LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1098680

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04556232
Registered	2003-07-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Lantern Arts Centre Tolverne Road London SW20 8RA
Phone	02089445794
Email	lac@lanternarts.org
Website	www.lanternarts.org

Activities

Objects: The Lantern Arts Centre exists to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of south west London. Having a strong Christian ethos, and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with Raynes Park Methodist Church, it seeks to include members of the local community, of all ages and abilities, as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.'

Activities: Lantern Arts Centre is a performing arts centre with a Christian ethos. It serves the local community by providing a wide range of performances, clubs and classes which all are welcome to attend and/or take part in. Activities include two performances a year, Childrens' Theatre Clubs, Cafe Studio and Theatre in Education - addressing topics such as bullying and obesity.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Merton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£174,955	£162,278	-	-
2023-08-31	£151,928	£148,690	-	-
2022-08-31	£134,700	£125,036	-	-
2021-08-31	£106,167	£86,636	-	-
2020-08-31	£114,248	£108,524	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David King	Chair	2024-10-01
Benedict O Hagan		2024-10-01
Dr Nina Van Gessel		2019-09-11
Gwenda Elliott		2019-09-11
KAY WINGATE		2013-03-09
PATRICIA RUTTER		2009-02-18
Sadie Cook		2024-10-01
Stephen Paul Humphrys		2022-06-06
Timothy Roy Barrow		2024-10-01
William Max Ostrom		2022-06-06

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LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1098680

Accounts

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2024

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No. 04556232

Charity No. 1098680

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1. INTRODUCTION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ending 31 August 2024

The Trustees of the Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) are pleased to present our annual report for the Year Ending 31 August 2024, including consolidated financial statements for the Charity. It meets the Companies Act requirements for a director's report and financial accounts.

The financial statements comply with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015).

About the Lantern Arts Centre

Founded around thirty years ago, the Lantern Arts Centre is an established and well-resourced community arts centre run year-round by permanent staff and volunteers.

As a faith-based charity the Lantern welcomes everyone in Raynes Park and beyond to its wide-ranging activities. These include affordably ticketed regular community productions, a thriving youth theatre and children's theatre club, dance, acting and singing classes, a community choir, film clubs, activities for toddlers and much more.

Our Supporters

We are very grateful to all those who support the Lantern Arts Centre.

Our financial supporters in this year were:

- Lantern Angels – our regular givers
- Lantern Arts Centre Community – one off donations
- Merton Giving Fund: Building Resilience
- Wimbledon Foundation Community Fund

2. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Chairman's Statement – Martin Welsh

The last year has continued to be a very busy and exciting time at the LAC. We have offered more activities and events than ever before, which has sometimes been challenging for our small but dedicated team, but also hugely rewarding for our whole community.

Heartfelt thanks go to our Artistic Director, Amy Phillips, and our Operations Manager, Steve Rees, who have led us so effectively over the year. Of course, we couldn't have accomplished all this without our fantastic team of staff and volunteers, so a huge thank you goes to all who have been involved!

There have been some changes to our team this year. In October Andrew Mc Bride stood down as a trustee, after more than 5 years on the board (and many, many more at the LAC and the LMC in numerous different roles). Huge thanks go to him for all his hard work, and it's wonderful to know that he will continue to be so involved at the Lantern in many other ways. In December Hannah Duncan stood down from her role as Hub Support Worker. She leaves us with our heartfelt thanks for everything she brought to this newly created role. In March, following a recruitment process, we were delighted to welcome Simona Masso as our new Hub Support Worker to continue this really important work. Finally, in July and August we interviewed a number of candidates to join the board for the coming year, and we look forward to welcoming some of them as new trustees in September.

Once again, I want to thank all those who support us financially. The loyal support of our regular givers, our Angels, continues to be a real blessing, especially with the cost of living so high at the moment. Thanks too for those organisations that have given us grant funding in the year, and to all involved in the application process. Everyone who has bought a ticket or subscribed to one of our activities, anyone who tapped the machine on the way home – your support is so important to us, and it is very gratefully received. By supporting us in this way you allow us to keep on offering what we do.

I also want to thank everybody who has given their time to the LAC this year, in whatever role. Our amazing volunteers are a huge part of what makes this place so special - thank you all so much for being part of our community.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Trustees once again for their help and support given so freely throughout the year. In March it was wonderful to finally be able to go back to having in-person trustee meetings after so long on Zoom!

We look forward to continuing our close collaboration with our friends at the LMC, not least with the exciting plans for the Lantern Centre Project as it continues to develop. And we want to carry on reaching an even wider group of our community, inviting them to share with us the joy of creative expression in the Arts, in a safe and caring environment where everyone is welcome.

Thank you everyone for helping us to keep the Lantern shining!

Martin Welsh – Chair of Trustees – Lantern Arts Centre

3. OPERATIONAL & ARTISTIC REPORTS

Operational Report – Stephen Rees

The Hub continues to go from strength to strength with opening hours extended to five hours a day for five days a week. Alongside serving as a local information centre, there are more low cost/free craft, games and exercise activities taking place on a regular basis. The Hub is also a place to visit for tea and a chat. This joint project between the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC) and LAC provides a safe space for local members of the community. It is hoped to extend the opening hours to Saturday morning with the use of volunteers in the next financial year.

This year one of the rehearsal spaces was upgraded. The room was re-decorated and a new floor installed, providing a space to hire, especially for dance and drama rehearsals. A new set of chairs was purchased for both the Rehearsal Studio and the Theatre Studio replacing the existing chairs which were over 25 years old. The main sanctuary stage lighting was upgraded with 4 new LED spotlights to enhance the main productions and improve energy efficiency.

Our annual average donation from regular givers has increased by over 5% in the 2023/24 period. Without the financial grants and generous support we receive, delivering our extensive programme of events and activities would be far more challenging. We remain extremely grateful to all those involved in supporting our work.

The Methodist Church's 'District Advance Fund' awarded a significant grant to the LMC to pursue the building project which is a joint venture with the LAC. A critical next step is to secure a long-term lease with the church, creating greater certainty for the LAC and allowing the LAC to invest further in the development of the building.

Artistic Report – Amy Phillips

The Autumn Term opened with a fantastic production of The Odyssey performed by the older members of the Children's Theatre Club. This was the start of acknowledging 25 years of the Children's Theatre Club run by Susie Pottinger. The celebratory year concluded with a performance event in July attended by over 100 children and a tea party in the main sanctuary.

December 2023's production of Jack & the Beanstalk included a large cast and crew with performers of all ages and abilities. This demonstrated our commitment to inclusivity programme with special pastoral support for cast members with additional needs. It was a complete sell out. More than 1,000 tickets were sold over six performances and a further 60 tickets sold for the preview night.
The Spring Production of The Herd written by Rory Kinnear portrayed a humorous and emotional look at a family living with the impact of both severe mental and physical disability.

Our ever-popular Dessert Lounge fund-raiser took place in February and was another complete sell out. The event provided a wealth of fantastic musicians led by Johnny Keefe, whilst the audience enjoyed delicious patisserie from top chef Martin Powell. This raised over £2,000.

In the Summer Term, Tim Vine hosted a Cabaret fund-raising event over two performances. This showcased both acts from previous productions, performances by the Youth Choir, the Lantern Arts Choir and a number of new acts. Including ticket sales, this event raised over £7,000 to support the LAC.

First Act ran for a period of ten weeks during the Summer Term. This course offers a safe environment for the students with a wide range of experience to explore acting and develop their skills under expert tuition. It is

assisted by a number of volunteers. This course allows participants to perform to a smaller audience of family and friends and has proved a successful springboard to participating in Main House productions.

Other smaller productions included a return of Irene Serre with her gypsy jazz band, Paul Kerensa's humorous and historical take on the first religious radio broadcast and the return of a one-man A Christmas Carol accompanied by the Lantern
Choir. The Lantern Choir's Christmas Concert focussed on a Shepherd's theme and was accompanied by a chamber orchestra. In Spring 2024, the choir had the opportunity to sing "Swing Time" at St Mark's in Wimbledon accompanied by a ten piece band. Their final summer concert saw a return to Wimbledon with a flower theme showcasing songs from classical to modern pop.

All our wonderful creative groups, called 'Lantern Lights', continued to be well supported
Overall, the Lantern Arts Centre continues to shine its light in our local community and beyond. Once again, I am delighted to report that we continue to welcome new performers of all ages to the Arts Centre and our ticket sales continue to grow with most of our events and shows full or sold out.

4. PURPOSES & ACTIVITIES

As set out in the LAC Articles of Association updated in July 2013, the purposes of the Charity are to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of Southwest London. Having a strong Christian ethos and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church (formerly Raynes Park Methodist Church), the Charity seeks to include members of the local community of all ages and abilities. They participate as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.

To achieve these objectives, the Charity's activities include the following:

For Children & Young People

Children love stories and **'Once Upon a Storytime'** has become a firm favourite for local children and their parents. Led by our Artistic Director Amy Phillips, up to twenty young children are welcomed each week in term time and participate in captivating stories, beautifully read.

The Lantern **Children's Theatre Club** has six age-tiered groups of around 100 participants for ages three to nineteen years old. Usually meeting weekly during term time, classes are designed for all children to feel safe, get involved, have fun, grow in confidence, develop independence and life skills whilst tackling key topics. Each group works towards an end of term performance for friends and family, and school holiday projects are a regular activity.

The Lantern Youth Choir continues to increase in number. This choir runs every Saturday morning covering a range of genres from favourite musicals to pop, rock and classical. In September 2024 they performed at the Friends' Breakfast.

The Lantern Arts Centre's fully inclusive policy means children with SEND and physical needs, or who are learning English, can take part. Families can also take advantage of the offer of bursaries.

The outlook for the club in the year ahead is very promising with a diverse programme of activities planned. As always, new participants will be welcome to join by our enthusiastic and supportive team aided by community volunteers.

For Lovers of Drama

The Lantern Arts Centre's main **house productions** and **studio performances** are keenly anticipated by the local community. Main House productions included Jack & The Beanstalk and the Herd. Smaller productions included Paul Kerensa, A Christmas Carol and an evening with Rory Kinnear.

The Free Film Club, **Silver Screen**, continues to run a regular programme of films with around 40 people per screening. This popular and much needed activity has grown in numbers through word of mouth and connectivity as our marketing has increased. Attendees continue to express their appreciation for the Club.

Our long-standing **Costume Store** is run by a dedicated team of volunteers for main house productions and external hire. Offering carefully curated items from a keenly priced collection of more than ten thousand pieces, the team offers expert advice and guidance. The store continues to open every Tuesday and now has a paid manager.

For Lovers of Music

The **Lantern Community Choir**, our own in-house choir, rehearses on a weekly basis through-out term time and aims to give at least one performance each term. The concerts continue to attract audiences of 80 plus and the choir are now performing regularly with a band. They also sing at special events for the Lantern Methodist Church including the annual Christmas Carol Service.

The **Lantern Handbell Group** formed in 2017, is much loved by the players and audiences alike and continues to meet every Saturday morning.

The **Lantern Youth Choir** for children aged 13 to 16 continues to increase in numbers. The sessions are planned to be vibrant and fun Saturday morning sessions covering a range of genres from favourite musicals to pop, rock and classical. The Youth Choir provides opportunities to perform at Lantern events, develop vocal technique and make new friends.

Music continues to grow and flourish at the Arts Centre. For example, Dessert Lounge showcases diverse musical ability. Our regular house band accompanied Jack and the Beanstalk. Shows in our Studio Theatre included Irene Serre.

Use of A Capella singing in some of the CTC productions again showcases our younger members' musical talents, and we look forward to seeing them taking part in future productions at the Arts Centre.

For Lovers of Visual Art

Using the modest first floor foyer space, the LAC has an established programme of art work by local artists each lasting about two months. Exhibitions have included a range of artists using varying styles and media. Through this, the LAC provides an opportunity to exhibit work either as a solo or joint show. No up-front charge is made but the LAC takes a modest percentage of any sales. As well as providing artists with an affordable venue to exhibit, it also enriches the overall life of the LAC by celebrating the visual arts alongside performance arts with which the LAC is usually associated.

For Lovers of Dance

Swing Dance is a weekly dance class for adults hosted by two very experienced dancers teaching the fundamentals of the lively partnered dance which originated in 1920s in New York's Harlem. Classes of up to 10 people learn authentic steps of Lindy Hop and Charleston.

For Visiting Groups using the Lantern Arts Centre

The Lantern Arts Centre has two studios normally in regular use by many groups. These include theatre companies, dance troupes, orchestras, rehearsing for shows based both in London and around the UK. In addition, regular classes are held including ballet, street dance, swing dance, flamenco, yoga, zumba and pilates. These bring a considerable number of people to the Lantern Arts Centre who then become involved in our other events and activities.

Our Volunteers

The heart of the Lantern Arts Centre is the community it serves. It is from the community that so many people come to support what we do.

Today, more than fifty volunteers from across Southwest London are making an irreplaceable difference. They generously commit their time and skills to help run our busy community arts centre, and clearly relish the challenges. Many are involved in our theatre productions on stage, or by supporting the choreography and direction, or for musical production. Then there's their contribution to technical delivery, including stage management, set construction, costuming, props, lighting, and sound. While behind the scenes our volunteers provide essential day in, day out support for building maintenance, marketing, fund raising and disability access.

The Trustees and staff are immensely grateful to everyone who is part of what we do and each year welcome new volunteers to join us as we grow. They are an essential part of making the Lantern Arts Centre what it is today and for its future development.

Feedback from our Community

"It makes a difference to every local resident. A place to be, ask and feel welcomed."

"A warm and friendly hub as I struggle with my mental health having moved. It helps me to be motivated. A home from home place. I had a spring in my step."

"Thank you for what you do for the community in Raynes Park. Please don't stop what you are doing."

"LOVED having a place and chance to make new friends. A local option that's FREE, to meet new friends and build community."

"This has really made such a big difference for me as I now feel more comfortable and confident with the help I now need to seek. Thank you for all your help…much appreciated."

"Lovely to have a local community facility which welcomes all ages, cultures etc."

"Makes me feel less isolated."

"Fantastic space for community arts."

"Ideal venue to host events with medium sized audience. Great acoustics and comfortable cushion chairs appropriate sized stage and good visibility from all angles!"

"Fantastic costume hire facility run by really helpful and friendly staff."

5. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for governance, compliance, strategy, risk management and setting headline objectives. To this end, Trustees receive regular updates, including full reports on activities and financial information and monthly management accounts. Business planning and strategic plans are discussed and agreed by the Trustees at Board meetings. The Trustees convene at least 6 times per year.

The Management Reference Group is a supporting committee for the Board, consisting of four Trustees, that meets at least three times a year. The purpose of the Management Reference Group is to ensure the adequate management of staff on behalf of the Board, including monitoring performance, and to oversee Trustee recruitment. To this end the Management Reference Group acts as the line management function for employed staff.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity.

Trustees are appointed by members of the Charity on an annual basis. There is no maximum length of time that a Trustee can serve. On appointment Trustees sign a code of conduct and a register of interests, which is renewed annually.

When a Trustee retires from the Board a full recruitment process is overseen by the Management Reference Group, with appointments decided by the Board. Recruitment is undertaken on a skills basis, with skills gaps amongst existing Trustees identified and sought out within new Trustees. Trustees' induction and ongoing involvement includes visits to the activities delivered by the Charity, engagement with company members, meetings with staff and volunteers and undertaking fundraising activities for the Charity.

To facilitate effective operations, the Trustees employ an Artistic Director and the services of an Operations Manager to whom they have delegated authority for the operational matters of the Charity. Working together, the Artistic Director and Operations Manager have responsibility for the management of all other employees, contractors and volunteers to ensure that the Charity's activities are delivered and upheld against the plans and priorities of the Board. The charity continues to employ a Marketing & Arts Centre Assistant.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility for setting pay for all employed posts and for the services of the Operations Manager. Pay is reviewed on an annual basis.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that can impact on the performance of the Charity, some of which are beyond the control of Trustees.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to its finances and operations and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Funds are raised principally through the Charity's own classes, productions and lettings as well as individual donors, known as Friends, and local business support. The Charity is indebted to its supporters and in particular its Angels (regular givers) for the financial stability they offer. The Charity is committed to acting with honesty, integrity, respect and transparency with its donors. Its policy is not to use the services of professional fundraisers nor solicit funds directly from the public. No complaints were received in the year in relation to our fundraising activities.

Trustees / Members

Changes to the Board of Trustees that took place within the reporting period are identified below.

Martin Welsh (Chair)	appointed as Trustee 14/05/2014 - Chairman since 2019
Michael Fuller (Secretary)	appointed as Trustee 24/06/2009 - Secretary since 2010
Alan Brown	appointed as Trustee 09/01/2008
Patricia Rutter	appointed as Trustee 18/02/2009
Kay Wingate	appointed as Trustee 09/03/2013
Deacon Dawn Canham	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2019
Gwen Elliot	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
Nina Van Gessel	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
James Hebbourn	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
William Ostrom	appointed as Trustee 29/03/2022
Stephen Humphrys	appointed as Trustee 01/09/2022 – Treasurer
Andrew McBride	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2018 – resigned 12/10/2023

Patrons of the Lantern Arts Centre during the period were:

Fiona Castle, Tim Vine, Steve Price, Stephen Hammond, Michael Arthur MBE, Tim Boniface (Pastoral Patron)

Company Registration Number	4556232
Registered Charity Number	1098680
Registered Office	Tolverne Road, Raynes Park London, SW20 8RA
Secretary	Michael Fuller
Treasurer:	Stephen Humphrys
Bankers	Co-Operative Bank plc PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountants since 01/09/2022	Matthew Hunt Digivolve Accountants Delta House Bridge Road Haywards Heath RH16 1UA

Public Benefit

As a registered charity, the Lantern Arts Centre Trustees give close regard to their obligations to report the public benefit of its charitable purposes as defined by the Charities Act 2011. Our public benefit determines what it means for the LAC to be a charity, providing focus for the Charity's objectives.

