

KENTISH OPERA

England & Wales · Charity number 1035615

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	02864170
Registered	1994-03-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	23 Oakley Drive Bromley Kent BR2 8PS
Phone	07803 246999
Email	kotreasurer@aol.com
Website	www.kentishopera.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE OPERATIC ARTS TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC APPRECIATION AND TASTE IN THE SAID ARTS.

Activities: Kentish Opera's purpose is to educate the public in the operatic arts to further the development of public appreciation and taste in said arts. To do so, we perform opera and operetta in English in traditional productions with professional soloists and professional orchestra. In 2022/23 we performed Yeomen of the Guard and presented a Gala opera event.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN PRACTICE LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY AND AREA OF NORTH WEST
- Bromley
- Kent
- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£57,043	£62,035	-	-
2024-08-31	£69,124	£60,888	-	-
2023-08-31	£66,223	£55,071	-	-
2022-08-31	£52,533	£99,903	-	-
2021-08-31	£26,529	£14,560	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ian Christopher Alexander	Chair	2020-01-02
Andrew John Waltham		2026-03-11
PETER BERNARD WHISTON		
Philip Wallace		2020-11-11
ROBERT EDMUND SKONE JAMES		2022-02-01

KENTISH OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 1035615

Accounts

Company registration No. 02864170 (England and Wales)
Charity registration No. 1035615

KENTISH OPERA

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

KENTISH OPERA

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary Philip Wallace

Principal Office 23 Oakley Drive
Bromley
Kent
BR2 8PS

Registered office 23 Oakley Drive
Bromley
Kent
BR2 8PS

The charity is incorporated in England & Wales

Solicitors Thackray Williams
Kings House
32-40 Widmore Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1RY

Bankers CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner Harrison Hill Castle & Co - Chartered Accountants
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Kent
BR1 2EB

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Trustees

Ian Alexander, Chairman

Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer

Philip Wallace, Secretary and Trustee only

Peter Whiston

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Company is a registered Charity number 1035615 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is run by a Council of Management (who are the Trustees) which must consist of a minimum of three persons. There is no maximum number. The members of the Company comprise a mixture of acting and non-acting members and also voluntary helpers who subscribe to the objects of the Company.

The Company's main objects, as stated in the Memorandum are:

"To educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

To achieve the above objects, the Company performs up to two full-scale grand operas in English each year. The Company also performs from time to time smaller operetta and concerts at local venues in Bromley, Croydon and North Kent and Central London locations.

The Council and members strongly believe that it is important to produce operas to the highest professional standards and in a basically traditional manner so that the public attending performances is able to appreciate the operas performed as the composers conceived them.

Current Year

In the 2024-2025 season we put on two shows. These were a performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Trial by Jury* in October 2024 in the Pamoja Hall Sevenoaks and a series of performances of *Die Fledermaus* in April 2025 at the Stag Theatre Sevenoaks.

The Pamoja Hall show was well attended although resulted in a small loss while the audience for the three performances of *Die Fledermaus* was smaller than anticipated resulting in a further loss. These losses were mitigated by controlling scenery and costume costs, the receipt of generous donations, and a successful claim for Theatre Tax Relief.

We ended the season with a small but manageable decrease in our reserves, so that the Society remains in a good position going in to the 2025-2026 season.

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Risk Management

Expenditure is carefully budgeted and much reduced by the significant use of volunteers in many areas, e.g. own box office, front of house, assisting in building sets, assisting in making and altering costumes, chorus and general administration.

The major risk area is the box office which is unpredictable. The choice of opera, however, is the key factor since there is generally resistance from our suburban audience to attend in the required numbers to operas they are not familiar with. Nevertheless, one of the objectives of Kentish Opera is to produce from time to time less popular operas in order to educate and broaden our audience's taste. This can only be done if either reserves are at a comfortable level or additional income through sponsorship is achieved.

Reserves and Outlook

The steps we took in 2024-2025 to control expenditure have worked and we ended the season with healthy reserves of £70,219 (2024: £75,211). In 2025-2026 we intend to continue our efforts to control expenditure and reduce losses. In parallel though we will continue to seek grants, increase the number of Friends, and look for other sources of income.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities


The trustees (who are also the directors of Kentish Opera for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 25 Nov 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Kentish Opera

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025 which are set out on pages 6 to 13 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 seeking 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;

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



PR Castle FCA

Harrison Hill Castle & Co
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Bromley
Kent

BR1 2EB
Date1st December 2025

KENTISH OPERA

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

		Unrestricted funds	
	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Donations and legacies	3	10,180	12,060
Charitable activities	4	45,282	55,474
Investment income	5	1,581	1,590
Total income		<u>57,043</u>	<u>69,124</u>
Charitable activities	6	62,035	60,888
Total expense		<u>62,035</u>	<u>60,888</u>
Net income		(4,992)	8,236
Total funds brought forward		75,211	66,975
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>70,219</u></u>	<u><u>75,211</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the two periods. The funds breakdown for 2025 is shown in note 12.

KENTISH OPERA

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		-		-
Currents assets					
Debtors	10	4,579		5,521	
Cash at bank and in hand		66,740		70,900	
		<u>71,319</u>		<u>76,421</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,100)</u>		<u>(1,210)</u>	
Net current assets			70,219		75,211
Net assets			<u>70,219</u>		<u>75,211</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			70,219		75,211
Total funds	12		<u>70,219</u>		<u>75,211</u>

For the financial year ending 31 August 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- 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 provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 13 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 25 NOV 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee



Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Kentish Opera meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Box Office receipts are taken up in the year in which the productions are performed. Membership fees are included on a received basis.

Donations and legacies

Donations, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. Legacies are accounted for in the year in which they are received.

Grants receivable

Grants, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. These are included in the income derived from charitable activities.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Charitable activities

Kentish Opera's charitable activities consist of the putting-on of operas and other related classical music events consistent with the main objects of the company being "to educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, and, most particularly, the independent examiner's fee.

