

THE NICHOLAS JOHN TRUST

UNAUDITED ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1059847

The Nicholas John Trust
Contents
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Page
Legal and administrative information	2
Trustees' Report	3-4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Accounts	8-12

The Nicholas John Trust
Reference and administrative information
For the year ended 31 December 2020

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.

1059847

TRUSTEES:

**Ms J F Murphy
Mr M E W Studer
Prof N E Cronk
Ms C F Leslie
Mrs E J Martineau
Ms A M A Depaulis**

GOVERNING DOCUMENT:

Trust Deed dated 13 November 1996

REGISTERED ADDRESS:

**213 Iffley Road
Oxford
OX4 1EN**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS:

**Critchleys Audit LLP
Beaver House
23 - 38 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford
OX1 2EP**

BANKERS:

**Lloyds
120-124 High Street
Dorking
Surrey
RH4 1BB**

Structure, Governance and Management

The Nicholas John Trust was established under a Trust deed on 13 November 1996.

New Trustees are appointed either to fill a casual vacancy or by way of addition to the Board. Particular emphasis is placed upon the appointment of Trustees with knowledge and experience relevant to the Trust's charitable activities. When new Trustees are appointed they are given an introduction to the work of the Trust and provided with the information they need to fulfil their roles, which includes information about the role of the Trustees and their responsibilities under the Charities Acts 2011.

Administration of the Trust is carried out by the Trustees, who make all decisions relating to the activities of the Trust. The Trustees meet at least once a year.

Objectives and Activities

The main objective of the Trust is the promotion and encouragement of operatic art and in particular the funding of scholarships to students preparing for a career as a singer, director or dramaturg. It achieves this through grant making.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the year.

Achievement and Performance

The Trust has established its grant making policy to achieve its objects for the public benefit. Grants were made in line with this policy during the year as set out in note 4 to the accounts.

Financial Review

The Trustees are aware of their duty to apply income funds of the charity within a reasonable time of their receipt and of the need to justify any income reserves. Investment income reduced to £36,737 (2019: £45,447) and the cost of charitable activities increased to £128,909 (2019: £101,460), due to grants made. At 31 December 2020, the level of total reserves was £1,587,499 (2019: £1,697,846). The Trustees' policy is to apply income and capital within their powers to meet anticipated charitable expenditure. The charity uses its investments to generate income. The value of investments was broadly stable in the year, showing a reduction in value of £6,400 (0.4%).

The Trustees held the assets of the trust in accordance with their powers during the year. The Trustees have absolute discretion to invest the funds of the Trust; no restrictions are placed on these powers. The Trustees' policy for the selection of investments for the charity is to seek to produce maximum overall returns (whether capital or income). They are willing to accept a moderate degree of risk within the portfolio.

Future plans

The Trust intends to continue its long-standing support of The National Opera Studio, the Oxford Lieder Festival and English National Opera and to keep under review new initiatives.

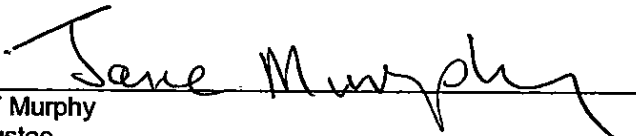
Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the accounts

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing those accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 23rd July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:


J F Murphy
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to The Trustees of the Nicholas John Trust
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Nicholas John Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Katherine Wilkes FCA
Critchleys Audit LLP
Beaver House
23 – 38 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford
OX1 2EP

...19 October 2021...