How the LAC serves the community is summarised throughout the report. Measuring the difference (impact) that the Charity makes is a focus for the future. In summary of the Charity's purpose, the LAC:

- Carefully consider accessibility options for those on low incomes whether attending classes, events or productions
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for all age ranges to take part in arts activities and to explore their creative powers
- Develop young people in direction, creative and performance skills to foster their ambitions to progress to further education or employment

Related Parties

Since its inception the LAC has had a close relationship with the Lantern Methodist Church (previously Raynes Park Methodist Church) from which it was founded. The church views the Arts Centre as an integral part of its outreach to the local community and at present three of the LAC Trustees are members of this church with two others in regular attendance.

The premises that the LAC occupies, form part of the Lantern Centre (owned by the Lantern Methodist Church). The parties occupying the Lantern Centre are the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC), Lantern Hub (HUB), Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) and Lantern Costume Store (LCS).

The LAC occupies its principal space under license to the church with the facility to use the main church area for large productions three times a year.

Internal Controls and Risk Management

The Trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has in place an appropriate system of controls, financial or otherwise, to provide reasonable assurance that the Charity is operating effectively and in line with Charity Commission guidelines.

The systems of financial control were continually reviewed and improved where necessary during the year to provide reasonable assurance against material misstatement or loss.

An annual planning and budgeting process is in place and the Charity is developing a risk management plan, which will be regularly reviewed throughout the year. This identifies the most significant risks to the Charity, orders them by likelihood of occurrence and their impact, and indicates what action is in hand or is necessary to manage the risk. These include key areas such as Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Fire Safety and Data Protection.

6. OBJECTIVES

The Trustees have agreed the following objectives.

Objective 1:

Maintain a high-quality programme by providing a community performance venue for the purposes of local artistic expression and skill development. This objective will be met by:

- Providing opportunities for the local community to take part in, in order to explore their own creativity and develop, learn and enhance skills related to all forms of art.
- Actively seeking out professional artists to perform or exhibit their work.
- Presenting and performing work which explores culturally relevant issues alongside family-friendly activities, events, and performances.
- Diversifying and increasing the breadth of our offer across the artistic spectrum with a focus on literature, art, music, dance, and comedy. This also includes expanding our digital and online offer.
- Nurturing talent within our local community by offering opportunities to amateur performers and also a range of local artists.
- Widening our team of directors and technical crew in order to become more sustainable, increase our income and enhance our ability to support more regular programming across a diverse range of culturally expressive performance and for income revenue.

Objective 2:

Deliver a programme of accessible events and activities which reduce isolation and improve wellbeing in young people and adults in Raynes Park and the surrounding community. This objective will be met by:

- A programme which provides hands on, workshop-based opportunities for people at all skill levels to explore their own creativity in a safe environment.
- Offering an inclusive programme which pays particular attention to, and addresses the needs of, minority and disempowered groups.
- Supporting, and working in partnership with, grass roots community initiatives which aim to improve the lives of people in the local area.
- Developing and promoting our approach to inclusion, to ensure that all of our events and activities are accessible to people with a range of needs.
- Using arts engagement to improve the quality of life through arts engagement for those who would not normally be able to access the arts. This involves planning ahead in order to secure funding in time to offer subsidised places.
- Increasing our offer to young people by ensuring that activities are targeted and relevant.
- Ensuring financial accessibility across all of our programme so that access to the arts is not prohibited due to an individual's financial status.
- Strengthening our long-term partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church through active collaboration in order to provide holistic pastoral support and to celebrate our rich Christian heritage.

Objective 3:

Safeguard the Lantern Arts Centre so that the Charity can continue to serve the local community and meets its obligations of public benefit into the future. This objective will be met by:

- Developing a 3 to 5-year strategy, alongside a robust risk register, in order to mitigate as far as possible against risks which will impact on the sustainability of the LAC.

- Diversifying our income through increasing our regular donors, our lettings provision and targeting applications for grant funding in line with the Charities objectives.
- Building up and maintaining the Charity's reserves at a robust level and investing in our technical and office infrastructure
- Securing a leasehold tenure from the Lantern Methodist Church on the core premises required by the LAC to undertake its regular activities.
- Developing our online and marketing strategy in order to increase our income.
- Building our volunteer base, seeking to draw in skills particularly in the areas of marketing and technical expertise.

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The Charity's income for the year was £174,955 (2023: £151,928) against expenditure of £162,278 (2023: £148,690) leading to a surplus of £12,677 (2022: £3,238).

In a typical year, the LAC generates the majority of its income through donations and charitable activities, such as its productions and classes.

Expenditure increased by £13,588 compared to the previous year in line with increased activity, as the centre was becoming increasingly busier.

The Trustees continue to closely monitor the performance of the Charity's activities, particularly in light of the historic COVID-19 situation and the continuously changing government restrictions that may impact performing arts and community groups in the future. The Trustees proactively seek to develop a programme of activities that ensures the LAC continues to be accessible to wide audiences on a range of mediums throughout these difficult times.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are committed to further stabilise the financial future of the LAC, particularly since past uncertain times. The purpose of the reserves policy is to mitigate against any risk to ongoing activities, which may be caused by an unforeseen increase in expenditure, incoming funds falling short of expectations or a temporary cash shortage due to the periodical nature of the LAC's activities.

The Trustees undertake an annual risk assessment to determine the level of reserves that need to be maintained. Reserves include restricted and unrestricted funds. Only the unrestricted funds can be used at the discretion of the Trustees, i.e. to address the above risks. The restricted funds may only be used for their specific purpose. Total fund balances carried forward are £79,786, made up of £8,208 of restricted funds and £71,578 of unrestricted funds.

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain at least 3 months operating costs as unrestricted reserves to meet immediate commitments and to enable a timely reaction to any downturn in activities. The Trustees consider the level of reserves held at Year End to be reasonable.

8. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make sound judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and requirements of the Charities Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015).

Audit

As noted on the Trustees' statement on the Balance Sheet, the trustees have taken advantage of the exemption from audit applicable to the Charity and these accounts have not been audited.
The Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 1S of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on 16.04.2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Welsh
Chair of Trustees
Lantern Arts Centre

9. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Note	funds	Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income:					
Grants and donations	3	33,218	11,288	44,506	23,524
Other income		847	0	847	197
Services to Lantern Centre		0	0	0	0
Incoming Resources from charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	4	129,602	0	129,602	128,207
Investment income					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
Total Incoming Resources		**163,667**	**11,288**	**174,955**	**151,928**
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising costs of grants and donations	5,7	7,351	0	7,351	558
Charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and centres	6,7	145,744	9,183	154,927	148,132
Total Resources Expended		**153,095**	**9,183**	**162,278**	**148,690**
Transfer Between Funds					
Net Movement In Funds					
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		10,572	2,105	12,677	3,238
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2023		61,006	6,103	67,109	63,871
Restatement of reserves		--	--	--	--
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2024		**71,578**	**8,208**	**79,786**	**67,109**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Other debtors		1,260		647	
Cash at bank and in hand		91,087		81,986	
Pre-payment		500		0	
		92,847		82,633	
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	8	13,061		15,524	
Net Current Assets			79,786		67,109
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			**79,786**		**67,109**
Accumulated Funds					
Restricted funds	11	0		0	
Unrestricted funds	11	79,786		67,109	
Total charity funds			**79,786**		**67,109**

Audit Exemption

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on 16.04.2025 and signed on their behalf by:



M Welsh
Chairman of Trustees

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting basis and standards

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and 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 (FRS102)-Charities (SORP 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

(b) Going Concern

The Trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The level of reserves held at year end is sufficient to maintain basic office expenditures for a period of 6 —9 months. Ongoing and continuous contingency planning and risk management mean the LAC is well prepared to deal with adversities. The LAC receives a strong level of support from its "Angels" who donate on a regular basis as well as from its wider company who volunteer much of their time to support the activities. In addition, the Trustees have formed a new Fundraising subcommittee to work on further diversifying the LAC's income base. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

(c) Incoming Resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding are of a general nature and are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial trading activities is recognised as earned (as the related goods and services are provided). Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided).

Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is deferred when; Admission fees or performance related grants are received in advance of the performances or events to which they relate.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that result in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds. Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the staging of

concerts, stage production, art exhibitions and educational programmes and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

(**e) Irrecoverable VAT**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

(f) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:-
Unrestricted General Funds - This can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted Funds- which may only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

(**i) Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount can be measured or estimated reliably.

2. Constitution

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10.

3. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Grants	0	9,183	9,183
Donations	22,609	2,105	24,714
Gift Aid	10,609	0	10,609
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	33,218	11,288	44,506

Prior Year Comparative (2023)

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2023**
	£	**£**	**£**
Grants	0	6,103	6,103
Donations	15,151	0	15,151
Gift Aid	2,270	0	2,270
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	17,421	6,103	23,524

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	53,176	0	53,176
Productions	45,724	0	45,724
Lettings	28,366	0	28,366
Other	2,336	0	2,336
	129,602	0	129,602

Prior Year Comparative (2023)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	2023
	£	£	£
Classes	46,031	0	46,031
Productions	43,715	0	43,715
Lettings	29,603	0	29,603
Other	8,458	0	8,458
	128,207	0	128,207

5. Analysis of expenditure on costs of generating funds

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	7,351	7,351

Prior Year Comparative (2023)

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	558	558

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

The charity allocates its support costs between the three activities undertaken as shown in the table below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	25,925	37,642	63,567
Productions	22,292	32,367	54,659
Lettings	13,829	20,080	33,909
Other	1,139	1,653	2,792
Total	**63,185**	**91,742**	**154,927**

Prior Year Comparative (2023)

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2023**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	17,107	19,414	36,521
Productions	26,027	36,487	62,514
Lettings	16,077	25,228	41,305
Other	6,676	1,116	7,792
Total	**65,887**	**82,245**	**148,132**

7. Analysis of Support Costs

	Total	**Total**
	2024	**2023**
	£	**£**
Contractor Fees	19,895	19,414
Salaries	45,332	36,487
Advertising & Promotions	2,260	2,928
Office Costs	17,198	13,300
Printing, Postage & Stationery	2,553	2,307
Travel & Subsistence	1,624	1,633
Accountancy Fees	1,080	1,440
Professional Fees		
Bank Charges	1,800	2,160
Insurance	0	1,461
Centre Costs	7,351	558
Sunday Expenses	0	0
	99,093	**81,688**

During the year, no Trustee received remuneration for their services as Trustee (2023-£Nil) However, A. McBride was paid £87 for Tech Services provided to the Lantern Arts Centre to support its activities (2023- £Nil).
During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2023-£Nil). During the year, no Trustees received any expenses. (2023-£Nil).

8. Creditors

	Total	**Total**
	2024	**2023**
	£	**£**
Wages Payable	0	1,232
Taxes	901	395
Other Creditors	133	0
Trade Creditors	1,487	0
Deferred Income	10,540	13,897

9. Support Staff

	Total	**Total**
	2024	**2023**
	£	**£**
Wages and Salaries	44,415	35,946
Social Security	0	0
Pension Costs	917	541

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	**2023**
	Number	**Number**
administration	3	2

During the year, no employee was paid a salary above **£**60,000 in 2024 (2023-**£**Nil). Key management personnel comprise of the Trustees. No remuneration was paid to the Trustees.

10. Related Parties

No related party transactions have taken place during the year.

11. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of unrestricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2023	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**(to)/from Reserves funds**	**Fund at 31 August 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
General Fund	61,006	163,667	153,095	0	71,578

Analysis of restricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2023	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**(to)/from Reserves funds**	**Fund at 31 August 2024**
	£	£	£	£	£
Performance Grant	6,103	9,183	9,183	0	6,103
Other	0	2,105	0	0	2,105
Total	6,103	11,288	9,183	0	8,208

Restricted funds represent grants or donations given to perform or support the expenditure in specific productions or work in the theatrical field.

10. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 15 to 22.

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 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011Act) 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.



Matthew Hunt (FMAAT)
Digivolve Accountants
Delta House
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1UA

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1098680

Accounts

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No. 04556232

Charity No. 1098680

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1. INTRODUCTION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

The Trustees of the Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) are pleased to present our annual report for the Year Ending 31 August 2023, including consolidated financial statements for the Charity. It meets the Companies Act requirements for a director's report and financial accounts.

The financial statements comply with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015).

About the Lantern Arts Centre

Founded thirty years ago, the Lantern Arts Centre is an established and well-resourced community arts centre run year-round by permanent staff and volunteers.

As a faith-based charity the Lantern welcomes everyone in Raynes Park and beyond to its wide-ranging activities. These include affordably ticketed regular community productions, a thriving youth theatre and children's theatre club, dance, acting and singing classes, a community choir, film clubs, activities for toddlers and much more.

Our Supporters

We are very grateful to all those who support the Lantern Arts Centre.

Our financial supporters in this year were:

- Lantern Angels – our regular givers
- Lantern Arts Centre Community – one off donations
- Merton Giving Fund: Building Resilience – Grant to support the hub
- Wimbledon Community Fund – Grant to support the hub

2. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Chairman's Statement – Martin Welsh

The last year has been a very busy and exciting time at the LAC. We have offered more activities and events than ever before, which has sometimes been challenging for our small but dedicated team, but also hugely rewarding for our whole community.

Heartfelt thanks go to our Artistic Director, Amy Phillips, and our Operations Manager, Steve Rees, who have worked so effectively over the year. Of course, we couldn't have accomplished all this without our fantastic team of staff and volunteers, so a huge thank you goes to all who have been involved!

Our team has continued to grow this year, with some exciting developments for two of our prized Joint Projects, which are conceived and managed in collaboration with the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC) – The Costume Store and The Lantern Centre Hub. In the Costume Store in February we welcomed the appointment of Georgie Talbot as Costume Lead, working as a contractor to support our wonderful talented team of volunteers in the costume treasure trove every Tuesday. Following a successful grant application to Merton Giving at the end of 2022 we were also able to recruit a Lantern Centre Support Worker, and in May 2023 Hannah Duncan joined the team. Based in the Hub (formerly the Lantern Coffee House) Hannah fulfils a valuable role welcoming people into the building, signposting the events and activities that are available at the Lantern as well as services that are available more widely in Merton. In June we were delighted to be awarded a further grant by the Wimbledon Community Foundation allowing us to extend this role into 2024 and hopefully beyond.

It's great to be able to look to the future with excitement at all that is going on, but it's also important to look back too. In May we heard that our Honorary Patron, the wonderful John Davis, had very sadly passed away. It is no exaggeration to say that without John, the LAC probably wouldn't exist today. The Lantern Methodist Church was John's home for 90 years, and it was where he first set up a theatre group which eventually developed into the Lantern Arts Centre in the 1990s. In 2002 John was one of our founding members as the LAC became a separate charity and he continued to serve faithfully as a trustee for many years before moving away from Raynes Park in 2018. I speak on behalf of everyone at the LAC when I say how very proud we are to continue the great work that he helped to start.

I want to thank all those who support us financially. The loyal support of our regular givers, our Angels, continues to be a real blessing, especially with the cost of living so high at the moment. Thanks too for those organisations that have given us grant funding in the year, and to all involved in the application process. Everyone who has bought a ticket or subscribed to one of our activities, anyone who tapped the machine on the way home – your support is so important to us, and it is very gratefully received. By supporting us in this way you allow us to keep on offering what we do. I also want to thank everybody who has given their time to the LAC this year, in whatever role. Our amazing volunteers are a huge part of what makes this place so special - thank you all so much for being part of our community.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Trustees once again for their help and support given so freely throughout the year.

We look forward to continuing our close collaboration with our friends at the LMC, not least with the exciting plans for the Lantern Centre Project as it continues to develop. And we want to carry on reaching

an even wider group of our community, inviting them to share with us the joy of creative expression in the Arts, in a safe and caring environment where everyone is welcome.

Thank you everyone for helping us to keep the Lantern shining!

Martin Welsh – Chair of Trustees – Lantern Arts Centre

3. OPERATIONAL & ARTISTIC REPORTS

Operational Report – Stephen Rees

A significant development in the life of the Lantern Arts Centre in Autumn 2022 was the opening of "The Lantern Hub". This joint project between LMC and LAC provides a safe space for local members of the community to visit. Assisted by a grant from Merton Giving we were able to provide a part-time worker. The Hub serves as a local information centre, a place where various low-cost/free activities take place or just somewhere for people to come and have a cup of tea and a chat.

The addition of a marketing assistant to the salaried staff has made a big impact; not only helping to ensure that both our Christmas Production and Spring Play were almost full capacity, but also spreading the workload from existing staff while delivering better quality electronic and paper-based marketing resources.

Our annual average donation from regular givers has increased by over 10% in the 2022/23 period. Without the financial grants and generous support we receive, delivering our extensive programme of events and activities would be far more challenging. We remain extremely grateful to all those involved in supporting our work.

The increasing size and complexity of productions meant the need for an upgrade of the sound system. A new sound desk was purchased providing greater flexibility for musicals with large bands and more channels to allow the use of more radio microphones.

A decision was made to create a paid role in The Costume Store to support the increase in both external hiring and costuming in-house productions.

The building project saw a pivotal moment when the President and Vice President of the Methodist Church visited the Lantern Centre. Feedback from the visit was positive and helped identify the availability of grants from the Methodist Conference and determine some of the next steps in establishing a more secure home for the Lantern Arts Centre in a building that is prepared for the future in terms of its infrastructure, layout and facilities.

Artistic Report – Amy Phillips

The autumn term opened with a fantastic jazz night performed by Irena Serra & Tim Boniface, a patron and long-time performer at the Arts Centre. This was quickly followed by Morgan James with 'Me and George. My stories....His Songs', a talented performer telling his rich life story via the songs of George Michael - heartfelt, funny and fascinating.