Government grants

Grants can be received from Sevenoaks District Arts Council. Theatre Tax Relief is also received.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset. Expenditure on costumes and scenery is charged in the production account of the year in question.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	25% on cost

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

3	Income from donations and legacies		
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Donations from individuals	10,180	12,060
	Legacies	-	-
		<u>10,180</u>	<u>12,060</u>
4	Charitable activities		
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Box office receipts & performance fees	28,598	38,469
	Bar sales	546	-
	Membership subscriptions & fees	1,295	1,575
	Programme sales & advertising	930	2,093
	Grants & sundry income	252	295
	Gift aid tax relief	1,999	2,519
	Theatre tax relief	11,662	10,523
		<u>45,282</u>	<u>55,474</u>
5	Investment income		
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Interest receivable and similar income	<u>1,581</u>	<u>1,590</u>
6	Charitable activities		
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Opera Company (note 7)	60,935	59,928
	Governance costs	1,100	960
		<u>62,035</u>	<u>60,888</u>

Governance costs represent fees paid to the Independent examiner to complete the examination of the financial statements.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

7	Opera Company	2025	2024
		£	£
	Production directors' fees	6,300	5,000
	Principals' fees	12,750	9,200
	Bar costs	513	-
	Theatre/venue rent & expenses	5,856	7,536
	Orchestra & related costs	12,340	13,407
	Scenery	1,545	2,417
	Scores	940	1,065
	Rehearsal halls	2,641	1,877
	Rehearsal pianists/repertoireurs	-	-
	Publicity & printing	3,428	4,110
	Programmes	416	1,412
	Costumes & wigs	4,526	3,585
	Lighting	-	-
	Production sundries	122	1,238
	Insurance	2,568	2,459
	Printing, postage & stationery	67	14
	Sundry admin expenses	620	1,210
	Scenery & costume storage	4,603	3,703
	Professional fees	1,680	1,500
	Donations	20	195
	Depreciation re new trailer	-	-
		<u>60,935</u>	<u>59,928</u>

For both years, all of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, the Trustees (Members of the Council of Management) were reimbursed for expenditure totalling £2,195 (2024 - £2,161) incurred on behalf of the Company. The majority of this expenditure related to publicity, advertising, programme production costs and sundry production expenses.

Apart from performance fees of £1,030 paid to one trustee and family member, no other trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

9	Tangible fixed assets	£	
		Furniture & equipment	
	Cost		
	At 1 September 2024		6,938
	Additions		-
	Eliminated in respect of disposals		-
	At 31 August 2025		<u>6,938</u>
	Depreciation and impairment		
	At 1 September 2024		6,938
	Depreciation charged in the year		-
	Eliminated in respect of disposals		-
	At 31 August 2025		<u>6,938</u>
	Net book value		
	At 31 August 2025		<u>-</u>
	At 31 August 2024		<u>-</u>
10	Debtors	2025	2024
		£	£
	Debtors & prepayments	<u>4,579</u>	<u>5,521</u>
11	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
		£	£
	Creditors & accruals	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,210</u>

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

12 Funds	Balance 01-Sep-24 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-25 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	37,994	56,166	(62,035)	-	32,125
Designated (note 15)	37,217	877	-	-	38,094
Total funds	<u>75,211</u>	<u>57,043</u>	<u>(62,035)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,219</u>

13 Analysis of net funds	Balance 01-Sep-24 £	Cash flow £	Balance 31-Aug-25 £
Cash at bank	70,900	(4,160)	66,740
Net funds	<u>70,900</u>	<u>(4,160)</u>	<u>66,740</u>

14 Related party transactions

Apart from the transactions detailed in note 8, there were no other related party transactions in the year.

15 John Cass fund

	2025 £	2024 £
Balance brought forward	37,217	36,496
Expended in the year	-	-
Interest received	877	721
	<u>38,094</u>	<u>37,217</u>

This Designated Unrestricted Fund is the John Cass Fund, which was established by a legacy from the estate of John Cass in 2019. This is a general legacy and will assist Kentish Opera to mount opera and concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions.

KENTISH OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 1035615

Accounts

Company registration No. 02864170 (England and Wales)
Charity registration No. 1035615

KENTISH OPERA

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

KENTISH OPERA

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary Philip Wallace

Principal Office 23 Oakley Drive
Bromley
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The charity is incorporated in England & Wales

Solicitors Thackray Williams
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Bankers CAF Bank Ltd
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Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner Harrison Hill Castle & Co - Chartered Accountants
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Kent
BR1 2EB

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Trustees

Ian Alexander, Chairman
Gillian Bishop (resigned 30/07/2024)
Alice Blogg (resigned 30/07/2024)
Nicola Blogg (resigned 30/07/2024)
Rita McKay (resigned 24/07/2024)
Edward Palmer (resigned 30/11/2023)
Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer
Philip Wallace, Secretary and Trustee only
Peter Whiston
Philip Newton (appointed 30/11/2023, resigned 30/07/2024)

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Company is a registered Charity number 1035615 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is run by a Council of Management (who are the Trustees) which must consist of a minimum of three persons. There is no maximum number. The members of the Company comprise a mixture of acting and non-acting members and also voluntary helpers who subscribe to the objects of the Company.

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"To educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

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The Council and members strongly believe that it is important to produce operas to the highest professional standards and in a basically traditional manner so that the public attending performances is able to appreciate the operas performed as the composers conceived them.

Current Year

In the 2023-2024 season we put on two shows. These were a gala concert in October 2023 in the Pamoja Hall Sevenoaks and a series of performances of Aida in April 2024 at the Stag Theatre Sevenoaks.

The gala concert was well attended and resulted in a small surplus while we reached nearly 70% capacity audience over three performances of Aida. By controlling scenery and costume costs and as a result of generous donations, losses were much less than those budgeted and were manageable within our reserves, and as a result of claiming Theatre Tax Relief.

We ended the season with increased reserves, which puts us in a good position going in to 2024-2025 but knowing we must continue to control costs carefully and strive to increase audience levels still further.

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Risk Management

Expenditure is carefully budgeted and much reduced by the significant use of volunteers in many areas, e.g. own box office, front of house, assisting in building sets, assisting in making and altering costumes, chorus and general administration.

The major risk area is the box office which is unpredictable. The choice of opera, however, is the key factor since there is generally resistance from our suburban audience to attend in the required numbers to operas they are not familiar with. Nevertheless, one of the objectives of Kentish Opera is to produce from time to time less popular operas in order to educate and broaden our audience's taste. This can only be done if either reserves are at a comfortable level or additional income through sponsorship is achieved.