The Nicholas John Trust
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Income and endowments from:				
Investment income	2	36,737	36,737	45,447
Total income		<u>36,737</u>	<u>36,737</u>	<u>45,447</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	3	11,775	11,775	11,923
Charitable activities	4	128,909	128,909	101,460
Total expenditure		<u>140,684</u>	<u>140,684</u>	<u>113,383</u>
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(6,400)	(6,400)	98,958
Net movement in funds		<u>(110,347)</u>	<u>(110,347)</u>	<u>31,022</u>
Reconciliation of Funds				
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2020		1,697,846	1,697,846	1,666,824
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2020		<u><u>1,587,499</u></u>	<u><u>1,587,499</u></u>	<u><u>1,697,846</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The Nicholas John Trust
Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Investments	8		1,544,561		1,561,917
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		48,058		141,025	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(5,120)</u>		<u>(5,096)</u>	
Net current assets			42,938		135,929
Total net assets			<u>1,587,499</u>		<u>1,697,846</u>
Funds:	10				
Unrestricted funds			1,587,499		1,697,846
Total funds			<u>1,587,499</u>		<u>1,697,846</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 23rd July 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:



Ms J F Murphy
Trustee

The notes numbered 1 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

1 Statement of Accounting Policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

General information and basis of Preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Legacies

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received. At this point income is recognised. On occasion legacies will be notified to the charity however it is not possible to measure the amount expected to be distributed. On these occasions, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed.

Investment income

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares. It includes dividends and interest. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

Costs of raising funds

This includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes.

Expenditure on charitable activities

These are costs incurred on the charitable activities, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives. Where unconditional grants are offered, this is accrued as soon as the recipient is notified of the grant, as this gives rise to a reasonable expectation that the recipient will receive the grants. Where grants are conditional relating to performance then the grant is only accrued when any unfulfilled conditions are outside of the control of the charity.

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Financial instruments

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Investments

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

2 Income from investments

	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Dividends	36,146	44,948
Interest	591	499
	<u>36,737</u>	<u>45,447</u>

The investment income was £36,737 (2019: £45,447) all of which was unrestricted in both 2019 and 2020.

3 Raising funds

	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Investment management fees	11,775	11,923
	<u>11,775</u>	<u>11,923</u>

Expenditure on raising funds was £11,775 (2019: £11,923) all of which was unrestricted in both 2019 and 2020.

4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs	Support costs	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Grants	126,700	2,209	128,909	101,460
	<u>126,700</u>	<u>2,209</u>	<u>128,909</u>	<u>101,460</u>

Support costs comprise

	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Governance Costs	2,160	2,080
Travel expenses	40	159
Other costs	9	121
	<u>2,209</u>	<u>2,360</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £128,909 (2019: £101,460) all of which was unrestricted in both 2019 and 2020.

The Nicholas John Trust
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

5 Governance costs

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Independent examiner's remuneration	2,160	2,080
	2,160	2,080

6 Analysis of grants

Recipients of grants to institutions:

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
National Opera Studio	105,000	70,000
The Academy of Ancient Music	3,500	-
Sloane Square Choral Society	1,100	1,100
London Song Festival	2,000	2,000
Oxford Lieder Festival	11,000	10,000
ENO	-	10,000
Morley College	3,000	6,000
Carice Singers	1,100	-
	126,700	99,100

7 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2019: £Nil)
Expenses were reimbursed to one Trustee amounting to £40 (2019: £199 to two Trustees).

8 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Valuation		
As at 1 January 2020	1,561,917	1,561,917
Additions	367,394	367,394
Disposals	(378,350)	(378,350)
Revaluation	(6,400)	(6,400)
As at 31 December 2020	1,544,561	1,544,561
Carrying amount		
As at 31 December 2020	1,544,561	1,544,561
As at 31 December 2019	1,561,917	1,561,917

The Nicholas John Trust
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	5,120	5,096
	<u>5,120</u>	<u>5,096</u>

10 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Gains, losses and transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	1,697,846	36,737	(140,684)	(6,400)	1,587,499
Total funds	<u>1,697,846</u>	<u>36,737</u>	<u>(140,684)</u>	<u>(6,400)</u>	<u>1,587,499</u>

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 December 2020 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Investments	1,544,561	1,544,561
Current assets	48,058	48,058
Current liabilities	(5,120)	(5,120)
Total net assets	<u>1,587,499</u>	<u>1,587,499</u>