As an Arts Centre we are committed to an inclusive programme and our annual pantomime is an excellent example of this. This year's production of 'Cinderella' included a huge cast and crew with performers of all ages and abilities.

It is always great to welcome back performers who have learnt their stage skills in the Children's Theatre Club and so we were delighted to book Daniel Lambert into the Studio Theatre with fellow comedian Daniel Anenou in January 2023 with their show: 'Deaf Daniel, Black Daniel' - a biographical stand-up comedy show if you like - and very funny!

The Spring production of 'Blue Stockings' included a cast and crew of around 60 people and portrayed the plight of female students in the early 1900's striving for equal educational rights and the right to graduate. The emotive subject matter provoked an incredible reaction from audiences including several standing ovations. All five shows were sold out.

Our ever-popular Dessert Lounge took place in February. Tickets for this event sold out within a week of going live. The event provided a wealth of fantastic musicians led by Johnny Keefe, whilst the audience enjoyed delicious patisserie from top chef Martin Powell.

In the summer term, we ran 'First Act', our 10-week acting course for adults with a class of 15 - suitable for complete beginners and more experienced actors. The course ended in a lively and fun showcase as always, this time in the Studio Theatre.

At the end of May once again we hosted 'You Choose', based on the best-selling book by Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodheart, produced by Nonsense Room productions. This event played to sell-out audiences.

Just before our final production of the year, we hosted an Edinburgh preview, 'Madame Chandelier's Opera Party for Kids' which introduces opera and classical music to the younger generation in a fun way.

Based on the original musical Half a Sixpence, our summer production of 'Kipps - The New Half A Sixpence Musical' took place in July 2023. We had a fantastic band of nine musicians along with another large and talented cast and crew. Audiences numbers were very healthy and the creative team used a thrust stage to great effect.

The Lantern Choir had a strong year with three main concerts including performing at the Lantern Methodist Church Carol Service whilst also giving a rendition of Faure's Requiem at one Sunday Service. Their Spring Concert when 'Opera Meets Broadway' hit a record choir audience of 110 and also included a performance from the Lantern Youth Choir, who have also gone from strength to strength after starting in April 2023.

Our wonderful creative groups, called 'Lantern Lights', continue to be successful and well attended (The Lantern Costume Store, Silver Screen, Children's Theatre Club and Youth Theatre, Lantern Bells, First Act, Lantern Arts Choir, Lantern Youth Choir, Swing Dance, the Lantern Book Club, Once Upon a Storytime and the Lantern Playzone). We have also enjoyed a wonderful rotating gallery of local artists.

Overall, the Lantern Arts Centre continues to bring our community together to enjoy a range of artistic opportunities and high-quality entertainment. We continue to see a big increase in ticket sales as well as interest in all we offer from many different people young and old.

4. PURPOSES & ACTIVITIES

As set out in the LAC Articles of Association updated in July 2013, the purposes of the Charity are to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of Southwest London. Having a strong Christian ethos and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church (formerly Raynes Park Methodist Church), the Charity seeks to include members of the local community of all ages and abilities. They participate as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.

To achieve these objectives, the Charity's activities include the following:

For Children & Young People

Children love stories and **'Once Upon a Storytime'** has become a firm favourite for local children and their parents. Led by our Artistic Director Amy Phillips, up to twenty young children are welcomed each week in term time and participate in captivating stories beautifully read.

The Lantern **Children's Theatre Club** has six age-tiered groups of around 100 participants for ages three to nineteen years old. Usually meeting weekly during term time, classes are designed for all children to feel safe, get involved, have fun, grow in confidence and develop independence and life skills whilst tackling key topics. Each group works towards an end of term performance for friends and family, and school holiday projects are a regular activity.

The Lantern Youth Choir started last year and continues to increase in number. This choir runs every Saturday morning covering a range of genres from favourite musicals to pop, rock and classical. In summer 2023 they performed at the main Lantern Arts Choir.

The Lantern Arts Centre's fully inclusive policy means children with SEND and physical needs, or who are learning English, can take part. Families can also take advantage of the offer of bursaries.

The outlook for the club in the year ahead is very promising with a diverse programme of activities planned. And as always, new participants will be welcomed to join by our enthusiastic and supportive team aided by community volunteers.

For Lovers of Drama

The Lantern Arts Centre's main **house productions** and **studio performances** are keenly anticipated by the local community. Main House productions included Cinderella, Blue Stockings and Kipps. Smaller productions included Deaf Daniel, Black Daniel.

The Free Film Club, **Silver Screen**, continues to run a regular programme of films with between 30 and 40 people per screening. This popular and much needed activity has grown in numbers through word of mouth and our increasingly effective marketing. Attendees continue to express their appreciation for the Club.

Our own long-standing **Costume Store** is run by a dedicated team of volunteers for main house productions and external hire. Usually relied on by many local primary and secondary schools, parents, local amateur and professional theatre groups and individuals, it reopened on a more restricted basis during the pandemic. Offering carefully curated items from a keenly priced collection of more than ten

thousand pieces, the team offers expert advice and guidance and continue to open every Tuesday now with a paid manager.

For Lovers of Music

The **Lantern Community Choir**, our own in-house choir, rehearses on a weekly basis through-out term time and aims to give at least one performance each term. The concerts continue to attract audiences of 80 plus and are now performing regularly with a band. They also sing at special events for the Lantern Methodist Church including a performance of Faure's Requiem and the annual Christmas Carol Service.

The **Lantern Handbell Group** formed in 2017, is much loved by the players and audiences alike and continues to meet every Saturday morning.

The **Lantern Youth Choir** for children aged 13 to 16 continues to increase in numbers. These are planned to be vibrant and fun Saturday morning sessions covering a range of genres from favourite musicals to pop, rock and classical. Providing opportunities to perform at Lantern events, develop vocal technique and make new friends.

Music continues to grow and flourish at the Arts Centre. For example, Dessert Lounge showcases diverse musical ability. Our regular four-piece house band accompanied Cinderella. We were also pleased to accompany this year's production of Kipps with a nine-piece band who were all volunteers. Shows in our Studio Theatre included Morgan James' production of "Me and George" which included songs by George Michael.

Use of acapella singing in some of the CTC productions again showcases our younger members' musical talents, and we look forward to seeing them taking part in future productions at the Arts Centre.

For Lovers of Visual Art

The first-floor landing space around the main stair at the LAC provides a valuable and affordable opportunity for local artists to exhibit their work. We have continued to have a wide range of exhibitions celebrating local talent each of which usually run for about 6-8weeks.

For Lovers of Dance

Swing Dance is a weekly dance class for adults hosted by two very experienced dancers teaching the fundamentals of the lively partnered dance which originated in 1920s in New York's Harlem. Classes of up to 10 people learn authentic steps of Lindy Hop and Charleston.

For Visiting Groups using the Lantern Arts Centre

The Lantern Arts Centre has two studios normally in regular use by many groups. These include theatre companies, dance troupes, orchestras, rehearsing for shows based both in London and around the UK. In addition, regular classes are held including ballet, street dance, swing dance, flamenco, yoga, zumba and pilates. These bring a considerable number of people to the Lantern Arts Centre who then become involved in our other events and activities.

Our Volunteers

The heart of the Lantern Arts Centre is the community it serves. It is from the community that so many people come to support what we do.

Today, more than fifty volunteers from across Southwest London are making an irreplaceable difference. They generously commit their time and skills to help run our busy community arts centre, and clearly relish the challenges. Many are involved in our theatre productions on stage, or by supporting the choreography and direction, or for musical production. Then there's their contribution to technical delivery, including stage management, set construction, costuming, props, lighting, and sound. While behind the scenes our volunteers provide essential day in, day out support for building maintenance, marketing, fund raising and disability access.

The Trustees and staff are immensely grateful to everyone who is part of what we do and each year welcome new volunteers to join us as we grow. They are an essential part of making the Lantern Arts Centre what it is today and for its future development.

Feedback from our Community

"The Lantern Arts Centre has earned a special place in the community. Lovely to have a local theatre with a variety of entertainment."

"Fantastic space for community arts."

"Ideal venue to host events with medium sized audience. Great acoustics and comfortable cushion chairs appropriately sized stage and good visibility from all angles!"

"It was such a great experience - I really appreciated being allowed to do it and learned so much."

"A really positive experience…It definitely made me more confident about performing in musicals which is something I never thought I'd get into. The team have been great and it felt like a safe space to do and try anything. I'll definitely be back…not least for the new friends made along the way."

"The opportunity to challenge myself - mentally and physically - and to work with a group of committed like-minded people. It exceeded my expectations."

"Fantastic costume hire facility run by really helpful and friendly staff."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is a very special place."

5. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for governance, compliance, strategy, risk management and setting headline objectives. To this end, Trustees receive regular updates, including full reports on activities and financial information and monthly management accounts. Business planning and strategic plans are discussed and agreed by the Trustees at Board meetings. The Trustees convene at least 6 times per year.

The Management Reference Group is a supporting committee for the Board, consisting of four Trustees, that meets annually at least three times. The purpose of the Management Reference Group is to ensure the adequate management of staff on behalf of the Board, including monitoring performance, and to oversee Trustee recruitment. To this end the Management Reference Group acts as the line management function for employed staff.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity.

Trustees are appointed by members of the Charity on an annual basis. There is no maximum length of time that a Trustee can serve, subject to an annual rotation of Trustees. On appointment Trustees sign a register of interests, which is renewed annually.

When a Trustee retires from the Board a full recruitment process is overseen by the Management Reference Group, with appointments decided by the Board. Recruitment is undertaken on a skills basis, with skills gaps amongst existing Trustees identified and sought out within new Trustees. Trustees' induction and ongoing involvement includes visits to the activities delivered by the Charity, engagement with company members, meetings with staff and volunteers and undertaking fundraising activities for the Charity.

To facilitate effective operations, the Trustees employ an Artistic Director and the services of an Operations Manager to whom they have delegated authority for the operational matters of the Charity. Working together, the Artistic Director and Operations Manager have responsibility for the management of all other employees, contractors and volunteers to ensure that the Charity's activities are delivered and upheld against the plans and priorities of the Board. During the financial year ending 31 August, the Charity also employed a Marketing & Arts Centre Assistant.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility for setting pay for all employed posts and for the services of the Operations Manager. Pay is reviewed on an annual basis.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that can impact on the performance of the Charity, some of which are beyond the control of Trustees.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to its finances and operations and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Funds are raised principally through the Charity's own classes, productions and lettings as well as individual donors, known as Friends, and local business support. The Charity is indebted to its supporters and in particular its Angels (regular givers) for the financial stability they offer. The Charity is committed to acting with honesty, integrity, respect and transparency with its donors. Its policy is not to use the services of professional fundraisers nor solicit funds directly from the public. No complaints were received in the year in relation to our fundraising activities.

Trustees / Members

Changes to the Board of Trustees that took place within the reporting period are identified below.

Martin Welsh (Chair)	appointed as Trustee 14/05/2014 - Chairman since 2019
Michael Fuller (Secretary)	appointed as Trustee 24/06/2009 - Secretary since 2010
Alan Brown	appointed as Trustee 09/01/2008
Patricia Rutter	appointed as Trustee 18/02/2009
Kay Wingate	appointed as Trustee 09/03/2013
Andrew McBride	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2018
Deacon Dawn Canham	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2019
Gwen Elliot	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
Nina Van Gessel	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
James Hebbourn	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
William Ostrom	appointed as Trustee 29/03/2022
Stephen Humphrys	appointed as Trustee 01/09/2022 - Treasurer

Patrons of the Lantern Arts Centre during the period were:

Fiona Castle, Tim Vine, Steve Price, Stephen Hammond, Michael Arthur MBE, Tim Boniface (Pastoral Patron), John Davis (Honorary Patron)

Company Registration Number	4556232
Registered Charity Number	1098680
Registered Office	Tolverne Road, Raynes Park London, SW20 8RA
Secretary	Michael Fuller
Treasurer:	Stephen Humphrys
Bankers	Co-Operative Bank plc PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountants since 01/09/2022	Matthew Hunt Digivolve Accountants Delta House Bridge Road Haywards Heath RH16 1UA

Public Benefit

As a registered charity, the Lantern Arts Centre Trustees give close regard to their obligations to report the public benefit of its charitable purposes as defined by the Charities Act 2011. Our public benefit determines what it means for the LAC to be a charity, providing focus for the Charity's objectives.

How the LAC serves the community is summarised throughout the report. Measuring the difference (impact) that the Charity makes is a focus for the future. In summary of the Charity's purpose, the LAC:

- Carefully consider accessibility options for those on low incomes whether attending classes, events or productions
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for all age ranges to take part in arts activities and to explore their creative powers
- Develop young people in direction, creative and performance skills to foster their ambitions to progress to further education or employment

Related Parties

Since its inception the LAC has had a close relationship with the Lantern Methodist Church (previously Raynes Park Methodist Church) from which it was founded. The church views the Arts Centre as an integral part of its outreach to the local community and at present three of the LAC Trustees are members of this church with two others in regular attendance.

The premises that the LAC occupies, form part of the Lantern Centre (owned by the Lantern Methodist Church). The parties occupying the Lantern Centre are the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC), Lantern Hub (HUB), Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) and Lantern Costume Store (LCS).

The LAC occupies its principal space under license to the church with the facility to use the main church area for large productions three times a year.

Internal Controls and Risk Management

The Trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has in place an appropriate system of controls, financial or otherwise, to provide reasonable assurance that the Charity is operating effectively and in line with Charity Commission guidelines.

The systems of financial control were continually reviewed and improved where necessary during the year to provide reasonable assurance against material misstatement or loss.

An annual planning and budgeting process is in place and the Charity is developing a risk management plan, which will be regularly reviewed throughout the year. This identifies the most significant risks to the Charity, orders them by likelihood of occurrence and their impact, and indicates what action is in hand or is necessary to manage the risk. These include key areas such as Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Fire Safety and Data Protection.

6. OBJECTIVES

The Trustees have agreed the following objectives.

Objective 1:

Maintain a high-quality programme by providing a community performance venue for the purposes of local artistic expression and skill development. This objective will be met by:

- Providing opportunities for the local community to take part in, in order to explore their own creativity and develop, learn and enhance skills related to all forms of art.
- Actively seeking out professional artists to perform or exhibit their work.
- Presenting and performing work which explores culturally relevant issues alongside family-friendly activities, events, and performances.
- Diversifying and increasing the breadth of our offer across the artistic spectrum with a focus on literature, art, music, dance, and comedy. This also includes expanding our digital and online offer.
- Nurturing talent within our local community by offering opportunities to amateur performers and also a range of local artists.
- Widening our team of directors and technical crew in order to become more sustainable, increase our income and enhance our ability to support more regular programming across a diverse range of culturally expressive performance and for income revenue.

Objective 2:

Deliver a programme of accessible events and activities which reduce isolation and improve wellbeing in young people and adults in Raynes Park and the surrounding community. This objective will be met by:

- A programme which provides hands on, workshop-based opportunities for people at all skill levels to explore their own creativity in a safe environment.
- Offering an inclusive programme which pays particular attention to, and addresses the needs of, minority and disempowered groups.
- Supporting, and working in partnership with, grass roots community initiatives which aim to improve the lives of people in the local area.
- Developing and promoting our approach to inclusion, to ensure that all of our events and activities are accessible to people with a range of needs.
- Using arts engagement to improve the quality of life through arts engagement for those who would not normally be able to access the arts. This involves planning ahead in order to secure funding in time to offer subsidised places.
- Increasing our offer to young people by ensuring that activities are targeted and relevant.
- Ensuring financial accessibility across all of our programme so that access to the arts is not prohibited due to an individual's financial status.
- Strengthening our long-term partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church through active collaboration in order to provide holistic pastoral support and to celebrate our rich Christian heritage.

Objective 3:

Safeguard the Lantern Arts Centre so that the Charity can continue to serve the local community and meets its obligations of public benefit into the future. This objective will be met by:

- Developing a 3 to 5-year strategy, alongside a robust risk register, in order to mitigate as far as possible against risks which will impact on the sustainability of the LAC.

- Diversifying our income through increasing our regular donors, our lettings provision and targeting applications for grant funding in line with the Charities objectives.
- Building up and maintaining the Charity's reserves at a robust level and investing in our technical and office infrastructure
- Securing a leasehold tenure from the Lantern Methodist Church on the core premises required by the LAC to undertake its regular activities.
- Developing our online and marketing strategy in order to increase our income.
- Building our volunteer base, seeking to draw in skills particularly in the areas of marketing and technical expertise.

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The Charity's income for the year was £151,928 (2022: £134,700) against expenditure of £148,690 (2022: £125,036) leading to a surplus of £3,238 (2022: £9,664).

In a typical year, the LAC generates the majority of its income through donations and charitable activities, such as its productions and classes.

Expenditure increased by £23,654 compared to the previous year in line with increased activity, as the centre started to return to normal operations.

The Trustees continue to closely monitor the performance of the Charity's activities, particularly in light of the continuously changing government restrictions impacting performing arts and community groups. The Trustees proactively seek to develop a programme of activities that ensures the LAC continues to be accessible to wide audiences on a range of mediums throughout these difficult times.

Reserves Policy

The purpose of the reserves policy is to mitigate against any risk to ongoing activities, which may be caused by an unforeseen increase in expenditure, incoming funds falling short of expectations or a temporary cash shortage due to the periodical nature of the LAC's activities.

The Trustees undertake an annual risk assessment to determine the level of reserves that need to be maintained. Reserves include restricted and unrestricted funds. Only the unrestricted funds can be used at the discretion of the Trustees, i.e. to address the above risks. The restricted funds may only be used for their specific purpose. Total fund balances carried forward are £63,800, made up of £10,300 of restricted funds and £53,500 of unrestricted funds.

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain at least 6 months operating costs as unrestricted reserves and sufficient funds to meet immediate commitments and to enable a timely reaction to any downturn in activities. The Trustees consider the level of reserves held at Year End to be reasonable.

8. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make sound judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and requirements of the Charities Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015).

Audit

As noted on the Trustees' statement on the Balance Sheet, the trustees have taken advantage of the exemption from audit applicable to the Charity and these accounts have not been audited.
The Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 1S of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on 08.05.2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Welsh
Chair of Trustees
Lantern Arts Centre

9. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
	Note	funds	Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income:					
Grants and donations	3	17,421	6,103	23,524	26,574
Other income		197	0	197	9
Services to Lantern Centre		0	0	0	0
Incoming Resources from charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	4	128,207	0	128,207	108,117
Investment income					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
Total Incoming Resources		**145,825**	**6,103**	**151,928**	**134,700**
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising costs of grants and donations	5,7	558	0	558	3,141
Charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and centres	6,7	148,132	0	148,132	121,895
Total Resources Expended		**148,690**	**0**	**148,690**	**125,036**
Transfer Between Funds					
Net Movement In Funds					
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		(2,865)	6,103	3,238	9,664
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2022		63,871	0	63,871	54,207
Restatement of reserves		--	--	--	--
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		**61,006**	**6,103**	**67,109**	**63,871**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Other debtors		647		772	
Cash at bank and in hand		81,986		63,264	
		82,633		64,036	
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	8	15,524		165	
Net Current Assets			67,109		63,871
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			**67,109**		**63,871**
Accumulated Funds					
Restricted funds	11	0		0	
Unrestricted funds	11	67,109		63,871	
Total charity funds			**67,109**		**63,871**

Audit Exemption

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on 08.05.2024 and signed on their behalf by:



M Welsh
Chairman of Trustees

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting basis and standards

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and 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 (FRS102)-Charities (SORP 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

(b) Going Concern

The Trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The level of reserves held at year end is sufficient to maintain basic office expenditures for a period of 6 —9 months. Ongoing and continuous contingency planning and risk management mean the LAC is well prepared to deal with adversities. The LAC receives a strong level of support from its "Angels" who donate on a regular basis as well as from its wider company who volunteer much of their time to support the activities. In addition, the Trustees have formed a new Fundraising subcommittee to work on further diversifying the LAC's income base. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

(c) Incoming Resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding are of a general nature and are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial trading activities is recognised as earned (as the related goods and services are provided). Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided).

Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is deferred when; Admission fees or performance related grants are received in advance of the performances or events to which they relate.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that result in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds. Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the staging of

concerts, stage production, art exhibitions and educational programmes and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

(**e) Irrecoverable VAT**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

(f) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either: -
Unrestricted General Funds - This can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted Funds- which may only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

(**i) Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount can be measured or estimated reliably.

2. Constitution

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding E10

3. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2023**
	£	**£**	**£**
Grants	0	6,103	6,103
Donations	17,421	0	17,421
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	17,421	6,103	23,524

Prior Year Comparative (2022)

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2022**
	£	**£**	**£**
Grants	3,602	7,505	11,107
Donations	15,467	0	15,467
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	19,069	7,505	26,574

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2023**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	46,031	0	46,031
Productions	43,715	0	43,715
Lettings	29,603	0	29,603
Other	8,458	0	8,458
	128,207	0	128,207

Prior Year Comparative (2022)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	2022
	£	£	£
Classes	44,272	0	44,272
Productions	33,492	0	33,492
Lettings	21,673	0	21,673
Other	8,680	0	8,680
	108,117	0	108,117

5. Analysis of expenditure on costs of generating funds

The charity allocates 5% of support costs to generate funds in line with actual time spent on this activity.

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	558	558

Prior Year Comparative (2022)

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	3,141	3,141

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

The charity allocates its support costs between the three activities undertaken as shown in the table below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2023**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	17,107	19,414	36,521
Productions	26,027	36,487	62,514
Lettings	16,077	25,228	41,305
Other	6,676	1,116	7,792
Total	**65,887**	**82,245**	**148,132**

Prior Year Comparative (2022)

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	18,378	17,631	36,009
Productions	25,530	24,492	50,022
Lettings	17,043	16,350	33,393
Other	1,261	1,210	2,471
Total	**62,212**	**59,683**	**121,895**

7. Analysis of Support Costs

	Total	**Total**
	2023	**2022**
	£	**£**
Contractor Fees	19,414	18,515
Salaries	36,487	24,505
Advertising & Promotions	2,928	557
Office Costs	13,300	8,284
Printing, Postage & Stationery	2,307	1,806
Travel & Subsistence	1,633	645
Accountancy Fees	1,440	1,464
Professional Fees		619
Bank Charges	2,160	2,507
Insurance	1,461	1,449
Centre Costs	558	2,773
Sunday Expenses	0	0
	81,688	**62,824**

During the year, no Trustee received remuneration for their services as Trustee (2022-£Nil) However, A. McBride was paid £Nil for Tech Services provided to the Lantern Arts Centre to support its activities (2022- £Nil).
During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2022-£Nil). During the year, no Trustees received any expenses. (2022-£Nil).

8. Creditors

	Total	**Total**
	2023	**2022**
	£	**£**
Wages Payable	1,232	0
Taxes	395	165
Deferred Income	13,897	0

9. Support Staff

	Total	**Total**
	2023	**2022**
	£	**£**
Wages and Salaries	35,946	23,764
Social Security	0	0
Pension Costs	541	440

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	**2022**
	Number	**Number**
administration	2	1

During the year, no employee was paid a salary above **£**60,000 in 2023 (2022-**£**Nil). Key management personnel comprise of the Trustees. No remuneration was paid to the Trustees.

10. Related Parties

No related party transactions have taken place during the year.

11. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of unrestricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2022	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**(to)/from Reserves funds**	**Fund at 31 August 2023**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
General Fund	63,871	145,825	148,690	0	61,006

Analysis of restricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2022	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**(to)/from Reserves funds**	**Fund at 31 August 2023**
	£	£	£	£	£
Performance Grant	0	6,103	0	0	6,103
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	6,103	0	0	6,103

Restricted funds represent grants or donations given to perform or support the expenditure in specific productions or work in the theatrical field.

10. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 15 to 22.

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 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011Act) 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.



Matthew Hunt (FMAAT)
Digivolve Accountants
Delta House
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1UA

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1098680

Accounts

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2022

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No. 04556232

Charity No. 1098680

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1. INTRODUCTION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ending 31st August 2022

The Trustees of the Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) are pleased to present our annual report for the Year Ending 31st August 2022, including consolidated financial statements for the Charity. It meets the Companies Act requirements for a director's report and financial accounts.

The financial statements comply with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015).

About the Lantern Arts Centre

Founded over twenty-five years ago, the Lantern Arts Centre is an established and well-resourced community arts centre run year-round by permanent staff and volunteers.

As a faith-based charity the Lantern welcomes everyone in Raynes Park and beyond to its wide-ranging activities. These include affordably ticketed regular community productions, a thriving youth theatre and children's theatre club, dance, acting and singing classes, a community choir, film clubs, activities for toddlers and much more.

Our Supporters

We are very grateful to all those who support the Lantern Arts Centre.

Our financial supporters in this year were:

- Lantern Angels – our regular givers
- Lantern Arts Centre Community – one off donations
- Merton Giving Renewal Fund - Grant
- National Lottery Community Fund – Grant
- Home Instead Charities

2. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Chairman's Statement – Martin Welsh

The period from September 2021 to August 2022 has seen life return to a "new normal" following the COVID pandemic, and at the LAC we have been delighted to be able to offer a full range of activities once again to our local community. We couldn't have done that without our fantastic, dedicated team of staff and volunteers, and all the hard work and hours of effort that they give us on a daily basis. Huge thanks go to LAC Artistic Director, Amy Phillips, and our Operations Manager, Steve Rees, who have both led us so effectively over the year.

We have seen some changes in our team this year. In March we welcomed Alice Hudson Sheaf to the newly created role of Marketing and Arts Centre Assistant, and it's been wonderful to see her quickly settle in so well. Over the course of the year, we have seen three of our Trustees step down – Malcolm Mason, Dave King, and Stefanie Kha, who was also our treasurer. Our heartfelt thanks go to each of them for all their wisdom, hard work, and loyal support over many years. Two new Trustees were appointed, with William Ostrom and Steve Humphrys joining us, Steve taking on the role of Treasurer. I would like to thank all the Trustees once again for their help and support given so freely throughout the year.

I want to thank all those who support us financially. The loyal support of our regular givers, our Angels, continues to be a real blessing, especially with the cost of living so high at the moment. Special thanks go to those organisations that have given us grant funding in the year, and to all those involved in the application process. Everyone who has visited the LAC this year and given a one-off donation, all those who have bought a ticket or subscribed to one of our many activities, anyone who tapped the machine on the way home – your support is so important to us, and it is very gratefully received. By supporting us in this way you allow us to keep on offering what we do.

I also want to thank everybody who has committed their time to the LAC this year, in whatever role. Our amazing volunteers are a huge part of what makes this place so special. Thank you all so much for being part of our community – part of our Company.

We can look ahead with optimism and confidence to a full programme of activities and productions planned for the coming year. We hope to be able to reach out to an even wider group, and welcome in new folk to share with us the joy of creative expression in the Arts, something that is so important for our mental health.

We continue to be excited by the developing plans for the Lantern Centre Project where we are working closely in collaboration with our dear friends and colleagues at the Lantern Methodist Church.

Thank you for helping us to keep the Lantern shining!

Martin Welsh
Chair of Trustees – Lantern Arts Centre

3. OPERATIONAL & ARTISTIC REPORTS

Operational Report – Stephen Rees

By the end of August 2022, we had seen a significant shift back towards the higher activity levels we would expect at the Lantern Arts Centre. in particular the attendance in person of events and classes.

Whilst the restrictions surrounding the pandemic had eased, we still maintained many of the control measures and processes that had been introduced in light of Covid19. These included increased cleaning regimes, movement control around the building, room booking schedules allowing clear 'space' to avoid crowding during change overs, sanitising stations and the use of face masks. Some measures have become simply good practice that we will look to keep moving forwards.

Assisted by a grant from Merton Giving Recovery fund in association with The National Lottery, we were able to put on a large Christmas production in 2021 reaching just under 1000 audience members across 6 performances. Indeed, across all activities and events we saw a significant increase in attendance; around a 70% increase on the previous year. Whilst we were confident in our ability to resume a normal level of trade after the pandemic restrictions were lifted, this increase was a good indication of the resilience of the charity and the demand for the activities it offers the community.

Our donations reduced to a more typical level in 2021-2022, but continue to be significant. Without the financial grants and generous support we receive, delivering our extensive programme of events and activities would be far more challenging. We are extremely grateful to all those involved in supporting our work and helping us through such a difficult period and beyond.

As we returned to a more 'normal' operation, the need for focussed marketing and communications became very clear. Having lost our administrator role, which became redundant during the pandemic, we needed to recruit a new staff member in March 2022. Evolving and adapting to how people receive and process information from service providers and activity centres has become key, with our digital presence growing and the regularity and reach of our marketing improving.

We are mindful to learn lessons from the recent past and to use some of the processes and activities into the future. Necessity is the mother of invention and there are a range of measures that we took during the pandemic that are equally valid as we move forward. Keeping the people who use our centre safe is always the number one priority; managing movement, improving building signage, controlling access to the building, clearing communal areas to reduce overcrowding, are all areas that have been improved.

Recent upgrades to our AV equipment have had a great impact on what we can deliver both at the Arts Centre and in joint projects with the church. Our projector and large screen have benefitted the free screenings for our older/retired community and also the Lantern Methodist Church services. We are now looking to raise funds to upgrade our sound desk and equipment which is approximately 30 years old.

Looking ahead, financially the Lantern Arts Centre is in a good position. The collaboration with the Lantern Methodist Church is very strong with various joint projects now up and running. We are focussed particularly on the Lantern Building Project, which would involve working alongside the Lantern Methodist Church in the development of the Raynes Park church building. This would cement a home for the Lantern Arts Centre in a building that is prepared for the future in terms of its infrastructure, layout and facilities.

It is still an exciting time for the creative contribution the Lantern Arts Centre makes to the community it serves.

Artistic Report – Amy Phillips

In September 2021, 40 actors (plus an amazing backstage crew and band) came tumbling into the LAC with joy and gusto as we reopened our rehearsal space for the first Main House community show post pandemic - Treasure Island the Pantomime written by Ben Crocker.

Before Treasure Island opened for a 6-show run in December, in November, we also enjoyed our full day Christmas Celebration in collaboration with the Lantern Methodist Church, where we showcased all our regular creative groups like Children's Theatre Club and the Lantern Arts Choir.

After Treasure Island (a great success and well attended with several shows selling out), we produced a staged candle-lit reading of Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, with music from the Lantern Arts Choir.

In February, in the Studio Theatre, we had a beautiful and moving evening called: Hope Smiles, a devised performance by a Lantern group (Let's Get Creative) that had formed online during the pandemic, again music was provided by the Lantern Arts Choir. It was also a very affordable show for our local community at £6 a ticket.

In the new year, we ran a term of First Act, our 10-week acting course for adults, while others joined the cast and crew for Ladies Day by Amanda Whittington, a funny and moving female-led comedy. After Ladies Day opened in April, our talented Lantern Youth Theatre performed an adaptation of the novel Les Miserables in our Main Auditorium. An incredible opportunity for our young company.

In May of 2022 we produced our most ambitious line-up yet for our Dessert Lounge fundraiser with a wealth of fantastic musicians performing in the main house, while our sold-out audience enjoyed delicious patisserie from top chef Martin Powell. A week later, LAC Patron and comedian Tim Vine brought his brilliant Night of Nonsense for two sold-out nights into the Studio Theatre.

Next up, we hosted the London premiere of You Choose based on the book by Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodheart, produced by Nonsense Room productions to sell-out audiences.

After the Lantern Project Update Breakfast and Sumedha Shrivastava's (delightful and very well attended) Watercolour Exhibition and Workshop, we opened Noel Coward's Hay Fever, a summer comedy with a cast and crew of 20. The show was very well received with some tremendous performances.

All our wonderful creative groups, also called 'Lantern Lights', managed to return after the pandemic (The Lantern Costume Store Silver Screen, Children's Theatre Club and Youth Theatre, Lantern Bells, First Act, Lantern Arts Choir, Swing Dance, Once Upon a Storytime and new this year in collaboration with the Lantern Methodist Church, the Lantern Play zone).

Overall, a busy and exciting year and a feeling of great joy to be back in person as we came out of the pandemic.

4. PURPOSES & ACTIVITIES

As set out in the LAC Articles of Association updated in July 2013, the purposes of the Charity are to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of Southwest London. Having a strong Christian ethos and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church (formerly Raynes Park Methodist Church), the Charity seeks to include members of the local community of all ages and abilities. They participate as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.

To achieve these objectives, the Charity's activities include the following:

For Children & Young People

Children love stories and **'Once Upon a Storytime'** has become a firm favourite for local children and their parents. Led by our Artistic Director Amy Phillips, up to twenty young children are welcomed each week in term time and participate in captivating stories beautifully read.

The Lantern **Children's Theatre Club** has six age-tiered groups of around 100 participants for ages three to 19 years old. Usually meeting weekly during term time, classes are designed for all children to feel safe, get involved, have fun, grow in confidence and develop independence and life skills whilst tackling key topics. Each group works towards an end of term performance for friends and family, and school holiday projects are a regular activity.

The children proved very adept at moving online during the pandemic, enthusiastically taking part in a wide range of stimulating projects. A previous reduction in the number of participants proved temporary such that by September 2021 most of the classes were close to full. There is a focus needed on the youngest groups which have dropped in number in recent times.

A production highlight was their performance of an adaption of the novel **Les Miserables** which was staged in the Main Auditorium in April 2022. Performing to packed audiences, this was very memorable for both the cast and their families.

The Lantern Arts Centre's fully inclusive policy means children with SEND and physical needs, or who are learning English, can take part. Families can also take advantage of the offer of bursaries, and this was especially welcomed due to the impact of Covid restrictions.

We also hosted the London premiere of **You Choose** based on the book by Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodheart, produced by Nonsense Room productions to sell-out audiences.

We are currently planning to start a **Youth Choir** for children aged 13 to 16. These are planned to be vibrant and fun Saturday morning sessions covering a range of genres from favourite musicals to pop, rock and classical. Providing opportunities to perform at Lantern events, develop vocal technique and make new friends.

The outlook for the club in the year ahead is very promising with a diverse programme of activities planned. And as always, new participants will be welcomed to join by our enthusiastic and supportive team aided by community volunteers.

For Lovers of Drama

The Lantern Arts Centre's main **house productions** and **studio performances** are keenly anticipated by the local community. The audience for the year reported, including virtual and offline events increased significantly. Main House productions included Treasure Island, Ladies' Day and Hay Fever.

In addition, we produced a staged candle-lit reading of **Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens, with music from the Lantern Arts Choir. Then in the Studio Theatre, we had a beautiful and moving evening called: **Hope Smiles**, a devised performance by a Lantern group (Let's Get Creative) that had formed online during the pandemic, again music was provided by the Lantern Arts Choir. **First Act**, the weekly acting class for adults resumed in 2022 with a 10-week acting course.

The Free Film Club, **Silver Screen**, was one of the few activities able to be conducted at the Lantern Arts Centre during the pandemic. With restriction lifting during 2021-22 the group has grown to around 40 people per screening. This popular and much needed activity has grown in numbers through word of mouth and connectivity as our marketing has increased. Attendees continue to express their appreciation for the Club.

Our own long-standing **Costume Store** is run by a dedicated team of volunteers for main house productions and external hire. Usually relied on by many local primary and secondary schools, parents, local amateur and professional theatre groups and individuals, it reopened on a more restricted basis during the pandemic. Offering carefully curated items from a keenly priced collection of more than ten thousand pieces, the team offers expert advice and guidance and looks forward to fully reopening.