Reserves and Outlook

The steps we took in 2023-2024 to control expenditure have worked and we ended the season with healthy reserves of £75,211 (2023: £66,975). In 2024-2025 we intend to continue our efforts to control expenditure and reduce losses. In parallel though we will continue to seek grants, increase the number of Friends, and look for other sources of income.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Kentish Opera for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on the 28 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Kentish Opera

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 14 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 seeking 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;

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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28 January 2025

KENTISH OPERA

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds	
		2024 £	2023 £
Donations and legacies	3	12,060	9,360
Charitable activities	4	55,474	56,769
Investment income	5	1,590	435
Total income		<u>69,124</u>	<u>66,564</u>
Charitable activities	6	60,888	55,071
Interest payable and similar expenses		<u>60,888</u>	<u>55,071</u>
Net income		8,236	11,493
Total funds brought forward		66,975	55,482
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>75,211</u></u>	<u><u>66,975</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the two periods. The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 12.

KENTISH OPERA

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		-		-
Currents assets					
Debtors	10	5,521		3,541	
Cash at bank and in hand		70,900		64,523	
		<u>76,421</u>		<u>68,064</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,210)</u>		<u>(1,089)</u>	
Net current assets			75,211		66,975
Net assets			<u>75,211</u>		<u>66,975</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			75,211		66,975
Total funds	12		<u>75,211</u>		<u>66,975</u>

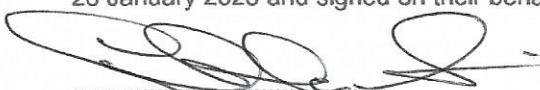
For the financial year ending 31 August 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.


Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- 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 provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 28 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee


.....
Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Kentish Opera meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Box Office receipts are taken up in the year in which the productions are performed. Membership fees are included on a received basis.

Donations and legacies

Donations, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. Legacies are accounted for in the year in which they are received.

Grants receivable

Grants, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. These are included in the income derived from charitable activities.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Charitable activities

Kentish Opera's charitable activities consist of the putting-on of operas and other related classical music events consistent with the main objects of the company being "to educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, and, most particularly, the independent examiner's fee.

Government grants

Grants can be received from Sevenoaks District Arts Council. Theatre Tax Relief is also received.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset. Expenditure on costumes and scenery is charged in the production account of the year in question.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	25% on cost

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

3	Income from donations and legacies	2024 £	2023 £
	Donations from individuals	12,060	9,360
	Legacies	-	-
		<u>12,060</u>	<u>9,360</u>
4	Charitable activities	2024 £	2023 £
	Box office receipts & performance fees	38,469	31,295
	Membership subscriptions & fees	1,575	1,225
	Programme sales & advertising	2,093	1,067
	Grants & sundry income	295	778
	Hire of costumes, scenery, events & sundry income	-	286
	Gift aid tax relief	2,519	1,792
	Theatre tax relief	10,523	20,326
		<u>55,474</u>	<u>56,769</u>
5	Investment income	2024 £	2023 £
	Interest receivable and similar income	<u>1,590</u>	<u>435</u>
6	Charitable activities	2024 £	2023 £
	Opera Company (note 7) 7	59,928	54,231
	Governance costs	960	840
		<u>60,888</u>	<u>55,071</u>

Governance costs represent fees paid to the Independent examiner to complete the examination of the financial statements.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7	Opera Company	2024	2023
		£	£
	Production directors' fees	5,000	5,800
	Principals' fees	9,200	8,850
	Theatre/venue rent & expenses	7,536	9,000
	Orchestra & related costs	13,407	8,707
	Scenery	2,417	90
	Scores	1,065	161
	Rehearsal halls	1,877	1,778
	Rehearsal pianists/repertoireurs	-	58
	Publicity & printing	4,110	3,804
	Programmes (net)	1,412	1,106
	Costumes & wigs	3,585	5,131
	Lighting	-	-
	Production sundries	1,238	280
	Insurance	2,459	2,235
	Printing, postage & stationery	14	341
	Sundry admin expenses	1,210	612
	Scenery & costume storage	3,703	3,188
	Professional fees	1,500	3,000
	Donations	195	90
	Depreciation re new trailer	-	-
		<u>59,928</u>	<u>54,231</u>

For both years, all of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, the Trustees (Members of the Council of Management) were reimbursed for expenditure totalling £2,161 (2023 - £2,407) incurred on behalf of the Company. The majority of this expenditure related to publicity, advertising, programme production costs and sundry production expenses.

Apart from performance fees of £1,060 paid to one trustee and family member, no other trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

12 Funds	Balance 01-Sep-23 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-24 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	30,479	68,403	(60,888)	-	37,994
Designated (note 15 & 16)	36,496	721	-	-	37,217
Total funds	<u>66,975</u>	<u>69,124</u>	<u>(60,888)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75,211</u>

13 Analysis of net funds	Balance 01-Sep-23 £	Cash flow £	Balance 31-Aug-24 £
Cash at bank	64,523	6,377	70,900
Net funds	<u>64,523</u>	<u>6,377</u>	<u>70,900</u>

14 Related party transactions

Apart from the transactions detailed in note 8, there were no other related party transactions in the year.

15 Pearl Clements fund

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance brought forward	-	4,128
Payment from the estate of Mr A Clements	-	-
Expended in year	-	-
Transfer to General fund	-	(4,130)
Interest received	-	2
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 1 is the Pearl Clements Fund, which was established by Mr Alan Clements in 1995 in memory of his late wife, Pearl Clements, with the intention that these funds would assist Kentish Opera to mount concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions. Mr Clements later agreed that Kentish Opera can use these funds generally and so they are no longer "Restricted". Mr Clements has passed away but Kentish Opera continues to receive generous donations from his estate.

