Bryan and the group. He has a memory for names and calls out individuals by name with praise or a friendly joke.

Bryan: *“We’re all going to sing this to Jane and she’s going to give us a wee jig!”*

Next week Bryan will push the group further by beginning to teach them a new song, but for now the familiarity of known repertoire is bringing everybody on board and adding a welcome pleasure to an ordinary Monday at Lancefield care home.

3.2 Session evaluation

Bryan Marshall first set up a dementia-inclusive choir over 10 years ago (in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland) and has worked in this field ever since.

“I’ve learnt a lot about what a range dementia can include, from people who have just been diagnosed, to people who are very advanced and might be non-verbal. The difference with singing over another discipline is that absolutely anyone can do it and they don’t even have to move from their seat. Most people know some songs.”

Song Leader

Despite his extensive experience, Bryan readily admits that the first session with a new group is always a period of adaptation, as plans collide with reality. For this project, Bryan was working with groups of widely different ability – from the relatively experienced Singing Buddies to the care home residents, of whom the majority are living with some form of dementia.

Bryan therefore adapted his approach by responding to the abilities, needs, and preferences of each group.

“Once we got up and going and people knew why they were there, they started to engage more. But I couldn’t just hand around a song sheet with lyrics on. That wouldn’t have worked. There were a few folk asleep in their chairs by the end of one care home session. That’s OK! I’m used to it and it’s not because they’re not enjoying it.”

Song Leader

From the outset, Bryan saw the block of just four scheduled sessions before the sharing event as challenging, especially as the first session was mainly devoted to getting to know each group's needs and abilities.

"I only had 4 weeks and that's quite unusual. I did sort of tear up my plan in the first session, which turned into more of an informal singalong. Even 2 or 3 more sessions and I would have given learning a new song a proper shot."

Song Leader

Despite the pressed timescale, as he carried on working with the groups and got to know them better, Bryan was able to introduce new song *Travel These Ways* with all three groups, alongside the repertoire of better-known songs.

For Bryan, this work was a reminder that taking a risk and introducing a new learning challenge to a group is often worthwhile as it can be easy to under-estimate participants living with dementia.

"By the last week I was a bit braver and just thought well I'll hand out some of these song sheets and see what happens. There were two or three in the Lancefield group who were reading it and following it to a point. And some others learnt the chorus to Travel These Ways by following me. So I learnt (as you keep doing!) not to underestimate people or presume they won't be able to do something."

Song Leader

Luminate's Programme Manager also observed sessions with each partner and noticed the active involvement and enthusiasm of the staff present.

"Overall I was really pleased to see how most people were engaging. I felt like there was a connection in the room, which you don't always feel. In all three groups there was a brilliant rapport, not only with participants but with the staff, who were clearly enjoying it too."

Luminate Programme Manager

"I was sat next to a lady who had her eyes closed and wasn't engaging very obviously but she was mouthing every single word to most of the songs. You could just tell that she really knew that music and it was really meaningful for her."

Luminate Programme Manager

3.3 Participant engagement

In their feedback at the end of their singing session, Singing Buddies participants explained what the group means to them and how the social connection it facilitates helps to boost their singing confidence.

“It doesn’t matter if you can’t sing because we’re all in a group and when there’s a few voices together it just sounds so much nicer. It gives a bit of confidence to join in.”

“It’s not about being the best choir in the world, it’s just about enjoying singing different songs together and the good thing is the words are up on the screen!”

“Caron asks us what we’d like to sing – we pick the songs. Sometimes we pick songs that don’t actually work very well! But then we just don’t bother singing them again.”

Singing Buddies

Conversations with care home residents living with dementia were time-limited at the end of the singing session, however some were happy to describe their fondness for singing and recounted in some detail their memories of singing in different eras of their lives.

“I was always the first to sing in my family! We used to sing at school. I’ve never been in a choir though.”

“I was in my primary school choir, I think, then my Sunday school choir, and then my church choir. Our church choir master went to the Royal College of Music to learn the organ, which is difficult to play. We went to interesting places with him. We went to Barlinnie prison to sing to the prisoners, poor souls.”

Care home residents

Participants from all three groups also reaffirmed some of the anticipated benefits of group singing in terms of its positive effect on ‘in the moment’ wellbeing.

“Singing makes you feel good. It really does!”