For Lovers of Music

The **Lantern Community Choir**, our own in-house choir, usually rehearses on a weekly basis and aims to give several performances each year. The choir has increased in numbers and has welcomed the return to singing in person – online was fun, but challenging! The choir is now establishing itself further with concerts being scheduled in once a term to ever increasing audiences.

The **Lantern Handbell Group** formed in 2017, is much loved by the players and audiences alike. This year has seen a return to rehearsing together, though initially distanced from each other. They performed in the Christmas Carol Concert with the Lantern Choir and were able to play in Guildford Cathedral in June 2022 along with other handbell groups.

We are currently planning to start a **Lantern Youth Choir** for children aged 13 to 16. These are planned to be vibrant and fun Saturday morning sessions covering a range of genres from favourite musicals to pop, rock and classical. Providing opportunities to perform at Lantern events, develop vocal technique and make new friends.

Music continues to grow and flourish at the Arts Centre. For example, Dessert Lounge showcases diverse musical ability. A Joy of Singing course ran in the autumn term with great feedback. This is in addition to our regular four-piece house band which played for Treasure Island. Moving forward it is intended to use this group to enhance musical performances such as choir concerts.

Use of acapella singing in some of the CTC productions again showcases our younger members' musical talents, and we look forward to seeing them taking part in future productions at the Arts Centre.

For Lovers of Visual Art

Using the modest first floor foyer space, the LAC usually has an established programme of shows by local artists each lasting about two months. Exhibitions have included a range of artists using varying styles and media. Through this, the LAC provides an opportunity to exhibit work either as a solo or joint show. No up-front charge is made but the LAC takes a modest percentage of any sales. As well as providing artists with an affordable venue to exhibit, it also enriches the overall life of the LAC by celebrating the visual arts alongside performance arts with which the LAC is usually associated.

For Lovers of Dance

Swing Dance is a weekly dance class for adults hosted by two very experienced dancers teaching the fundamentals of the lively partnered dance which originated in 1920s in New York's Harlem. Classes of up to 10 people learn authentic steps of Lindy Hop and Charleston.

For Visiting Groups using the Lantern Arts Centre

The Lantern Arts Centre has two studios normally in regular use by many groups. These include theatre companies, dance troupes, orchestras, rehearsing for shows based both in London and around the UK. In addition, regular classes are held including ballet, street dance, swing dance, flamenco, yoga, zumba and pilates. These bring a considerable number of people to the Lantern Arts Centre who then become involved in our other events and activities.

Our Volunteers

The heart of the Lantern Arts Centre is the community it serves. It is from the community that so many people come to support what we do.

Today, more than fifty volunteers from across Southwest London are making an irreplaceable difference. They generously commit their time and skills to help run our busy community arts centre, and clearly relish the challenges. Many are involved in our theatre productions on stage, or by supporting the choreography and direction, or for musical production. Then there's their contribution to technical delivery, including stage management, set construction, costuming, props, lighting, and sound. While behind the scenes our volunteers provide essential day in, day out support for building maintenance, marketing, fund raising and disability access.

The Trustees and staff are immensely grateful to everyone who is part of what we do and each year welcome new volunteers to join us as we grow. They are an essential part of making the Lantern Arts Centre what it is today and for its future development.

Feedback from our Community

"The Lantern Arts Centre has earned a special place in the community. Lovely to have a local theatre with a variety of entertainment."

"It's a family-friendly environment. Everyone is made to feel welcome."

"I'm extremely glad I heard of the activities."

"It's local, enterprising and a definite asset to the community."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is one of my favourite places."

"It is friendly and accessible. Price is affordable. Films feel like a community thing."

"Although personally I've only been involved by attending performances, I know the effect it has had on friends and on children/youth - particularly your inclusivity."

"It has provided a safe and fun place for my daughter to explore her acting talents and has always encouraged her to take part in events."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is original in South London and an exception. It has the potential to do amazing things for people and expand the experience of all for their whole mind, body and spirit."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is more than just a building. It is full of kind, enthusiastic and supportive people working together."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is a very special place."

5. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for governance, compliance, strategy, risk management and setting headline objectives. To this end, Trustees receive regular updates, including full reports on activities and financial information and monthly management accounts. Business planning and strategic plans are discussed and agreed by the Trustees at Board meetings. The Trustees convene at least 6 times per year.

The Management Reference Group is a supporting committee for the Board, consisting of four Trustees, that meets annually at least three times. The purpose of the Management Reference Group is to ensure the adequate management of staff on behalf of the Board, including monitoring performance, and to oversee Trustee recruitment. To this end the Management Reference Group acts as the line management function for employed staff.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity.

Trustees are appointed by members of the Charity on an annual basis. There is no maximum length of time that a Trustee can serve, subject to an annual rotation of Trustees. On appointment Trustees sign a register of interests, which is renewed annually.

When a Trustee retires from the Board a full recruitment process is overseen by the Management Reference Group, with appointments decided by the Board. Recruitment is undertaken on a skills basis, with skills gaps amongst existing Trustees identified and sought out within new Trustees. Trustees' induction and ongoing involvement includes visits to the activities delivered by the Charity, engagement with company members, meetings with staff and volunteers and undertaking fundraising activities for the Charity.

To facilitate effective operations, the Trustees employ an Artistic Director and the services of an Operations Manager to whom they have delegated authority for the operational matters of the Charity. During the financial year ending 31 August, the Charity also employed an Office Administrator, a post made redundant in October 2020. Working together, the Artistic Director and Operations Manager have responsibility for the management of all other employees, contractors and volunteers to ensure that the Charity's activities are delivered and upheld against the plans and priorities of the Board.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility for setting pay for all employed posts and for the services of the Operations Manager. Pay is reviewed on an annual basis.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that can impact on the performance of the Charity, some of which are beyond the control of Trustees.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to its finances and operations and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Funds are raised principally through the Charity's own classes, productions and lettings as well individual donors, known as Friends, and local business support. The Charity is indebted to its supporters and in particular its Angels (regular givers) for the financial stability they offer. The Charity is committed to acting with honesty, integrity, respect and transparency with its donors. Its policy is not to use the services of professional fundraisers nor solicit funds directly from the public. No complaints were received in the year in relation to our fundraising activities.

Trustees / Members

Changes to the Board of Trustees that took place within the reporting period are identified below.

Martin Welsh (Chair)	appointed as Trustee 14/05/2014 - Chairman since 2019
Michael Fuller (Secretary)	appointed as Trustee 24/06/2009 - Secretary since 2010
Alan Brown	appointed as Trustee 09/01/2008
Patricia Rutter	appointed as Trustee 18/02/2009
Kay Wingate	appointed as Trustee 09/03/2013
Andrew McBride	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2018
Deacon Dawn Canham	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2019
Gwen Elliot	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
Nina Van Gessel	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
James Hebbourn	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
William Ostrom	appointed as Trustee 29/03/2022 – new appointment
David King	appointed as Trustee 01/10/2017 - resigned 31/03/2022
Malcolm Mason	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019 - resigned 30/09/2021
Stefanie Kha	appointed as Trustee 11/10/2018 - resigned 31/12/2021

Patrons of the Lantern Arts Centre during the period were:

Fiona Castle, Tim Vine, Steve Price, Stephen Hammond, Michael Arthur MBE, Tim Boniface (Pastoral Patron), John Davis (Honorary Patron)

Company Registration Number	4556232
Registered Charity Number	1098680
Registered Office	Tolverne Road, Raynes Park London, SW20 8RA
Secretary	Michael Fuller
Treasurer:	Stefanie Kha / Steve Humphrys
Bankers	Co-Operative Bank plc PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountants since 01/09/2022	Matthew Hunt Digivolve Accountants Delta House Bridge Road Haywards Heath RH16 1UA

Public Benefit

As a registered charity, the Lantern Arts Centre Trustees give close regard to their obligations to report the public benefit of its charitable purposes as defined by the Charities Act 2011. Our public benefit determines what it means for the LAC to be a charity, providing focus for the Charity's objectives.

How the LAC serves the community is summarised throughout the report. Measuring the difference (impact) that the Charity makes is a focus for the future. In summary of the Charity's purpose, the LAC:

- Carefully consider accessibility options for those on low incomes whether attending classes, events or productions
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for all age ranges to take part in arts activities and to explore their creative powers
- Develop young people in direction, creative and performance skills to foster their ambitions to progress to further education or employment

Related Parties

Since its inception the LAC has had a close relationship with the Lantern Methodist Church (previously Raynes Park Methodist Church) from which it was founded. The church views the Arts Centre as an integral part of its outreach to the local community and at present three of the LAC Trustees are members of this church with two others in regular attendance.

The premises that the LAC occupies, form part of the Lantern Centre (owned by the Lantern Methodist Church). The parties occupying the Lantern Centre are the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC), Lantern Coffee House (LCH), Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) and Lantern Costume Store (LCS).

The LAC occupies its principal space under license to the church with the facility to use the main church area for large productions three times a year.

Internal Controls and Risk Management

The Trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has in place an appropriate system of controls, financial or otherwise, to provide reasonable assurance that the Charity is operating effectively and in line with Charity Commission guidelines.

The systems of financial control were continually reviewed and improved where necessary during the year to provide reasonable assurance against material misstatement or loss.

An annual planning and budgeting process is in place and the Charity is developing a risk management plan, which will be regularly reviewed throughout the year. This identifies the most significant risks to the Charity, orders them by likelihood of occurrence and their impact, and indicates what action is in hand or is necessary to manage the risk. These include key areas such as Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Fire Safety and Data Protection.

6. OBJECTIVES

The Trustees have agreed the following objectives.

Objective 1:

Maintain a high-quality programme by providing a community performance venue for the purposes of local artistic expression and skill development. This objective will be met by:

- Providing opportunities for the local community to take part in, in order to explore their own creativity and develop, learn and enhance skills related to all forms of art.
- Actively seeking out professional artists to perform or exhibit their work.
- Presenting and performing work which explores culturally relevant issues alongside family-friendly activities, events, and performances.
- Diversifying and increasing the breadth of our offer across the artistic spectrum with a focus on literature, art, music, dance, and comedy. This also includes expanding our digital and online offer.
- Nurturing talent within our local community by offering opportunities to amateur performers and also a range of local artists.
- Widening our team of directors and technical crew in order to become more sustainable, increase our income and enhance our ability to support more regular programming across a diverse range of culturally expressive performance and for income revenue.

Objective 2:

Deliver a programme of accessible events and activities which reduce isolation and improve wellbeing in young people and adults in Raynes Park and the surrounding community. This objective will be met by:

- A programme which provides hands on, workshop-based opportunities for people at all skill levels to explore their own creativity in a safe environment.
- Offering an inclusive programme which pays particular attention to, and addresses the needs of, minority and disempowered groups.
- Supporting, and working in partnership with, grass roots community initiatives which aim to improve the lives of people in the local area.
- Developing and promoting our approach to inclusion, to ensure that all of our events and activities are accessible to people with a range of needs.
- Using arts engagement to improve the quality of life through arts engagement for those who would not normally be able to access the arts. This involves planning ahead in order to secure funding in time to offer subsidised places.
- Increasing our offer to young people by ensuring that activities are targeted and relevant.
- Ensuring financial accessibility across all of our programme so that access to the arts is not prohibited due to an individual's financial status.
- Strengthening our long-term partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church through active collaboration in order to provide holistic pastoral support and to celebrate our rich Christian heritage.

Objective 3:

Safeguard the Lantern Arts Centre so that the Charity can continue to serve the local community and meets its obligations of public benefit into the future. This objective will be met by:

- Developing a 3 to 5-year strategy, alongside a robust risk register, in order to mitigate as far as possible against risks which will impact on the sustainability of the LAC.

- Diversifying our income through increasing our regular donors, our lettings provision and targeting applications for grant funding in line with the Charities objectives.
- Building up and maintaining the Charity's reserves at a robust level and investing in our technical and office infrastructure
- Securing a leasehold tenure from the Lantern Methodist Church on the core premises required by the LAC to undertake its regular activities.
- Developing our online and marketing strategy in order to increase our income.
- Building our volunteer base, seeking to draw in skills particularly in the areas of marketing and technical expertise.

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The Charity's income for the year was £134,700 (2021: £106,167) against expenditure of £125,036 (2021: £86,636) leading to a surplus of £9,664 (2021: £19,531).

In a typical year, the LAC generates the majority of its income through donations and charitable activities, such as its productions and classes. However, the LAC gratefully received additional income from the Merton Giving Recovery Fund, National Lottery Community Fund, Home Instead Charities and generous donations from its regular givers (Angels) and supporters.

Expenditure increased by £38,400 compared to the previous year in line with increased activity, as the centre started to reopen more fully.

The Trustees continue to closely monitor the performance of the Charity's activities. The Trustees proactively seek to develop a programme of activities that ensures the LAC continues to be accessible to wide audiences on a range of mediums throughout these difficult times.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are committed to further stabilise the financial future of the LAC, particularly in these uncertain times. The purpose of the reserves policy is to mitigate against any risk to ongoing activities, which may be caused by an unforeseen increase in expenditure, incoming funds falling short of expectations or a temporary cash shortage due to the periodical nature of the LAC's activities.

The Trustees undertake an annual risk assessment to determine the level of reserves that need to be maintained. Reserves include restricted and unrestricted funds. Only the unrestricted funds can be used at the discretion of the Trustees, i.e. to address the above risks. The restricted funds may only be used for their specific purpose. Total fund balances carried forward are £63,871, made up of £0 of restricted funds and £63,871 of unrestricted funds.

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain at least 3 months operating costs as unrestricted reserves to meet immediate commitments and to enable a timely reaction to any downturn in activities. The Trustees consider the level of reserves held at Year End to be reasonable.

8. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make sound judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and requirements of the Charities Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015).

Audit

As noted on the Trustees' statement on the Balance Sheet, the trustees have taken advantage of the exemption from audit applicable to the Charity and these accounts have not been audited.
The Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 1S of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on 11/05/2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Welsh
Chair of Trustees
Lantern Arts Centre

9. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31"AUGUST 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income:					
Grants and donations	3	19,069	7,505	26,574	42,177
Other income		9	0	9	27
Services to Lantern Centre		0	0	0	0
Incoming Resources from charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	4	108,117	0	108,117	63,963
Investment income					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
Total Incoming Resources		127,195	7,505	134,700	106,167
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising costs of grants and donations	5,7	3,141	0	3,141	3,109
Charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	6,7	111,745	10,150	121,895	83,527
Total Resources Expended		114,886	10,150	125,036	86,636
Transfer Between Funds					
Net Movement In Funds					
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		12,309	(2,645)	9,664	19,531
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2021		51,562	2,645	54,207	34,676
Restatement of reserves		--	--	--	--
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2022		63,871	0	63,871	54,207

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Other debtors		772		2,969	
Cash at bank and in hand		63,264		52,865	
		64,036		55,834	
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	8	165		1,627	
Net Current Assets			63,871		54,207
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			**63,871**		**54,207**
Accumulated Funds					
Restricted funds	11	0		2,645	
Unrestricted funds	11	63,871		51,562	
Total charity funds			**63,871**		**54,207**

Audit Exemption

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on 11/05/2023 and signed on their behalf by:



M Welsh
Chairman of Trustees

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting basis and standards

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and 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 (FRS102)-Charities (SORP 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

(b) Going Concern

The Trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The level of reserves held at year end is sufficient to maintain basic office expenditures for a period of 6 —9 months. Ongoing and continuous contingency planning and risk management mean the LAC is well prepared to deal with adversities. The LAC receives a strong level of support from its "Angels" who donate on a regular basis as well as from its wider company who volunteer much of their time to support the activities. In addition, the Trustees have formed a new Fundraising subcommittee to work on further diversifying the LAC's income base. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

(c) Incoming Resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding are of a general nature and are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial trading activities is recognised as earned (as the related goods and services are provided). Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided).

Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is deferred when; Admission fees or performance related grants are received in advance of the performances or events to which they relate.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that result in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds. Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the staging of

concerts, stage production, art exhibitions and educational programmes and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

(f) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either: -
Unrestricted General Funds - This can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted Funds- which may only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

(i) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount can be measured or estimated reliably.

2. Constitution

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding E10

3. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Grants	3,602	7,505	11,107
Donations	15,467	0	15,467
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	19,069	7,505	26,574

Prior Year Comparative (2021)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Grants	15,531	6,315	21,846
Donations	20,331	0	20,331
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	35,862	6,315	42,177

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Classes	44,272	0	44,272
Productions	33,492	0	33,492
Lettings	21,673	0	21,673
Other	8,680	0	8,680
	108,117	0	108,117

Prior Year Comparative (2021)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Classes	34,432	0	34,432
Productions	12,971	0	12,971
Lettings	13,341	0	13,341
Other	3,219	0	3,219
	63,963	0	63,963

5. Analysis of expenditure on costs of generating funds

The charity allocates 5% of support costs to generate funds in line with actual time spent on this activity.

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	3,141	3,141

Prior Year Comparative (2021)

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	3,109	3,109

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

The charity allocates its support costs between the three activities undertaken as shown in the table below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	18,378	17,631	36,009
Productions	25,530	24,492	50,022
Lettings	17,043	16,350	33,393
Other	1,261	1,210	2,471
Total	**62,212**	**59,683**	**121,895**

Prior Year Comparative (2021)

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2021**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	14,105	34,061	48,166
Productions	3,828	9,244	13,072
Lettings	5,670	13,692	19,363
Other	857	2,070	2,927
Total	**24,460**	**59,067**	**83,527**

7. Analysis of Support Costs

	Total	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Contractor Fees	18,515	15,375
Salaries	24,505	22,571
Advertising & Promotions	557	538
Office Costs	8,284	12,078
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,806	3,823
Travel & Subsistence	645	26
Accountancy Fees	1,464	221
Professional Fees	619	0
Bank Charges	2,507	2,110
Insurance	1,449	2,651
Centre Costs	2,773	2,663
Sunday Expenses	0	120
	62,824	**62,176**

During the year, no Trustee received remuneration for their services as Trustee (2021-£Nil) However, A. McBride was paid £Nil for Tech Services provided to the Lantern Arts Centre to support its activities (2021- £830). During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2021-£Nil). During the year, no Trustees received any expenses. (2021-£Nil).