The Pearl Clements Fund has now been transferred into our general reserves.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

16	John Cass fund	2024 £	2023 £
	Balance brought forward	36,496	36,157
	Received from the John Cass estate	-	-
	Expended in year	-	-
	Interest received	721	339
		<u>37,217</u>	<u>36,496</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 2 is the John Cass Fund, which was established by a legacy from the estate of John Cass in 2019. This is a general legacy and will assist Kentish Opera to mount opera and concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions

KENTISH OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 1035615

Accounts

Company registration No. 02864170 (England and Wales)
Charity registration No. 1035615

KENTISH OPERA

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

KENTISH OPERA

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary Philip Wallace

Principal Office Beech Hill
69 Kippington Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 2LN

Registered office Beech Hill
69 Kippington Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 2LN

The charity is incorporated in England & Wales

Solicitors Thackray Williams
Kings House
32-40 Widmore Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1RY

Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd	HSBC Sevenoaks
	25 Kings Hill Avenue	69 High Street
	West Malling	Sevenoaks
	Kent	Kent
	ME19 4JQ	TN13 1LB

Independent Examiner Harrison Hill Castle & Co - Chartered Accountants
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Kent
BR1 2EB

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Trustees

Ian Alexander, Chairman
Gillian Bishop (appointed 17/7/23)
Alice Blogg
Nicola Blogg
Richard Broadley (resigned 10/1/23)
Raymond Harsant (resigned 16/2/23)
Rita McKay
Jacquelyn Moore (resigned 17/7/23)
Edward Palmer
Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer
Philip Wallace, Secretary
Peter Whiston

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Company is a registered Charity number 1035615 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is run by a Council of Management (who are the Trustees) which must consist of a minimum of three persons. There is no maximum number. The members of the Company comprise a mixture of acting and non-acting members and also voluntary helpers who subscribe to the objects of the Company.

The Company's main objects, as stated in the Memorandum are:

"To educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

To achieve the above objects, the Company performs up to two full-scale grand operas in English each year. The Company also performs from time to time smaller operetta and concerts at local venues in Bromley, Croydon and North Kent and Central London locations.

The Council and members strongly believe that it is important to produce operas to the highest professional standards and in a basically traditional manner so that the public attending performances is able to appreciate the operas performed as the composers conceived them.

Current Year

In the 2022-2023 season we put on two shows. These were a series of performances of Yeomen of the Guard by Gilbert and Sullivan in April at the Stag Theatre Sevenoaks, and two performances of an opera Gala at Chiddingstone Castle.

The audience level for Yeomen was significantly higher than for Tales of Hoffmann in 2021-2022 which is pleasing although this represented 60% occupancy and we would like to increase that number in future years. By controlling scenery and costume costs and as a result of a generous donation, losses were much less than those budgeted and were manageable within our reserves.

Attendance at the Gala was similar to that in 2021-2022 but given the increase in aircraft noise over that for the previous two years we plan an alternative venue in Summer 2024.

We ended the season with a healthy surplus, partly due to a substantial Theatre Tax Relief payment, which puts us in a good position going in to 2023-2024 but knowing we must continue to control costs carefully and strive to increase audience levels still further.

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Risk Management

Expenditure is carefully budgeted and much reduced by the significant use of volunteers in many areas, e.g. own box office, front of house, assisting in building sets, assisting in making and altering costumes, chorus and general administration.

The major risk area is the box office which is unpredictable. The choice of opera, however, is the key factor since there is generally resistance from our suburban audience to attend in the required numbers to operas they are not familiar with. Nevertheless, one of the objectives of Kentish Opera is to produce from time to time less popular operas in order to educate and broaden our audience's taste. This can only be done if either reserves are at a comfortable level or additional income through sponsorship is achieved.

Reserves and Outlook

The steps we took in 2022-2023 to mitigate the losses of the previous season have worked and we ended the season with healthy reserves of £66,634 (2022: £55,482). In 2023-2024 we intend to continue our efforts to control expenditure and reduce losses. In parallel though we will continue to seek grants, increase the number of Friends, and look for other sources of income.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Kentish Opera for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on the 5 January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Kentish Opera

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023 which are set out on pages 6 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 seeking 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

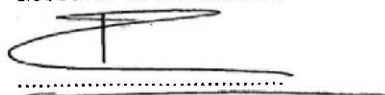
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention;

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



PR Castle FCA

Harrison Hill Castle & Co
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Bromley
Kent
BR1 2EB
5 January 2024

KENTISH OPERA

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

		Unrestricted funds	
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Donations and legacies	3	9,360	10,248
Charitable activities	4	56,769	42,256
Investment income	5	94	29
Total income		<u>66,223</u>	<u>52,533</u>
Charitable activities	6	55,071	99,903
Interest payable and similar expenses		<u>55,071</u>	<u>99,903</u>
Net income		11,152	(47,370)
Total funds brought forward		55,482	102,852
Total funds carried forward	14	<u><u>66,634</u></u>	<u><u>55,482</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the two periods. The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 14.

KENTISH OPERA

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		-		-
Currents assets					
Debtors	10	3,541		3,237	
Cash at bank and in hand		64,523		53,625	
		<u>68,064</u>		<u>56,862</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,089)</u>		<u>(1,360)</u>	
Net current assets			66,975		55,482
Net assets			<u>66,975</u>		<u>55,482</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			66,975		55,482
Total funds	12		<u>66,975</u>		<u>55,482</u>

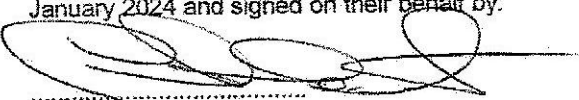
For the financial year ending 31 August 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

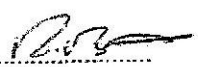
Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- 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 provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 5 January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee


.....
Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Kentish Opera meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Box Office receipts are taken up in the year in which the productions are performed. Membership fees are included on a received basis.

Donations and legacies

Donations, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. Legacies are accounted for in the year in which they are received.

Grants receivable

Grants, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. These are included in the income derived from charitable activities.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Charitable activities

Kentish Opera's charitable activities consist of the putting-on of operas and other related classical music events consistent with the main objects of the company being "to educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, and, most particularly, the independent examiner's fee.