“I’ve enjoyed singing today very much.”

“We try to make it joyful and happy here on a Monday morning, to lift people’s spirits.”

Participants

Musician and teacher Caron Cuthbert (who has led the Singing Buddies group for three years) also articulated the particular benefit of musical recollection for those living with dementia.

“You see people just come alive. From sitting there, not conversing with their neighbour, a Roy Orbison or Frank Sinatra song just wakes them up and you see a different side of this person. So do the staff, and it’s music that’s done that. It reminds them of happy times.”

Singing Buddies leader

When asked what they would like to see happen next in terms of further collaboration with other groups, most of the Singing Buddies participants interviewed wanted to sustain and develop their connections with others in the community. Singing Buddies have previously visited Lancefield care home to sing and occasionally go out to perform for other groups such as a local Women’s Guild, so have experience of doing this.

“Last year we sang at a couple of care homes and they really enjoyed it. There was a woman who was sat with a dolly and apparently doesn’t really talk and she was singing along to every song.”

“I think it’s a good idea to have something where we meet up with other groups sometimes, maybe over a Christmas lunch or have a dance too.”

Singing Buddies

3.4 Shared practice

Through this project (based on past experience of ‘what works’ in developing dementia-inclusive singing) Luminare aimed to create positive learning opportunities for professionals in this field in Johnstone.

Feedback from professionals involved in this project demonstrated this was an outcome in Johnstone and supported existing Luminare evidence that shows sharing dementia-inclusive practice can embed and improve it.

Singing Buddies song leader Caron Cuthbert welcomed working with Bryan Marshall and enjoyed a rare opportunity to deliver sessions with another musician.

“It was nice for me to have someone else there with different ways of doing things. What I really benefitted from was seeing them singing along just with the guitar without me! It’s also nice for the group to have other people in.”
Singing Buddies leader

Caron also felt encouraged by Bryan’s live approach to rely less on recorded backing tracks in future sessions.

“It was really good having Bryan in as it backed up me saying to the group ‘you can sing with accompaniment only!’ I think singing with Bryan they realised they do sound good, they can hold a tune.”
Singing Buddies leader

At Lancefield care home, the part-time Activity Co-ordinator often leads singing sessions herself as part of a broad creative itinerary which also features arts and crafts along bingo and other (often memory-based) games.

For her, having Bryan along to lead the sessions brought new energy and ideas into Lancefield, drawing a positive response from residents.

“When I do the singing they’re like ‘oh, not again!’ but you see the first time Bryan came in even the ones who said they didn’t want to sing were actually joining in because we were all in a circle.”
Care home Activity Co-ordinator

Occasionally Lancefield also hire in musicians to perform for the residents and whilst this has value, the activity co-ordinator makes a distinction between the residents as a passive audience, and their engagement with song leaders like Bryan and Caron (who has also led singalong sessions at Lancefield.)

“Bryan is good because he interacts with them. A lot of entertainers don’t really do that, they just stand there and sing or play their instrument. Bryan remembers their names, goes up to them, actually encourages them to join in and sing.”
Care home Activity Co-ordinator

3.5 Sharing event

As important as the singing sessions delivered on-site with the project partners were, a key goal of this pilot was to conclude the sessions with a joint sharing event that brought participants from all partners together.

This took place at Elderslie Village Hall near Johnstone in early December 2025 and represented a significant input of organisation from Luminate and effort from all the partners in order to bring participants out of their care settings and along to the event.

Feedback from partners, song leaders, and Luminate on the event was very positive. Elements that worked well included:

- The venue itself – deemed to be warm, comfortable, and appropriately-sized
- The chosen seating arrangement (cabaret-style with tables) which made the event feel more participative
- Two singing leaders working and playing instruments together to lead the group
- Luminate going the extra mile to decorate the hall and care staff helping residents to dress festively
- Giving one of the Adams House care home residents the chance to shine with a solo that won over the whole hall.

“I was actually really surprised by how many people managed to come from the care homes. We almost ran out of space. That was a real positive which came out of the enthusiasm of the homes and the staff, because it’s a massive undertaking. It’s also a testament to how well Bryan ran the few sessions he had and the trust he quickly built up.”

Luminate Programme Manager

“I thought it went really well and we couldn’t have accommodated more people in the room! Around ten family members came along and sat at the back too. I think people had a really good time.”