8. Creditors

	Total	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Creditors	0	1,455
Taxes	165	172
Accruals	0	0

9. Support Staff

	Total	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	23,764	22,057
Social Security	0	80
Pension Costs	440	435

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
administration	1	1

During the year, no employee was paid a salary above £60,000 in 2022 (2021-£Nil). Key management personnel comprise of the Trustees. No remuneration was paid to the Trustees.

10. Related Parties

No related party transactions have taken place during the year.

11. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of unrestricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2021	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**(to)/from Reserves funds**	**Fund at 31 August 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
General Fund	51,562	127,195	114,886	0	63,871

Analysis of restricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2021	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**(to)/from Reserves funds**	**Fund at 31 August 2022**
	£	£	£	£	£
Performance Grant	2,375	0	2,375	0	0
Other	270	7,505	7,775	0	0
Total	2,645	7,505	10,150	0	0

Restricted funds represent grants or donations given to perform or support the expenditure in specific productions or work in the theatrical field.

10. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2022, which are set out on pages 15 to 22.

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 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011Act) 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.



Matthew Hunt (AAT)
Digivolve Accountants
Delta House
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1UA

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1098680

Accounts

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No. 04556232

Charity No. 1098680

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1. INTRODUCTION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ending 31st August 2020

The Trustees of the Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) are pleased to present our annual report for the Year Ending 31st August 2021, including consolidated financial statements for the Charity. It meets the Companies Act requirements for a director's report and financial accounts.

The financial statements comply with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015).

About the Lantern Arts Centre

Founded over twenty-five years ago, the Lantern Arts Centre is an established and well-resourced community arts centre run year-round by permanent staff and volunteers.

As a faith-based charity the Lantern welcomes everyone in Raynes Park and beyond to its wide-ranging activities. These include affordably ticketed regular community productions, a thriving youth theatre and children's theatre club, dance, acting and singing classes, a community choir, film clubs, activities for toddlers and much more.

Our Supporters

We are very grateful to all those who support the Lantern Arts Centre.

Our financial supporters in this year were:

- Lantern Angels – our regular givers
- Lantern Arts Centre Community – one off donations
- Merton Giving Renewal Fund - Grant
- National Lottery Community Fund - Grant
- Coop Local community Fund - Grant
- Merton Coronavirus Grant
- Home Instead - Grant

2. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Chairman's Statement – Martin Welsh

During the pandemic our thoughts and prayers remain with everyone in the community where lives have been lost and sacrifices endured. Matters were particularly acute during the period covered by this report for the year ending August 2021. For much of that time, we were simply unable to offer anything like the rich and varied programme of activities the Lantern Arts Centre offers the community.

Behind the scenes we learnt to adapt to the many challenges of changing guidance and regulation. Our central objective, to provide what opportunities we could for everyone to take part in and enjoy art, remained our guiding light. The role of creative expression is proving especially important for supporting mental health, a consequence of the pandemic restrictions that has been particularly difficult for so many people.

At all times, thanks to the diligence of staff and volunteers, we were ready to reopen the Centre safely at very short notice, dependent on changing guidance levels. Although many activities were often suspended for lengthy periods, whenever possible we moved to on-line participation with notable successes.

The crucial external support we have been so fortunate to receive must be acknowledged during what really was an existential crisis for a centre that thrives on providing face to face creative activities for the community. Thanks are due to the Government and local Government for the restriction and lockdown grants, and the support from Merton Giving, Bayley & Sage and Waitrose Raynes Park.

The loyalty of our regular givers, our wonderful Angels, is heart-warming, as is the generosity of all those who kindly donated when buying tickets online for our events, or while visiting. The trustees are immensely grateful to our amazing staff and the leaders of our activities, and our awesome volunteers who help in so many ways. And our thanks too for our friends at the Lantern Methodist Church, and to those who share our space to run their own activities.

Despite all the support, the trustees faced difficult decisions. This included the need to furlough key staff and recognise the Lantern Arts Centre Administrator role had become redundant. It meant we had to lose David Kirkland from the team after more than 9 years' service. We are very grateful to him for all he has achieved during his time with us.

As we look to the future, there are new challenges to be faced as we resume and develop our wide-ranging activities as a centre for creativity in the community. Many grants and other forms of financial support that have been available over the course of the pandemic will come to an end. However, with plans to formalise our collaboration with the Lantern Methodist Church and the strategic vision of the Lantern Centre Project taking shape, as ever we remain strongly positive for all we will do.

The Lantern is still shining, and we are well founded to continue serving our community in the years ahead.

3. OPERATIONAL & ARTISTIC REPORTS

Operational Report – Stephen Rees

By September 2020 the staff and volunteers at the Lantern Arts Centre had completed the necessary work to ensure the centre could be ready for reopening as soon as this could be permitted by Covid regulations. Full enhanced cleaning was established for the venue, with new operating processes for all visitors. These included records of attendance, track and trace regulation, sanitising stations, mask wearing and restricted spaced seating.

The reduction in seating capacity for those performances we were able to mount resulted in a significant reduction in revenue. Nevertheless, it was important to provide the community with the opportunity to attend our events after such long periods of closure.

Overall ticket sales were down against the preceding year 2019-2020. Third party bookings for our facilities followed a similar trend. We believe this is an exceptional reduction wholly due to lockdown restrictions. We see no impediment within our control for a resumption of normal volume of trade, subject to external risk factors, including resumption of pandemic control measures.

Without the financial grants and generous support we received during the pandemic these public events would not have been possible. We are extremely grateful to all those involved in supporting our work and helping us through such a difficult period.

Providing the many additional requirements needed for safe opening placed a heavy burden on staff and volunteers alike. It was therefore particularly difficult to manage quite rapidly changing official guidance with a team reduced by the need to furlough key members. Additionally, achieving lower costs ways to run ticketing has meant moving the internal administration of the box office to an outsourced online service. This transition was achieved with great efficiency by our long-standing administrator, David Kirkland, but it meant his role had become redundant. We are grateful for his untiring commitment in his time with us and he is greatly missed.

By the end of the reporting period in August 2021 our focus shifted to the future and planning for full resumption of activities. Clearly it was sensible to introduce activities progressively. Fortunately, we had already proven our enhanced attendance processes for events by holding 'virtual' screenings in the centre which proved popular with visitors and additionally provided much needed income. The screenings were a new approach by the Lantern Arts Centre, as the content was almost entirely drawn from video submissions by the public.

Using video instead of being able to perform live acts highlighted the need for improved audio-visual equipment. This has been upgraded and will be particularly appreciated by attendees of our silver screen showings. A new projector was funded by a grant from Merton Giving in association with the National Lottery and a large screen was funded by a grant from Home Instead.

Looking ahead, financially the Lantern Arts Centre is more secure than we could have hoped. Funding will be a continual challenge, not helped by rising business costs and tighter consumer spending. We plan to recruit for a new staff role to help with our marketing and as ever rely on the assistance of many volunteers from our community. Longer term, planning with the Lantern Methodist Church for the Lantern Centre Project brings the prospect of our first large-scale extension to our venue capabilities.

So, while the future has its uncertainties, this is an exciting time for the creative contribution the Lantern Arts Centre makes to the community it serves.

Artistic Report – Amy Phillips

The usual programme of productions at the Lantern Arts Centre was greatly missed by people during the repeated periods of lockdown closures. It was therefore wonderful in September 2020 to open the doors to our first audience event after a six-month hiatus. Audience numbers had to be limited with social distancing, and because we could not mount an event with performers on stage we hit upon the idea of a **Virtual Cabaret**. We were overwhelmed with the wonderful number of video clips submitted by people from our community, and the event sold all the tickets we were allowed to provide.

Smaller scale activities at the Lantern Arts Centre followed for the next few weeks, supplemented by online activities by many groups. Following a second shorter lockdown Christmas shows began in December, starting with **The Christmas List** that combined panto entertainment with nativity seasonality. Performances of the **12 Days of Christmas** followed, in association with the Silhouette Theatre Company for audiences aged eight and upwards.

The last planned Christmas event of the year, the **Three Wise Men,** by comedic writer Paul Kerensa, was another sell-out run of performances. In the event a further lockdown sadly meant all the shows had to be cancelled, at very short notice.

It would be months before our doors could fully reopen, so in February 2021 we put on a very successful evening of monologues, **The Pandemic Stories**. Streamed live from the Lantern Arts Centre, the event was enjoyed by 150 households. We also streamed **Key Witness** an online version of the play depicting the Easter Story.

A series of online events and, once permitted, appropriate smaller group activities followed. We also were busy preparing for what we hoped would be a resumption of our larger audience events for all visitors to our centre. The first of these still meant reduced capacity but in May we put on a second very entertaining **Virtual Cabaret** which featured a remarkable range of creative entertainment from so many people. Then **Last Train to Nibroc** by Arlene Hutton, at last a full stage performance, followed in July to sell out all seats.

We decided to plan in earnest for our autumn and Christmas programme, and preparations began. This included a survey to help inform us about what local people would especially like from the Lantern Arts Centre. Although our output has been reduced, we have been heartened by all the generous and warm support of local people.

For the future we believe we have come through the last eighteen months not just intact, but full of creative energy for the future. And God willing, together with our volunteers and supporters, we will once again be able to deliver a full programme of activity at the Lantern Arts Centre for our community.

4. PURPOSES & ACTIVITIES

As set out in the LAC Articles of Association updated in July 2013, the purposes of the Charity are to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of Southwest London. Having a strong Christian ethos and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church (formerly Raynes Park Methodist Church), the Charity seeks to include members of the local community of all ages and abilities. They participate as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.

To achieve these objectives, the Charity's activities include the following:

For Children & Young People

Children love stories and **'Once Upon a Storytime'** has become a firm favourite for local children and their parents. Led by our Artistic Director Amy Phillips, up to twenty young children are welcomed each week in term time and participate in captivating stories beautifully read.

The Lantern **Children's Theatre Club** has six age-tiered groups of around 100 participants for ages three to 19 years old. Usually meeting weekly during term time, classes are designed for all children to feel safe, get involved, have fun, grow in confidence and develop independence and life skills whilst tackling key topics. Each group works towards an end of term performance for friends and family, and school holiday projects are a regular activity.

The children proved very adept at moving online, enthusiastically taking part in a wide range of stimulating projects. Some reduction in the number of participants proved temporary such that by the summer of 2021 the classes were close to full. The subsequent return to the Lantern Arts Centre was supported by a range of distancing and other measures for safety.

A production highlight was a filmed recording of their performance of **Romeo & Juliet** which was screened for visitors in June 2021, a landmark for both the cast and their families.

The Lantern Arts Centre's fully inclusive policy means children with SEND and physical needs, or who are learning English, can take part. Families can also take advantage of the offer of bursaries, and this was especially welcomed due to the impact of Covid restrictions.

The outlook for the club in the year ahead is very promising with a diverse programme of activities planned. And as always, new participants will be welcomed to join by our enthusiastic and supportive team aided by community volunteers.

We held a **Rap Workshop** in October 2020 in person for young teenagers, run by Mic Lord. Tweens were also able to take part in an **Improv Workshop** in person in May 2021 with Will Reay.

The **Christmas List** performance held in the main auditorium in December 2021 combined panto entertainment with nativity seasonality specifically for younger children.

For Lovers of Drama

The Lantern Arts Centre's main **house productions** and **studio performances** are keenly anticipated by the local community. The audience for the year reported, including virtual and offline events reduced in line with the level of activity, but for the year ahead, 2021/22 audience numbers are expected to recover.

With the expected resumption of full opening next year, the **Lantern Theatre Company** is planning its programme for 2022.

First Act, the weekly acting class for adults was suspended for the duration of the year. Resumption is planned for the upcoming year. We were able to host an online drama offering with **Let's Get Creative** run by Susie Pottinger and an online poetry performance class **Mirror Crack'd**.

The Free Film Club, **Silver Screen**, was one of the few activities able to be conducted at the Lantern Arts Centre during the pandemic. Although restricted by periodic lockdowns and seating arrangements, this

popular and much needed activity within a COVID safe setting and as restrictions allowed. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the Club and look forward to its full reinstatement.

Our own long-standing **Costume Store** is run by a dedicated team of volunteers for main house productions and external hire. Usually relied on by many local primary and secondary schools, parents, local amateur and professional theatre groups and individuals, it reopened on a more restricted basis during the pandemic. Offering carefully curated items from a keenly priced collection of more than ten thousand pieces, the team offers expert advice and guidance and looks forward to fully reopening.

For Lovers of Music

The **Lantern Community Choir**, our own in-house choir, usually rehearses on a weekly basis and aims to give several performances each year. Rehearsals were promptly moved online at the start of the pandemic and supplemented with music theory and vocal technique sessions. Although group online singing cannot be enabled by current technology, the sessions provided continuity of engagement and learning of new repertoire, with experimentation for virtual recordings. Choir members are looking forward to resuming practice and public performances at the Lantern Arts Centre in due course.

The **Lantern Handbell Group** formed in 2017, is much loved by the players and audiences alike. Although denied the opportunity to perform live by Covid restrictions, the team prepared a special video for the second Virtual Cabaret held at the Lantern Arts Centre in September 2020. Plans for a full resumption of performances will follow reinstatement of rehearsals, including participation in a thanksgiving service at Guildford Cathedral.

For Lovers of Visual Art

Using the modest first floor foyer space, the LAC usually has an established programme of shows by local artists each lasting about two months. Exhibitions have included a range of artists using varying styles and media. Through this, the LAC provides an opportunity to exhibit work either as a solo or joint show. No up-front charge is made but the LAC takes a modest percentage of any sales. As well as providing artists with an affordable venue to exhibit, it also enriches the overall life of the LAC by celebrating the visual arts alongside performance arts with which the LAC is usually associated. Although direct viewing access was affected by pandemic restrictions, the exceptional Junior Festival Photography hosted imagery submitted by children up to the age of 12. These were also displayed online, and featured compelling photographs that depicted aspects of life in lockdown; images of lockdown mounted and online.

For Lovers of Dance

Swing Dance is a weekly dance class for adults hosted by two very experienced dancers teaching the fundamentals of the lively partnered dance which originated in 1920s in New York's Harlem. Classes of up to 10 people learn authentic steps of Lindy Hop and Charleston. Zoom sessions continued through the reporting period and full classes are due to resume in due course.

For Visiting Groups using the Lantern Arts Centre

The Lantern Arts Centre has two studios normally in regular use by many groups. These include theatre companies, dance troupes, orchestras, rehearsing for shows based both in London and around the UK. In addition, regular classes are held including ballet, street dance, swing dance, flamenco, yoga, zumba and pilates. These bring a considerable number of people to the Lantern Arts Centre who then become

involved in our other events and activities. Although suspended periodically in the reporting period, full resumption of bookings should follow once we are fully opened.

Our Volunteers

The heart of the Lantern Arts Centre is the community it serves. It is from the community that so many people come to support what we do.

Today, more than fifty volunteers from across Southwest London are making an irreplaceable difference. They generously commit their time and skills to help run our busy community arts centre, and clearly relish the challenges. Many are involved in our theatre productions on stage, or by supporting the choreography and direction, or for musical production. Then there's their contribution to technical delivery, including stage management, set construction, costuming, props, lighting, and sound. While behind the scenes our volunteers provide essential day in, day out support for building maintenance, marketing, fund raising and disability access.

The Trustees and staff are immensely grateful to everyone who is part of what we do and each year welcome new volunteers to join us as we grow. They are an essential part of making the Lantern Arts Centre what it is today and for its future development.

Feedback from our Community

"The Lantern Arts Centre has earned a special place in the community. Lovely to have a local theatre with a variety of entertainment."

"It's a family-friendly environment. Everyone is made to feel welcome."

"I'm extremely glad I heard of the activities."

"It's local, enterprising and a definite asset to the community."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is one of my favourite places."

"It is friendly and accessible. Price is affordable. Films feel like a community thing."

"Although personally I've only been involved by attending performances, I know the effect it has had on friends and on children/youth - particularly your inclusivity."

"It has provided a safe and fun place for my daughter to explore her acting talents and has always encouraged her to take part in events."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is original in South London and an exception. It has the potential to do amazing things for people and expand the experience of all for their whole mind, body and spirit."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is more than just a building. It is full of kind, enthusiastic and supportive people working together."

"The Lantern Arts Centre is a very special place."

5. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for governance, compliance, strategy, risk management and setting headline objectives. To this end, Trustees receive regular updates, including full reports on activities and financial information and monthly management accounts. Business planning and strategic plans are discussed and agreed by the Trustees at Board meetings. The Trustees convene at least 6 times per year.

The Management Reference Group is a supporting committee for the Board, consisting of four Trustees, that meets annually at least three times. The purpose of the Management Reference Group is to ensure the adequate management of staff on behalf of the Board, including monitoring performance, and to oversee Trustee recruitment. To this end the Management Reference Group acts as the line management function for employed staff.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity.

Trustees are appointed by members of the Charity on an annual basis. There is no maximum length of time that a Trustee can serve, subject to an annual rotation of Trustees. On appointment Trustees sign a register of interests, which is renewed annually.

When a Trustee retires from the Board a full recruitment process is overseen by the Management Reference Group, with appointments decided by the Board. Recruitment is undertaken on a skills basis, with skills gaps amongst existing Trustees identified and sought out within new Trustees. Trustees' induction and ongoing involvement includes visits to the activities delivered by the Charity, engagement with company members, meetings with staff and volunteers and undertaking fundraising activities for the Charity.