Government grants

Grants can be received from Sevenoaks District Arts Council. Theatre Tax Relief is also received.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset. Expenditure on costumes and scenery is charged in the production account of the year in question.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	25% on cost

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

3	Income from donations and legacies	2023	2022
		£	£
	Donations from individuals	9,360	5,248
	Legacies	-	5,000
		<u>9,360</u>	<u>10,248</u>
4	Charitable activities	2023	2022
		£	£
	Box office receipts & performance fees	31,295	36,078
	Membership subscriptions & fees	1,225	3,404
	Programme sales & advertising	1,067	-
	Grants & sundry income	778	-
	Hire of costumes, scenery, events & sundry income	286	-
	Gift aid tax relief	1,792	1,877
	Theatre tax relief	20,326	897
		<u>56,769</u>	<u>42,256</u>
5	Investment income	2023	2022
		£	£
	Interest receivable and similar income	<u>94</u>	<u>29</u>
6	Charitable activities	2023	2022
		£	£
	Opera Company (note 7)	54,231	99,103
	Governance costs	840	800
		<u>55,071</u>	<u>99,903</u>

Governance costs represent fees paid to the Independent examiner to complete the examination of the financial statements.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

7	Opera Company	2023 £	2022 £
	Production directors' fees	5,800	8,950
	Principals' fees	8,850	18,600
	Theatre/venue rent & expenses	9,000	17,654
	Orchestra & related costs	8,707	12,590
	Scenery	90	16,036
	Scores	161	250
	Rehearsal halls	1,778	2,743
	Rehearsal pianists/repertoireurs	58	651
	Publicity & printing	3,804	6,174
	Programmes (net)	1,106	(347)
	Costumes & wigs	5,131	7,697
	Lighting	-	1,141
	Production sundries	280	830
	Insurance	2,235	2,341
	Printing, postage & stationery	341	48
	Sundry admin expenses	612	97
	Scenery & costume storage	3,188	3,096
	Professional fees	3,000	132
	Donations	90	-
	Depreciation re new trailer	-	420
		<u>54,231</u>	<u>99,103</u>

For both years, all of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, the Trustees (Members of the Council of Management) were reimbursed for expenditure totalling £2,407 (2022 - £4,261) incurred on behalf of the Company. The majority of this expenditure related to publicity, advertising, programme production costs and sundry production expenses.

Apart from performance fees of £1,030 paid to one trustee and family member, no other trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

9	Tangible fixed assets		£
			Furniture & equipment
	Cost		
	At 1 September 2022		6,938
	Additions		-
	Eliminated in respect of disposals		-
	At 31 August 2023		<u>6,938</u>
	Depreciation and impairment		
	At 1 September 2022		6,938
	Depreciation charged in the year		-
	Eliminated in respect of disposals		-
	At 31 August 2023		<u>6,938</u>
	Net book value		
	At 31 August 2023		<u>-</u>
	At 31 August 2022		<u>-</u>
10	Debtors	2023	2022
		£	£
	Debtors & prepayments	<u>3,541</u>	<u>3,237</u>
11	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
		£	£
	Creditors & accruals	<u>1,089</u>	<u>1,380</u>

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

12	Funds	Balance 01-Sep-22 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-23 £
	Unrestricted funds					
	General	15,197	66,223	(55,071)	4,130	30,479
	Designated (note 15 & 16)	40,285	341	-	(4,130)	36,496
	Total funds	<u>55,482</u>	<u>66,564</u>	<u>(55,071)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,975</u>

13	Analysis of net funds	Balance 01-Sep-22 £	Cash flow £	Balance 31-Aug-23 £
	Cash at bank	53,625	10,898	64,523
	Net funds	<u>53,625</u>	<u>10,898</u>	<u>64,523</u>

14 Analysis of net funds

There were no related party transactions in the year.

15 Pearl Clements fund

	2023 £	2022 £
Balance brought forward	4,128	9,028
Payment from the estate of Mr A Clements	-	5,000
Expended in year	-	(9,902)
Transfer to General fund	(4,130)	
Interest received	2	2
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,128</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 1 is the Pearl Clements Fund, which was established by Mr Alan Clements in 1995 in memory of his late wife, Pearl Clements, with the intention that these funds would assist Kentish Opera to mount concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions. Mr Clements later agreed that Kentish Opera can use these funds generally and so they are no longer "Restricted". Mr Clements has passed away but Kentish Opera continues to receive generous donations from his estate.

The Pearl Clements Fund has now been transferred into our general reserves.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

16	John Cass fund	2023 £	2022 £
	Balance brought forward	36,157	60,664
	Received from the John Cass estate	-	-
	Expended in year	-	(24,507)
	Interest received	339	-
		<u>36,496</u>	<u>36,157</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 2 is the John Cass Fund, which was established by a legacy from the estate of John Cass in 2019. This is a general legacy and will assist Kentish Opera to mount opera and concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions

KENTISH OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 1035615

Accounts

Company registration No. 02864170 (England and Wales)
Charity registration No. 1035615

KENTISH OPERA

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

KENTISH OPERA

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary Philip Wallace

Principal Office Beech Hill
69 Kippington Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 2LN

Registered office Beech Hill
69 Kippington Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 2LN

The charity is incorporated in England & Wales

Solicitors Thackray Williams
Kings House
32-40 Widmore Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1RY

Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd	HSBC Sevenoaks
	25 Kings Hill Avenue	69 High Street
	West Malling	Sevenoaks
	Kent	Kent
	ME19 4JQ	TN13 1LB

Independent Examiner Harrison Hill Castle & Co - Chartered Accountants
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Kent
BR1 2EB

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Trustees

Ian Alexander, Chairman

Alice Blogg

Nicola Blogg

Richard Broadley

Raymond Harsant

Rita McKay (appointed 18 May 2022)

Jacquelyn Moore

Edward Palmer

Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer (appointed 1 February 2022)

Philip Wallace, Secretary

Peter Whiston

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Company is a registered Charity number 1035615 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is run by a Council of Management (who are the Trustees) which must consist of a minimum of three persons. There is no maximum number. The members of the Company comprise a mixture of acting and non-acting members and also voluntary helpers who subscribe to the objects of the Company.

The Company's main objects, as stated in the Memorandum are:

"To educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

To achieve the above objects, the Company performs up to two full-scale grand operas in English each year. The Company also performs from time to time smaller operetta and concerts at local venues in Bromley, Croydon and North Kent and Central London locations.

The Council and members strongly believe that it is important to produce operas to the highest professional standards and in a basically traditional manner so that the public attending performances is able to appreciate the operas performed as the composers conceived them.

Current Year

After our first production for some time in July 2021 (Opera Gala), we resolved to attempt a full season of shows for 2021-2022 despite the considerable uncertainties on how our audiences would approach returning to theatres after the pandemic. We were comforted in this decision by a very healthy reserves position as a result of a very generous legacy. We put on three shows: Pirates of Penzance in October 2021, Tales of Hoffmann in April 2022 and another Opera Gala in July 2022.