Luminate Director

3.6 Peer networking

A significant aim of the project was to foster the development of relationships between the project partners in the hope that this would build a professional network in Johnstone and allow Luminate to reduce its leadership role following the project period.

This outcome wasn't achieved during the project activity period itself, though Luminate still hopes to facilitate further networking in the immediate future. Factors affecting this outcome are discussed in section 4 (Learning and insight) below.

4. Learning and insight

4.1 Dementia-inclusive singing best practice

In terms of the positive impact of dementia-inclusive singing sessions on participants and care settings, this modest evaluation has supported previous research (both independent and commissioned by Luminare).

When this work is delivered well, the 'in the moment' benefits are demonstrable. Participants become engaged and animated, musical memories are activated, and the potential for social connection with others is maximised. In addition to positive impacts on participants, the Johnstone Song Weavers sessions helped to embed and inspire best practice with other professionals and demonstrated to care settings what positive impacts group singing can have.

All of the partners and participants interviewed for this evaluation wanted to extend the singing practice and collaborative working established in this project further.

4.2 Project planning and delivery

In designing this project, Luminare was responding to identified need and demand in Johnstone and took a consciously open-minded approach to what might happen following its delivery of singing activity.

Whilst pragmatic, this approach may have benefited from further (and earlier) communication with partners as to the possible or desired outcomes from the work.

Whilst Luminare were clear from the outset about their aspiration for strengthened peer relationships in Johnstone allowing them to step back from delivery, partners themselves did not have capacity to adopt a collective strategic approach without Luminare's direct input and leadership. Whilst all partners expressed a desire for further activity and collaboration, a model for enabling this without Luminare's close support has not yet been established.

For any project to deliver successful outcomes, there are (often practical or administrative) processes and methods of working going on in the background which impact on the potential for success.

In this project, challenges often related to the difficulty of bringing together partners and professionals with multiple demands on their time and capacity. Responsibility for this fell to Luminare as project lead and significant, time-consuming, work was undertaken to communicate and liaise with partners, schedule multiple singing sessions, and organise the sharing event.

As previously mentioned, it did not prove possible to arrange a dedicated peer networking event during the main project activity and this was largely attributable to the lack of capacity in stretched care settings to accommodate this kind of additional work. Activity co-ordinators in particular are tasked with hands-on delivery to set shift patterns in their care settings and would need additional support from management to engage further within paid hours.

Unplanned tasks for Luminate included booking transport to take residents from one care home to the sharing event – a job which highlighted just how challenging it can be to hire appropriate transport in the current market but also demonstrates how hands-on Luminate often needs to be to ensure project outputs are realised.

Feedback from partners and professionals on Luminate's project management was very positive and most challenges were overcome, however for the purposes of evaluation it is important to note the significant input of Luminate resources in order to deliver this project.

4.3 Project legacy

The positive outcomes of the project in terms of impact on participants and professionals involved have been described above. Luminate is now focused on next steps in Johnstone and how best to enable further singing activity and collaboration between partners. In the first instance this will involve successfully bringing partners together for a joint networking meeting where further collaboration can be openly discussed.

A key question for Luminate in delivering this pilot project was whether or not the responsive mode of working in Johnstone provides insight into how best it can progress dementia-inclusive singing networks moving forward. Whilst the answer to that question remains complex, some of the relevant insights gained from this evaluation could be summarised as follows:

- Luminate is well-positioned to deliver best practice dementia-inclusive singing activity and where it does so, positive short-term impacts are highly likely to be demonstrable.
- Building local capacity so that Luminate can then step back and reduce operational input is significantly more challenging.
- Short term benefits to local partners of Luminate delivering activity are clear to partners, however Luminate may need to do more to highlight potential long-term gains for partners in expanding their practice and collaborative

working by themselves.

- This project has demonstrated (or re-iterated) how stretched care homes are and how difficult it can be for them to work strategically or collaboratively. Despite this, if Luminate is to reach older people most in need of creative opportunity, care homes provide a focused opportunity to do this and should be considered as strong potential partners.
- Expert, inspirational, song leaders clearly have a role to play in developing dementia-inclusive singing, however at a local level it is important that Luminate also support and develop the 'in-house' skills and capabilities of non-specialist care staff such as care home activity co-ordinators.