To facilitate effective operations, the Trustees employ an Artistic Director and the services of an Operations Manager to whom they have delegated authority for the operational matters of the Charity. During the financial year ending 31 August, the Charity also employed an Office Administrator, a post made redundant in October 2020. Working together, the Artistic Director and Operations Manager have responsibility for the management of all other employees, contractors and volunteers to ensure that the Charity's activities are delivered and upheld against the plans and priorities of the Board.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility for setting pay for all employed posts and for the services of the Operations Manager. Pay is reviewed on an annual basis.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that can impact on the performance of the Charity, some of which are beyond the control of Trustees.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to its finances and operations and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Funds are raised principally through the Charity's own classes, productions and lettings as well individual donors, known as Friends, and local business support. The Charity is indebted to its supporters and in particular its Angels (regular givers) for the financial stability they offer. The Charity is committed to acting with honesty, integrity, respect and transparency with its donors. Its policy is not to use the services of professional fundraisers nor solicit funds directly from the public. No complaints were received in the year in relation to our fundraising activities.

Trustees / Members

There were no changes to the Board of Trustees for the reporting period.

Martin Welsh (Chair)	appointed as Trustee 14/05/2014 – Chairman since 2019
Michael Fuller (Secretary)	appointed as Trustee 24/06/2009 - Secretary since 2010
Alan Brown	appointed as Trustee 09/01/2008
Patricia Rutter	appointed as Trustee 18/02/2009
Kay Wingate	appointed as Trustee 09/03/2013
David King	appointed as Trustee 01/10/2017
Andrew McBride	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2018
Stefanie Kha	appointed as Trustee 11/10/2018
Deacon Dawn Canham	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2019
Gwen Elliot	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
Malcolm Mason	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
Nina Van Gessel	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019
James Hebbourn	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019

Patrons of the Lantern Arts Centre during the period were:

Fiona Castle, Tim Vine, Steve Price, Stephen Hammond, Michael Arthur MBE, Tim Boniface (Pastoral Patron), John Davis (Honorary Patron)

Company Registration Number	4556232
Registered Charity Number	1098680
Registered Office	Tolverne Road, Raynes Park London, SW20 8RA
Secretary	Michael Fuller
Treasurer:	Stefanie Kha
Bankers	Co-Operative Bank plc PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountants since 01/09/2015	Stephen Macnamara SEM Accountancy Services 256 Martin Way Morden SM4 4AW

Public Benefit

As a registered charity, the Lantern Arts Centre Trustees give close regard to their obligations to report the public benefit of its charitable purposes as defined by the Charities Act 2011. Our public benefit determines what it means for the LAC to be a charity, providing focus for the Charity's objectives.

How the LAC serves the community is summarised throughout the report. Measuring the difference (impact) that the Charity makes is a focus for the future. In summary of the Charity's purpose, the LAC:

- Carefully consider accessibility options for those on low incomes whether attending classes, events or productions
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for all age ranges to take part in arts activities and to explore their creative powers
- Develop young people in direction, creative and performance skills to foster their ambitions to progress to further education or employment

Related Parties

Since its inception the LAC has had a close relationship with the Lantern Methodist Church (previously Raynes Park Methodist Church) from which it was founded. The church views the Arts Centre as an integral part of its outreach to the local community and at present three of the LAC Trustees are members of this church with two others in regular attendance.

The premises that the LAC occupies, form part of the Lantern Centre (owned by the Lantern Methodist Church). The parties occupying the Lantern Centre are the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC), Lantern Coffee House (LCH), Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) and Lantern Costume Store (LCS).

The LAC occupies its principal space under license to the church with the facility to use the main church area for large productions three times a year.

Internal Controls and Risk Management

The Trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has in place an appropriate system of controls, financial or otherwise, to provide reasonable assurance that the Charity is operating effectively and in line with Charity Commission guidelines.

The systems of financial control were continually reviewed and improved where necessary during the year to provide reasonable assurance against material misstatement or loss.

An annual planning and budgeting process is in place and the Charity is developing a risk management plan, which will be regularly reviewed throughout the year. This identifies the most significant risks to the Charity, orders them by likelihood of occurrence and their impact, and indicates what action is in hand or is necessary to manage the risk. These include key areas such as Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Fire Safety and Data Protection.

6. OBJECTIVES

The Trustees have agreed the following objectives.

Objective 1:

Maintain a high-quality programme by providing a community performance venue for the purposes of local artistic expression and skill development. This objective will be met by:

- Providing opportunities for the local community to take part in, in order to explore their own creativity and develop, learn and enhance skills related to all forms of art.
- Actively seeking out professional artists to perform or exhibit their work.
- Presenting and performing work which explores culturally relevant issues alongside family-friendly activities, events, and performances.
- Diversifying and increasing the breadth of our offer across the artistic spectrum with a focus on literature, art, music, dance, and comedy. This also includes expanding our digital and online offer.
- Nurturing talent within our local community by offering opportunities to amateur performers and also a range of local artists.
- Widening our team of directors and technical crew in order to become more sustainable, increase our income and enhance our ability to support more regular programming across a diverse range of culturally expressive performance and for income revenue.

Objective 2:

Deliver a programme of accessible events and activities which reduce isolation and improve wellbeing in young people and adults in Raynes Park and the surrounding community. This objective will be met by:

- A programme which provides hands on, workshop-based opportunities for people at all skill levels to explore their own creativity in a safe environment.
- Offering an inclusive programme which pays particular attention to, and addresses the needs of, minority and disempowered groups.
- Supporting, and working in partnership with, grass roots community initiatives which aim to improve the lives of people in the local area.
- Developing and promoting our approach to inclusion, to ensure that all of our events and activities are accessible to people with a range of needs.
- Using arts engagement to improve the quality of life through arts engagement for those who would not normally be able to access the arts. This involves planning ahead in order to secure funding in time to offer subsidised places.
- Increasing our offer to young people by ensuring that activities are targeted and relevant.
- Ensuring financial accessibility across all of our programme so that access to the arts is not prohibited due to an individual's financial status.
- Strengthening our long-term partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church through active collaboration in order to provide holistic pastoral support and to celebrate our rich Christian heritage.

Objective 3:

Safeguard the Lantern Arts Centre so that the Charity can continue to serve the local community and meets its obligations of public benefit into the future. This objective will be met by:

- Developing a 3 to 5-year strategy, alongside a robust risk register, in order to mitigate as far as possible against risks which will impact on the sustainability of the LAC.
- Diversifying our income through increasing our regular donors, our lettings provision and targeting applications for grant funding in line with the Charities objectives.
- Building up and maintaining the Charity's reserves at a robust level and investing in our technical and office infrastructure
- Securing a leasehold tenure from the Lantern Methodist Church on the core premises required by the LAC to undertake its regular activities.
- Developing our online and marketing strategy in order to increase our income.
- Building our volunteer base, seeking to draw in skills particularly in the areas of marketing and technical expertise.

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The Charity's income for the year was £106,167 (2020: £114,248) against expenditure of £86,636 (2020: £108,254) leading to a surplus of £19,531 (2020: £5,724).

In a typical year, the LAC generates the majority of its income through donations and charitable activities, such as its productions and classes. However, in line with government COVID 19 restrictions in place, the LAC had to reduce activities during the year. As a result, total income has decreased by £8,081. However, the LAC gratefully received additional income from the Government's Coronavirus Fund, the Merton Giving Fund and generous donations from its Angels and supporters.

Expenditure decreased by £21,888 compared to the previous year in line with reduced activity. At the beginning of the year some staff remained on furlough, whilst others returned to work as the centre started to reopen more fully.

The Trustees continue to closely monitor the performance of the Charity's activities, particularly in light of the developing COVID-19 situation and the continuously changing government restrictions impacting performing arts and community groups. The Trustees proactively seek to develop a programme of activities that ensures the LAC continues to be accessible to wide audiences on a range of mediums throughout these difficult times.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are committed to further stabilise the financial future of the LAC, particularly in these uncertain times. The purpose of the reserves policy is to mitigate against any risk to ongoing activities, which may be caused by an unforeseen increase in expenditure, incoming funds falling short of expectations or a temporary cash shortage due to the periodical nature of the LAC's activities.

The Trustees undertake an annual risk assessment to determine the level of reserves that need to be maintained. Reserves include restricted and unrestricted funds. Only the unrestricted funds can be used at the discretion of the Trustees, i.e. to address the above risks. The restricted funds may only be used for their specific purpose. Total fund balances carried forward are £54,207, made up of £2,645 of restricted funds and £51,562 of unrestricted funds.

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain at least 3 months operating costs as unrestricted reserves to meet immediate commitments and to enable a timely reaction to any downturn in activities. The Trustees consider the level of reserves held at Year End to be reasonable.

8. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make sound judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and requirements of the Charities Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015).

Audit

As noted on the Trustees' statement on the Balance Sheet, the trustees have taken advantage of the exemption from audit applicable to the Charity and these accounts have not been audited.
The Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 1S of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on **29.03.2022** and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Welsh
Chair of Trustees
Lantern Arts Centre

9. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31"AUGUST 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income:					
Grants and donations	3	35,862	6,315	42,177	21,137
Other income		27	0	27	0
Services to Lantern Centre		0	0	0	6,000
Incoming Resources from charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	4	63,963	0	63,963	87,111
Investment income					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
Total Incoming Resources		99,852	6,315	106,167	114,248
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising costs of grants and donations	5,7	2,662	0	2,662	3,339
Charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and centres	6,7	77,929	6,045	83,974	105,185
Total Resources Expended		80,591	6,045	86,636	108,524
Transfer Between Funds					
Net Movement In Funds					
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		19,261	270	19,531	5,724
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2020		32,301	2,375	34,676	28,932
Restatement of reserves		--	--	--	--
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2021		51,562	2,645	54,207	34,676

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST AUGUST 2021

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Other debtors		2,969		1,683	
Cash at bank and in hand		52,865		39,452	
		55,834		41,135	
Liabilities					

Creditors falling due within one year	8	1,627		6,459	
Net Current Assets			54,207		34,676
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			**54,207**		**34,676**
Accumulated Funds					
Restricted funds	11	2,645		2,375	
Unrestricted funds	11	51,562		32,301	
Total charity funds			**54,207**		**34,676**

Audit Exemption

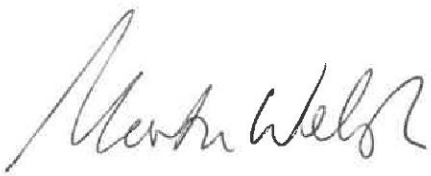
For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees following the meeting on **29.03.2022** and signed on their behalf by:



M Welsh
Chairman of Trustees

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting basis and standards

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and 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 (FRS102)-Charities (SORP 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

(b) Going Concern

The Trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The level of reserves held at year end is sufficient to maintain basic office expenditures for a period of 6 —9 months. Ongoing and continuous contingency planning and risk management mean the LAC is well prepared to deal with adversities. The LAC receives a strong level of support from its "Angels" who donate on a regular basis as well as from its wider company who volunteer much of their time to support the activities. In addition, the Trustees have formed a new Fundraising subcommittee to work on further diversifying the LAC's income base. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

(c) Incoming Resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding are of a general nature and are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial trading activities is recognised as earned (as the related goods and services are provided). Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided).

Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is deferred when; Admission fees or performance related grants are received in advance of the performances or events to which they relate.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that result in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds. Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the staging of

concerts, stage production, art exhibitions and educational programmes and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

(f) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:-
Unrestricted General Funds - This can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted Funds- which may only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

(i) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount can be measured or estimated reliably.

2. Constitution

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding E10

3. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Grants	15,531	6,315	21,846

Donations	20,331	0	20,331
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	35,862	6,315	42,177

Prior Year Comparative (2020)

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2020**
	£	**£**	**£**
Grants	0	11,500	11,500
Donations	9,637	0	9,637
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	9,637	11,500	21,137

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**
	Funds	**Funds**	**2021**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	34,432	0	34,432
Productions	12,971	0	12,971
Lettings	13,341	0	13,341
Other	3,219	0	3,219
	63,963	0	63,963

Prior Year Comparative (2020)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	2019
	£	£	£
Classes	16,011	0	16,011
Productions	17,457	0	17,457
Lettings	14,655	0	14,655
Other	38,988	0	38,988
	87,111	0	87,111

5. Analysis of expenditure on costs of generating funds

The charity allocates 5% of support costs to generate funds in line with actual time spent on this activity.

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	2,662	2,662

Prior Year Comparative (2020)

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2019
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	3,339	3,339

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

The charity allocates its support costs between the three activities undertaken as shown in the table below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2021**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	14,105	21,219	35,324
Productions	3,599	7,364	10,963
Lettings	5,729	13,176	18,905
Other	1,085	17,696	18,781
Total	**24,518**	**59,455**	**83,973**

Prior Year Comparative (2020)

Activity or Programme	**Activities Undertaken Directly**	**Support Costs**	**Total 2020**
	£	**£**	**£**
Classes	12,869	27,278	40,147
Productions	7,556	9,467	17,023
Lettings	5,475	16,939	22,414
Other	2,851	22,750	25,601
Total	**28,751**	**76,434**	**105,185**

7. Analysis of Support Costs

	Total	**Total**
	2021	**2020**
	£	**£**
Contractor Fees	15,375	16,344
Salaries	22,571	28,002
Advertising & Promotions	538	470
Office Costs	12,140	21,158
Printing, Postage & Stationery	3,823	4,333
Travel & Subsistence	26	3,100
Accountancy Fees	221	3110
Bank Charges	2,110	1,275
Insurance	2,651	1,282
Sunday Expenses	2,662	699
	62,117	**79,773**

During the year, no Trustee received remuneration for their services as Trustee (2020-£Nil) However, A. McBride was paid £830 for Tech Services provided to the Lantern Arts Centre to support its activities (2020- £680). During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2020-£Nil). During the year, no Trustees received any expenses. (2020-£Nil).

8. Creditors

	Total	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1,455	0
Taxes	172	0
Accruals	0	6,459

9. Support Staff

	Total	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	22,057	27,876
Social Security	0	0
Pension Costs	364	126

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021	2021
	Number	Number
administration	1	1

During the year, no employee was paid a salary above £60,000 in 2021 (2020-£Nil). Key management personnel comprise of the Trustees. No remuneration was paid to the Trustees.

10. Related Parties

No related party transactions have taken place during the year.

11. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of unrestricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	(to)/from Reserves funds	Fund at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	32,301	99,852	80,591	0	51,562

Analysis of restricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	(to)/from Reserves funds	Fund at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£	£

Performance Grant	2,375	0	0	0	2,375
Other	0	6,315	6,045	0	270
Total	2,375	6,315	6,045	0	2,645

Restricted funds represent grants or donations given to perform or support the expenditure in specific productions or work in the theatrical field.

10. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 16 to 20.

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 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011Act) 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.

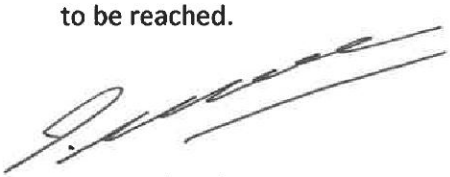
Independent examiner's statement

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.



S Macnamara (AAT)
SEM Accountancy Services
256 Martin Way
Morden
Surrey
SM4 4AW

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1098680

Accounts

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2020

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No. 04556232

Charity No. 1098680

Our thanks to our financial supporters in 2019/2020:

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1. INTRODUCTION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ending 31st August 2020

The Trustees of the Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) are pleased to present this annual report for the Year Ending 31st August 2020, including consolidated financial statements for the Charity, and which is prepared to meet the requirements for a director's report and financial accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015).

Chairman's Report – Martin Welsh

Throughout the enormous challenges that we all had to face since early 2019 with the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for communities to come together has never been more important. The LAC community has done that, is still doing that, and will continue to do that as we all emerge from this experience.

In September 2019 I had the absolute honour and privilege to take on the role of chairman at the LAC. Having been personally involved here for over 10 years I was delighted to be able to help support and promote community arts which bring so much joy and delight to people of all ages and backgrounds at this wonderful, magical place.

We began the year by saying a big thank you to two Trustees who were standing down – Mike Bennett in July 2019 after more than 5 years as a trustee, and Janet Morgan-Smith in September 2019 after over 2 years as a Trustee. In addition, after serving for 9 years as Chair of Trustees, and over 12 years as a Trustee, Alan Brown stepped down from the role of Chair at the end of August. On behalf of everyone at the Arts Centre I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude and thanks for all he has done and indeed for agreeing to stay on the Board going forward.

There were some changes afoot. We refreshed and re-named the Bryan Room, to honour the memory of dear Roland and Margaret and their unstinting support for LAC over many, many years. We welcomed four new Trustees in September, following a 3-month recruitment process that took place through the summer of 2019. Welcome to Gwen Elliott, James Hebbourn, Nina van Gessel and Malcolm Mason. The board refreshed its structure with the Management Reference Group continuing with a brief of providing ongoing management support and sustainability to the senior staff team. Other groups to support fundraising, technical and marketing activities were formed alongside the existing pastoral support group, artistic reference group and the Lantern Centre project group.

There was much to be excited about. We unveiled a new LAC logo and a reinvigorated website. We introduced a new ticketing system and a way for our supporters to tap and donate. We had just enjoyed a wonderfully successful first full year with our new operating structure in place, and our finances were in the strongest shape for many years. The Lantern Centre Project was officially launched in September, we held a Friends Brunch in October to engage with our community, and a Dessert Lounge later that month. In November and December, we had a number of events and visiting artists, culminating in our main house production of Harvey.

In early 2020 we staged Things I Know to be True, little knowing that it would be the last live show before lockdown. The shut down in March came just a matter of days before our children's and youth theatre groups' end of term productions, and our Main House Spring Cabaret too. After weeks and weeks of rehearsing together it felt very strange to suddenly be apart. However, our community rallied round, and continued some of our activities (and started some new ones too) meeting remotely over Zoom.

All through the summer we focused on preparing our facilities so we could be ready to welcome people back through the doors in a COVID safe environment, following the evolving guidance as it was produced. Where we could, we continued activities on-line with many groups producing some very imaginative output!