All three shows attracted a reasonable audience but not at the levels we had hoped for. This mirrors the experience of other companies who have also received relatively low audiences. We also found that following the retirement of Sally Langford and Richard Broadley, who did so much to assist with our productions, we had to incur additional costs for production help and scenery, most notably for the Hoffmann production.

As a result, we had to fall back significantly on our reserves but these remain healthy as we go in to the 2022-2023 season.

KENTISH OPERA

Trustees' Report (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Risk Management

Expenditure is carefully budgeted and much reduced by the significant use of volunteers in many areas, e.g. own box office, front of house, assisting in building sets, assisting in making and altering costumes, chorus and general administration.

The major risk area is the box office which is unpredictable. The choice of opera, however, is the key factor since there is generally resistance from our suburban audience to attend in the required numbers to operas they are not familiar with. Nevertheless, one of the objectives of Kentish Opera is to produce from time to time less popular operas in order to educate and broaden our audience's taste. This can only be done if either reserves are at a comfortable level or additional income through sponsorship is achieved.

Reserves and Outlook

Despite having to make a significant call on our reserves, they remain healthy at £55,950. In 2022-2023, we will be taking steps to try to avoid having to call on our reserves significantly. For example, we intend only to put on two shows and we will also approach budgeting in a very conservative manner with the aim of balancing income and expenditure and bearing in mind the uncertainties of audience levels. Proactive steps will be taken to enlist new members and Friends and apply for grant funding.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

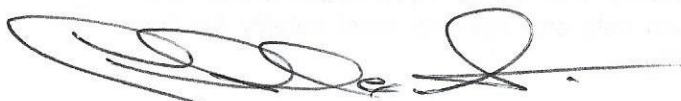
The trustees (who are also the directors of Kentish Opera for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity 10/11 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Kentish Opera

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022 which are set out on pages 6 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 seeking 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

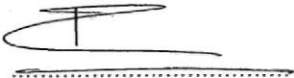
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention;

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



PR Castle FCA

Harrison Hill Castle & Co
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Bromley
Kent
BR1 2EB

2023

KENTISH OPERA

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds	
		2022 £	2021 £
Donations and legacies	3	10,248	15,390
Charitable activities	4	42,256	11,133
Investment income	5	29	6
Total income		<u>52,533</u>	<u>26,529</u>
Charitable activities	6	99,903	14,560
Interest payable and similar expenses		<u>99,903</u>	<u>14,560</u>
Net income		<u>(47,370)</u>	<u>11,969</u>
Total funds brought forward		102,852	90,883
Total funds carried forward	14	<u><u>55,482</u></u>	<u><u>102,852</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the two periods. The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 14.

KENTISH OPERA

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2022

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		-		420
Currents assets					
Debtors	10	3,237		5,610	
Cash at bank and in hand		53,625		97,602	
		<u>56,862</u>		<u>103,212</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,380)</u>		<u>(780)</u>	
Net current assets			55,482		102,432
Net assets			<u>55,482</u>		<u>102,852</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			55,482		102,852
Total funds	12		<u>55,482</u>		<u>102,852</u>

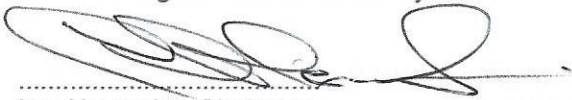
For the financial year ending 31 August 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.


Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- 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 provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 2023 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee


.....
Robert Skone James, Hon Treasurer
Trustee

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Kentish Opera meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Box Office receipts are taken up in the year in which the productions are performed. Membership fees are included on a received basis.

Donations and legacies

Donations, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. Legacies are accounted for in the year in which they are received.

Grants receivable

Grants, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. These are included in the income derived from charitable activities.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Charitable activities

Kentish Opera's charitable activities consist of the putting-on of operas and other related classical music events consistent with the main objects of the company being "to educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, and, most particularly, the independent examiner's fee.

Government grants

Grants can be received from Sevenoaks District Arts Council. Theatre Tax Relief is also received.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset. Expenditure on costumes and scenery is charged in the production account of the year in question.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	25% on cost

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

3	Income from donations and legacies		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	Donations from individuals	5,248	2,180
	Legacies	5,000	13,210
		<u>10,248</u>	<u>15,390</u>
4	Charitable activities		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	Box office receipts	36,078	7,748
	Membership subscriptions & fees	3,404	-
	Scores sale/hire	-	-
	Rehearsal drinks surplus	-	-
	Hire of costumes, scenery, events & sundry income	-	-
	Gift aid tax relief	1,877	545
	Theatre tax relief	897	2,840
		<u>42,256</u>	<u>11,133</u>
5	Investment income		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	Interest receivable and similar income	<u>29</u>	<u>6</u>
6	Charitable activities		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	Opera Company (note 7)	99,103	13,800
	Governance costs	800	760
		<u>99,903</u>	<u>14,560</u>

Governance costs represent fees paid to the Independent examiner to complete the examination of the financial statements.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

7 Opera Company

	2022	2021
	£	£
Production directors' fees	8,950	1,000
Principals' fees	18,600	1,450
Theatre/venue rent & expenses	17,654	2,520
Orchestra & related costs	12,590	1,550
Scenery	16,036	-
Scores	250	100
Rehearsal halls	2,743	-
Rehearsal pianists/repertoireurs	651	-
Publicity & printing	6,174	1,015
Programmes (net)	(347)	(104)
Costumes & wigs	7,697	570
Lighting	1,141	-
Production sundries	830	55
Insurance	2,341	2,038
Printing, postage & stationery	48	22
Sundry admin expenses	97	132
Scenery & costume storage	3,096	2,528
Professional fees	132	504
Donations	-	-
Depreciation re new trailer	420	420
	<u>99,103</u>	<u>13,800</u>

For both years, all of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, the Trustees (Members of the Council of Management) were reimbursed for expenditure totalling £4,261 (2021 - £501) incurred on behalf of the Company. The majority of this expenditure related to publicity, advertising, programme production costs and sundry production expenses.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

9	Tangible fixed assets	£
		Furniture & equipment
	Cost	
	At 1 September 2021	6,938
	Additions	-
	Eliminated in respect of disposals	-
	At 31 August 2022	<u>6,938</u>
	Depreciation and impairment	
	At 1 September 2021	6,518
	Depreciation charged in the year	420
	Eliminated in respect of disposals	-
	At 31 August 2022	<u>6,938</u>
	Net book value	
	At 31 August 2022	<u>-</u>
	At 31 August 2021	<u>420</u>
10	Debtors	
		2022
		£
	Debtors & prepayments	<u>3,237</u>
		2021
		£
		<u>5,610</u>
11	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
		2022
		£
	Creditors & accruals	<u>1,380</u>
		2021
		£
		<u>780</u>

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

12 Funds	Balance 01-Sep-21 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-22 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	33,160	47,531	(65,494)	-	15,197
Designated (note 15 & 16)	69,692	5,002	(34,409)	-	40,285
Total funds	<u>102,852</u>	<u>52,533</u>	<u>(99,903)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,482</u>

13 Analysis of net funds	Balance 01-Sep-21 £	Cash flow £	Balance 31-Aug-22 £
Cash at bank	97,602	(43,977)	53,625
Net funds	<u>97,602</u>	<u>(43,977)</u>	<u>53,625</u>

14 Analysis of net funds

There were no related party transactions in the year.

15 Pearl Clements fund

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance brought forward	9,028	9,028
Payment from the estate of Mr A Clements	5,000	-
Expended in year	(9,902)	-
Interest received	2	-
	<u>4,128</u>	<u>9,028</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 1 is the Pearl Clements Fund, which was established by Mr Alan Clements in 1995 in memory of his late wife, Pearl Clements, with the intention that these funds would assist Kentish Opera to mount concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions. Mr Clements later agreed that Kentish Opera can use these funds generally and so they are no longer "Restricted". Mr Clements has passed away but Kentish Opera continues to receive generous donations from his estate.

KENTISH OPERA

Notes to the financial statements (Continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

16	John Cass fund	2022 £	2021 £
	Balance brought forward	60,664	47,448
	Received from the John Cass estate	-	13,210
	Expended in year	(24,507)	-
	Interest received	-	6
		<u>36,157</u>	<u>60,664</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 2 is the John Cass Fund, which was established by a legacy from the estate of John Cass in 2019. This is a general legacy and will assist Kentish Opera to mount opera and concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions

KENTISH OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 1035615

Accounts

Company registration number: 02864170

Charity registration number: 1035615

Kentish Opera

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Harrison Hill Castle & Company, Chartered Accountants
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Bromley
Kent
BR1 2EB

Kentish Opera

Contents

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Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
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Kentish Opera

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary	Philip Wallace
Principal Office	Beech Hill 69 Kippington Road Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2LN
Registered Office	Beech Hill 69 Kippington Road Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2LN
	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
Company Registration Number	02864170
Charity Registration Number	1035615
Solicitors	Thackray Williams Kings House 32-40 Widmore Road Bromley Kent BR1 1RY
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ HSBC Sevenoaks 69 High Street Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1LB
Independent Examiner	Harrison Hill Castle & Company, Chartered Accountants Melbury House 34 Southborough Road Bickley Kent BR1 2EB

Kentish Opera

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Trustees

Ian Alexander, Chairman

Alice Blogg

Nicola Blogg

Richard Broadley

Raymond Harsant, Hon Treasurer

Jacquelyn Moore

Kate Shanley (resigned 11 November 2020)

Betty Thompson (resigned 8 May 2021)

Philip Wallace, Secretary (appointed 11 November 2020)

Peter Whiston

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Company is a registered Charity number 1035615 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is run by a Council of Management (who are the Trustees) which must consist of a minimum of three persons. There is no maximum number. The members of the Company comprise a mixture of acting and non-acting members and also voluntary helpers who subscribe to the objects of the Company.

The Company's main objects, as stated in the Memorandum are:

"To educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

To achieve the above objects, the Company performs up to two full-scale grand operas in English each year. The Company also performs from time to time smaller operetta and concerts at local venues in Bromley, Croydon and North Kent and Central London locations.

The Council and members strongly believe that it is important to produce operas to the highest professional standards and in a basically traditional manner so that the public attending performances is able to appreciate the operas performed as the composers conceived them.

Kentish Opera

Trustees' Report

CURRENT YEAR

The financial year was again seriously affected by the COVID 19 virus.

As the situation improved in the summer the Company was able to put on a very successful Gala Concert in the grounds of Chiddingstone Castle in July. Both performances were sold out.

During the year the Company benefitted from a further generous payment from the estate of John Cass. In addition very welcome donations were received from members of the Company and a variety of other loyal supporters.

There are some 60 members of the Company, with ages ranging from 25 to 80+, involved in the productions. This involves extensive rehearsals over many months where they learn music interpretation, libretto and acting skills from a very experienced team. Additional experience is gained by back stage staff who are also drawn from the membership of the Company. Over 400 members of the public attended the two performances in the year.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Expenditure is carefully budgeted and much reduced by the significant use of volunteers in many areas, e.g. own box office, front of house, assisting in building sets, assisting in making and altering costumes, chorus and general administration.

The major risk area is the box office which is unpredictable. The choice of opera, however, is the key factor since there is generally resistance from our suburban audience to attend in the required numbers to operas they are not familiar with. Nevertheless, one of the objectives of Kentish Opera is to produce from time to time less popular operas in order to educate and broaden our audience's taste. This can only be done if either reserves are at a comfortable level or additional income through sponsorship is achieved.

RESERVES AND OUTLOOK

The Company's reserves are comfortable at £102,852. Reserves have been boosted this year by a legacy from the estate of John Cass as well as a claim for Theatre Tax Relief.

With the COVID 19 virus situation less severe, the Company is planning to put on Gilbert and Sullivan's, Pirates of Penzance at the Stag Theatre Sevenoaks in October 2021. It is hoped to mount a full production of an opera at that theatre in April 2022.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 7/12/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

Kentish Opera

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Kentish Opera for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity ~~7th~~ *December* 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

Kentish Opera

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Kentish Opera

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021 which are set out on pages 6 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 seeking 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:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

PR Castle FCA

Harrison Hill Castle & Co
Melbury House
34 Southborough Road
Bickley
Bromley
Kent
BR1 2EB

7th December

2021

Kentish Opera

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2020 £
Donations and legacies	3	15,390	41,083
Charitable activities	4	11,133	14,683
Investment income	5	<u>6</u>	<u>56</u>
Total Income		<u>26,529</u>	<u>55,822</u>
Charitable activities	6	<u>(14,560)</u>	<u>(21,139)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(14,560)</u>	<u>(21,139)</u>
Net income		<u>11,969</u>	<u>34,683</u>
Net movement in funds		11,969	34,683
Total funds brought forward		<u>90,883</u>	<u>56,200</u>
Total funds carried forward	14	<u>102,852</u>	<u>90,883</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 14.

Kentish Opera

(Registration number: 02864170) Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	420	840
Current assets			
Debtors	12	5,610	3,129
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>97,602</u>	<u>87,714</u>
		103,212	90,843
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(780)</u>	<u>(800)</u>
Net current assets		<u>102,432</u>	<u>90,043</u>
Net assets		<u>102,852</u>	<u>90,883</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>102,852</u>	<u>90,883</u>
Total funds	14	<u>102,852</u>	<u>90,883</u>

For the financial year ending 31 August 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- 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 provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ~~7/12~~ 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Ian Alexander, Chairman
Trustee

Raymond Harsant, Hon Treasurer
Trustee

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Kentish Opera meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Box Office receipts are taken up in the year in which the productions are performed. Membership fees are included on a received basis.

Donations and legacies

Donations, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. Legacies are accounted for in the year in which they are received.

Grants receivable

Grants, unless allocated for a specific production, are accounted for in the year in which they are received. These are included in the income derived from charitable activities.

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Charitable activities

Kentish Opera's charitable activities consist of the putting-on of operas and other related classical music events consistent with the main objects of the company being "to educate the public in the operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts".

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, and, most particularly, the independent examiner's fee.

Government grants

Grants can be received from Sevenoaks District Arts Council. Theatre Tax Relief is also received.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset. Expenditure on costumes and scenery is charged in the production account of the year in question.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	25% on cost

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	
	General £	2020 £
Donations and legacies:		
Donations from individuals	2,180	5,780
Legacies	<u>13,210</u>	<u>35,303</u>
	<u>15,390</u>	<u>41,083</u>

4

	Unrestricted funds	
	General £	2020 £
Box office receipts	7,748	5,813
Membership subscriptions and fees	-	1,930
Scores sale/hire	-	103
Rehearsal drinks surplus	-	230
Hire of costumes, scenery, events and sundry income	-	168
Theatre Tax Relief	3,385	6,439
	<u>11,133</u>	<u>14,683</u>

5

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2020 £
	Designated £	General £	
Interest receivable and similar income:			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>56</u>

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

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	Unrestricted funds	Total 2020 £
	General £	
	Note	
Opera Company	13,800	20,359
Governance costs	7 <u>760</u>	<u>780</u>
	<u>14,560</u>	<u>21,139</u>
	Activity undertaken directly £	Total 2020 £
Directors' fees	1,000	2,334
Principals' fees	1,450	1,400
Theatre/venue rent and expenses	2,520	1,562
Orchestra and related costs	1,550	2,535
Scores	100	124
Rehearsal halls	-	895
Rehearsal pianists/repertoireurs	-	656
Publicity and printing	1,015	2,300
Programmes (net)	(104)	81
Costumes and wigs	570	771
Lighting	-	529
Production sundries	55	62
Insurance	2,038	1,768
Printing, postage and stationery	22	112
Sundry administration expenses	132	353
Scenery and costume storage	2,528	2,497
Professional expenses re Theatre Tax Relief	504	960
Donation	-	1,000
Depreciation re new trailer	<u>420</u>	<u>420</u>
	<u>13,800</u>	<u>20,359</u>

£13,800 (2020 - £20,359) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £Nil (2020 - £Nil) to restricted funds.

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

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	Unrestricted funds		Total 2020 £
	Designated £	General £	£
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of financial statements	-	760	780

8 Government grants

Sevenoaks District Arts Council

The amount of grants recognised in the financial statements was £nil (2020 - £nil).

These accounts include Theatre Tax Relief in the sum of £3,385 (2020 - £6,439).

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

During the year, the Trustees (Members of the Council of Management) were reimbursed for expenditure totalling £501 (2020 - £2,781) incurred on behalf of the Company. The majority of this expenditure related to publicity, advertising, programme production costs and sundry production expenses.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2020	6,938	6,938
Additions	-	-
At 31 August 2021	6,938	6,938
Depreciation		
At 1 September 2020	6,098	6,098
Charge for the year	420	420
At 31 August 2021	6,518	6,518
Net book value		
At 31 August 2021	420	420
At 31 August 2020	840	840

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

12 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Debtors and prepayments	5,610	3,129

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other creditors	-	-
Creditors and accruals	780	800
	780	800

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	(21,197)	(26,523)	14,560	-	33,160
Designated	(69,686)	(13,216)	-	-	82,902
Total funds	(90,883)	(26,529)	14,560	-	102,852

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	420	420
Current assets	103,212	103,212
Current liabilities	(780)	(780)
Total net assets	102,852	102,852

16 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 September 2020 £	Cash flow £	At 31 August 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	87,714	9,888	97,602
Net funds	87,714	9,888	97,602

Kentish Opera

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

18 Pearl Clements Fund

	2021 £	2020 £
Balance brought forward	9,028	4,024
Payment from Mr A Clements	-	5,000
Tax refund on payment due	-	-
Interest received	-	4
	<u>9,028</u>	<u>9,028</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 1 is the Pearl Clements Fund, which was established by Mr Alan Clements in 1995 in memory of his late wife, Pearl Clements, with the intention that these funds would assist Kentish Opera to mount concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions. Mr Clements later agreed that Kentish Opera can use these funds generally and so they are no longer "Restricted".

19 John Cass Fund

	2021 £	2020 £
Balance brought forward	60,658	30,303
Received from the John Cass estate	13,210	30,303
Interest received	6	52
	<u>73,874</u>	<u>60,658</u>

The Designated Unrestricted Fund No 2 is the John Cass Fund, which was established by a legacy from the estate of John Cass in 2019. This is a general legacy and will assist Kentish Opera to mount opera and concerts and to support the engagement of promising young singers in its opera productions.