By the end of the summer we were finally able to re-open, in a safe, Covid-secure manner, with all of our children's and youth theatre groups back in the building, together with our Silver Screen free cinema club meeting every week.

The LAC has managed to survive, but it hasn't been easy. We have lost a huge amount of regular income (a third of which comes from our large community shows) and the changing guidance and nature of this terrible virus has been a big strain. We have tightened our belts and reduced costs wherever possible, made use of the furlough scheme and been grateful for donations from our community and a small number of local grants. We are relieved and grateful that our immediate community has not been affected by the pandemic in the worst way but that our thoughts and prayers are with all those we know who have been.

As we look to the future, we hope to be able to re-schedule some of our planned events, including the Cabaret, for 2021 as soon as it is safe to do so, and we have lots of other exciting ideas planned to reach out to our community. With their support we will keep the Lantern shining!

Martin Welsh | Chairman

Purposes and Activities

As set out in the LAC Articles of Association updated in July 2013, the purposes of the Charity are to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of South West London. Having a strong Christian ethos and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church (formerly Raynes Park Methodist Church), the Charity seeks to include members of the local community, of all ages and abilities, as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Charity's activities include the following:

1. Main House Productions & Studio Performances
2. Children's and Youth Theatre classes for ages 4-18
3. Story-telling for pre-school children – Once Upon a Storytime
4. Pre-school dance classes – Lantern Baby Boppers
5. Acting classes for adults – First Act
6. Choir – Lantern Community Choir
7. Free film clubs – Silver Screen and So You Missed It
8. Theatre outreach – Lantern Theatre Company
9. Costume hire – Lantern Costume Store
10. Art exhibitions – Artists' Gallery
11. Hand bell ringing - Lantern Bells
12. One off performances
13. Dance classes for adults – Swing Dance
14. Visiting theatre companies and musical concerts

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

Governing Document

The Lantern Arts Centre is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 10 September 2002 and amended on 16th July 2013. The LAC is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The subscribers to the Memorandum of Association and the Trustees are the members of the company.

At the start this year (01September 2019) there were 11 members. During the year up to 31 August 2020 two members resigned and four new ones joined. Each member agrees to contribute £10 in the event of the Charity being wound up.

Structure Governance and Management

The Trustees are responsible for governance, compliance, strategy, risk management and setting headline objectives. To this end, Trustees receive regular updates, including full reports on activities and financial information and monthly management accounts. Business planning and strategic plans are discussed and agreed by the Trustees at Board meetings. The Trustees convene at least 6 times per year.

The Management Reference Group is a supporting committee for the Board, consisting of 4 Trustees, that meets at least 3 times per year or as required by the Charity. The purpose of the Management Reference Group is to ensure the adequate management of staff on behalf of the Board, including monitoring performance, and to oversee Trustee recruitment. To this end the Management Reference Group acts as the line management function for employed staff.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity.

Trustees are appointed by members of the Charity on an annual basis. There is no maximum length of time that a Trustee can serve, subject to an annual rotation of Trustees. On appointment Trustees sign a register of interests, which is renewed annually.

When a Trustee retires from the Board a full recruitment process is overseen by the Management Reference Group, with appointments decided by the Board. Recruitment is undertaken on a skills basis, with skills gaps amongst existing Trustees identified and sought out within new Trustees. Trustees' induction and ongoing involvement includes visits to the activities delivered by the Charity, engagement with company members, meetings with staff and volunteers and undertaking fundraising activities for the Charity.

To facilitate effective operations, the Trustees employ an Artistic Director and the services of an Operations Manager to whom they have delegated authority for the operational matters of the Charity. During the financial year ending 31 August, the Charity also employed an Office Administrator. Unfortunately, this post was made redundant in October 2020 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Working together, the Artistic Director and Operations Manager have responsibility for the management of all other employees, contractors and volunteers to ensure that the Charity's activities are delivered and upheld against the plans and priorities of the Board.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility for setting pay for all employed posts and for the services of the Operations Manager. Pay is reviewed on an annual basis.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that can impact on the performance of the Charity, some of which are beyond the control of Trustees.

The Trustees retain and exercise their responsibility to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to its finances and operations and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Funds are raised principally through the Charity's own classes, productions and lettings as well individual donors, known as Friends, and local business support. The Charity is indebted to its supporters and in particular its Angels (regular givers) for the financial stability they offer. The Charity is committed to acting with honesty, integrity, respect and transparency with its donors. Its policy is not to use the services of professional fundraisers nor solicit funds directly from the public. No complaints were received in the year in relation to our fundraising activities.

Trustees / Members

Martin Welsh (Chair)	appointed as Trustee 14/05/2014 – Chairman since 2019
Michael Fuller (Secretary)	appointed as Trustee 24/06/2009 - Secretary since 2010
Alan Brown	appointed as Trustee 09/01/2008
Patricia Rutter	appointed as Trustee 18/02/2009
Kay Wingate	appointed as Trustee 09/03/2013
David King	appointed as Trustee 01/10/2017
Andrew McBride	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2018
Stefanie Kha	appointed as Trustee 11/10/2018
Deacon Dawn Canham	appointed as Trustee 01/03/2019
Gwen Elliot	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019 – new appointment
Malcolm Mason	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019 – new appointment
Nina Van Gessel	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019 – new appointment
James Hebbourn	appointed as Trustee 11/09/2019 – new appointment
Mike Bennett	appointed as Trustee 26/03/2014 – resigned 11/09/2019
Janet Morgan Smith	appointed as Trustee 17/07/2017 – resigned 11/09/2019

Patrons of the Lantern Arts Centre during the period were:

Fiona Castle, Tim Vine, Steve Price, Stephen Hammond, Michael Arthur MBE, Tim Boniface (Pastoral Patron), John Davis (Honorary Patron)

Company Registration Number	4556232
Registered Charity Number	1098680
Registered Office	Tolverne Road, Raynes Park London, SW20 8RA
Secretary	Michael Fuller
Treasurer:	Stefanie Kha

Bankers	Co-Operative Bank plc PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountants since 01/09/2015	Stephen Macnamara SEM Accountancy Services 256 Martin Way Morden SM4 4AW

Public Benefit

As a registered charity, the Lantern Arts Centre Trustees give close regard to their obligations to report the public benefit of its charitable purposes as defined by the Charities Act 2011. Our public benefit determines i what it means for the LAC to be a charity, providing focus for the Charity's objectives.

How the LAC serves the community is summarised throughout the report. Measuring the difference (impact) that the Charity makes is a focus for the future. In summary of the Charity's purpose, the LAC:

- Give careful consideration to accessibility for those on low incomes whether attending classes, events or productions
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for all age ranges to take part in arts activities and to explore their creative powers
- Develop young people in direction, creative and performance skills to foster their ambitions to progress to further education or employment

Related Parties

Since its inception the LAC has had a close relationship with the Lantern Methodist Church (previously Raynes Park Methodist Church) from which it was founded. The church views the Arts Centre as an integral part of its outreach to the local community and at present three of the LAC Trustees are members of this church with two others in regular attendance.

The premises that the LAC occupies, form part of the Lantern Centre (owned by the Lantern Methodist Church). The parties occupying the Lantern Centre are the Lantern Methodist Church (LMC), Lantern Coffee House (LCH), Lantern Arts Centre (LAC) and Lantern Costume Store (LCS).

The LAC occupies its principal space under license to the church with the facility to use the main church area for large productions three times a year.

Internal Controls and Risk Management

The Trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has in place an appropriate system of controls, financial or otherwise, to provide reasonable assurance that the Charity is operating effectively and in line with Charity Commission guidelines.

The systems of financial control were continually reviewed and improved where necessary during the year to provide reasonable assurance against material misstatement or loss.

An annual planning and budgeting process is in place and the Charity is developing a risk management plan, which will be regularly reviewed throughout the year. This identifies the most significant risks to the Charity, orders them by likelihood of occurrence and their impact, and indicates what action is in hand or is necessary to manage the risk. These include key areas such as Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Fire Safety and Data Protection.

Our Volunteers

The Charity is heavily reliant on over 50 volunteers drawn from the existing Lantern Arts Centre company and the South West London area in order to deliver its charitable activities. The Trustees are enormously indebted to these volunteers for their continued support in ensuring the ongoing success of the Charity's work. Volunteers assist the Charity in a diverse range of roles and activities including technical support, fundraising, stage management, set construction, choreography and musical direction, marketing, building maintenance, costume design and creation, fundraising and disability support.

The Trustees are committed to increasing the Charity's volunteer base locally in order to expand the existing team and to draw in expertise in critical areas which pose a risk to the financial sustainability of the Charity, namely fundraising, marketing and technical performance support. The Charity is also seeking to develop role descriptions and an onboarding process to support an ongoing volunteer recruitment programme into the Charity.

Feedback

We have highlighted below some of the quotes received from our community of LAC users:

From the Lantern Community Choir:

"You cannot imagine how much being in the choir has helped."
"I have been having a horrible time, but the choir is where I forget."

From First Act and Main Productions:

"Thank you so much for last night, it was great fun and lovely meeting everyone."
"Soooo nice to see everyone again last night, and thank you especially for your welcome. Coming to the LAC is definitely therapy!!"
"I am amazed at how much I have learnt."

From Children's Theatre Club:

"Bless you Susie! We are with you 100%. Thank you for everything you are doing to keep the theatre going... They are really enjoying this term with you. Thank you for the inspiration"

"As you know --- loves CTC. You are a great inspiration to all the children and your work is greatly appreciated by us as a family and many others... He can't wait to see you on Wednesday."

"We have now donated and were happy to do so in appreciation of all that you and the team do for the kids. Your hard work and kind dedication to the children and their well- being at this time is a wonderful thing. Thank you!"

From the Costume Store:

"We had some of the staff from a local primary school in during World Book Week who took a lot of costumes and who felt our charges were 'very fair', plus we helped many desperate parents who often expected to pay more!"

3. OBJECTIVES

The Trustees have agreed the following objectives.

Objective 1:
Maintain a high-quality programme by providing a community performance venue for the purposes of local artistic expression and skill development. This objective will be met by:

- Providing opportunities for the local community to take part in, in order to explore their own creativity and develop, learn and enhance skills related to all forms of art.
- Actively seeking out professional artists to perform or exhibit their work.
- Presenting and performing work which explores culturally relevant issues alongside family-friendly activities, events, and performances.
- Diversifying and increasing the breadth of our offer across the artistic spectrum with a focus on literature, art, music, dance, and comedy. This also includes expanding our digital and online offer.
- Nurturing talent within our local community by offering opportunities to amateur performers and also a range of local artists.
- Widening our team of directors and technical crew in order to become more sustainable, increase our income and enhance our ability to support more regular programming across a diverse range of culturally expressive performance and for income revenue.

Objective 2:
Deliver a programme of accessible events and activities which reduce isolation and improve wellbeing in young people and adults in Raynes Park and the surrounding community. This objective will be met by:

- A programme which provides hands on, workshop-based opportunities for people at all skill levels to explore their own creativity in a safe environment.
- Offering an inclusive programme which pays particular attention to, and addresses the needs of, minority and disempowered groups.
- Supporting, and working in partnership with, grass roots community initiatives which aim to improve the lives of people in the local area.
- Developing and promoting our approach to inclusion, to ensure that all of our events and activities are accessible to people with a range of needs.
- Using arts engagement to improve the quality of life through arts engagement for those who would not normally be able to access the arts. This involves planning ahead in order to secure funding in time to offer subsidised places.
- Increasing our offer to young people by ensuring that activities are targeted and relevant.
- Ensuring financial accessibility across all of our programme so that access to the arts is not prohibited due to an individual's financial status.
- Strengthening our long-term partnership with the Lantern Methodist Church through active collaboration in order to provide holistic pastoral support and to celebrate our rich Christian heritage.

Objective 3:
Safeguard the Lantern Arts Centre so that the Charity can continue to serve the local community and meets its obligations of public benefit into the future. This objective will be met by:

- Developing a 3 to 5-year strategy, alongside a robust risk register, in order to mitigate as far as possible against risks which will impact on the sustainability of the LAC.
- Diversifying our income through increasing our regular donors, our lettings provision and targeting applications for grant funding in line with the Charities objectives.
- Building up and maintaining the Charity's reserves at a robust level and investing in our technical and office infrastructure

- Securing a leasehold tenure from the Lantern Methodist Church on the core premises required by the LAC to undertake its regular activities.
- Developing our online and marketing strategy in order to increase our income.
- Building our volunteer base, seeking to draw in skills particularly in the areas of marketing and technical expertise.

4. ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

The major areas of activity in furtherance of the Charity's aims and objectives continue to be:

1. Main House Productions & Studio Performances
2. Children's and Youth Theatre classes for ages 4-18
3. Story-telling for pre-school children – Once Upon a Storytime
4. Pre-school dance classes – Lantern Baby Boppers
5. Acting classes for adults – First Act
6. Choir – Lantern Community Choir
7. Free film clubs – Silver Screen and So You Missed It
8. Theatre outreach – Lantern Theatre Company
9. Costume hire – Lantern Costume Store
10. Art exhibitions – Artists' Gallery
11. Hand bell ringing - Lantern Bells
12. One off performances
13. Dance classes for adults – Swing Dance
14. Visiting theatre companies and musical concerts

1. MAIN HOUSE PRODUCTIONS & STUDIO PERFORMANCES

Harvey, December 2019
Following a free workshop to introduce this sparkling show, a very successful production of Mary Chase's Pulitzer-prize winning comedy, Harvey, was produced for Christmas 2019, playing to full houses at every performance. Artistic Director Amy Phillips directed a cast of 12 and approximately 25 crew and creatives were also involved, not including front of house volunteers. A happy production focusing on the merits of kindness and acceptance showcased LAC talent to great effect.

Christmas Chaos, 2019
The Lantern Theatre company made a welcome return to the LAC with their fun and family-friendly Christmas production of 'Christmas Chaos' written by Children's Theatre Club leader Susie Pottinger. With an affordable £6 ticket price and performed in the Studio Theatre this was a hugely popular show for Under 8's and we added extra performances.

Spring Cabaret (cancelled due to Covid), Jan – March 2020
After another free workshop, the LAC *nearly* managed to produce our Spring Show, a varied and ambitious Cabaret encompassing musical numbers from past productions and a few new songs and dances. Rehearsals were fun and lively with a 40-strong cast and crew. Choreography was shared by several LAC creatives and Amy Phillips oversaw the production. Although the show had to be cancelled a few weeks before the first performance because of Covid, new friendships were made and skills refreshed and renewed.

Things I Know to Be True, February 2020
Following the success of his previous Studio Theatre play, 'Girls Like That', young director Toby Ward Smith (mentored by Amy Phillips) produced a fantastic production of this moving and lyrical play that grapples with family dynamics and many other important issues. As well as a brilliant cast of six, a talented team of crew and creatives worked extremely well together. The show was a sell-out.

Ladies Day, July 2020 (cancelled due to Covid)
The Trustees hope to bring this female-led comedy back to the LAC soon.

2. CHILDREN'S & YOUTH THEATRE CLUB (CTC)

CTC has 6 age-based groups running weekly during term time. Each group works towards a performance at the end of each term to which friends and family are invited. There are also holiday projects during school holidays (unable to happen this year due to Covid). The youngest groups are children from 3-5 years old whilst the oldest children in the Youth theatre Seniors are from 15 years and older.

There is a fully inclusive approach that sees children with SEND and physical needs being involved as well as children who are learning English. Bursaries are offered to families that need it and classes are designed for all children to feel safe, get involved, grow in confidence and develop independence whilst tackling key topics and life skills.

CTC has just over 110 children attending its classes each week. Many of the children have grown through the groups and become leaders of the classes. During the 2020 summer term, due to lockdown, CTC couldn't meet in person but went online and the groups met to devise and create small projects which were then scripted and lines recorded individually at home, collated and produced as short episodic videos to be shared with friends and family via Facebook and the LAC website. Numbers did drop with going online but still 80 children and young people accessed CTC for a donation of what they could afford in acknowledgement of the uncertain financial time.

3. STORY TELLING PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN - ONCE UPON A STORYTIME

This is a weekly term-time session for under-fives and their parents led by our artistic director, Amy Phillips. Sessions are 45 minutes long and include the reading of two age-appropriate stories. Children join in with action songs and rhymes. Hosting up to 20 children, the class is frequently full and parents appreciate the high quality of the session, the reasonable pricing and the opportunities to socialise at the end of each half term when they are welcomed to stay on for free refreshments. Sadly, the LAC had to pause the class in March 2020 due to Covid.

4. PRE–SCHOOL DANCE CLASSES – LANTERN BABY BOPPERS

Another offering for under-fives, this weekly dance class during term time engages both children and parents with movement, props, dance and songs. The group has a constant turnover but usually has up to 10 children per session. After Boppers, participants often go on to spend time in the Lantern Play-Zone or Lantern Coffee House which are downstairs in the main church spaces. Sadly, the LAC had to pause the class in March 2020 due to Covid.

5. ACTING CLASSES FOR ADULTS - FIRST ACT

'First Act' is the LAC's weekly acting class for adults run by the Artistic Director, Amy Phillips, unless Amy is directing a Main House show in which case, guest theatre practitioners are invited to cover. During the Autumn term, a talented team of theatre practitioners covered a range of subjects including musical theatre, improvisation and Shakespeare. This provided an engaging and varied term for First Act students with very positive feedback. First Act did not run in the Spring Term and was unable to resume in the summer of 2020 due to Covid.

6. LANTERN COMMUNITY CHOIR

The LAC's in-house choir ordinarily meets to rehearse on a weekly basis and aims to give several performances each year. In the autumn 2019 term the choir worked on a mixed programme of music, ranging from classical to pop and in preparation for Christmas. The choir performed four times during the 2019 festive season at the

Lantern Christmas Fayre and the Raynes Park Christmas Festival, in the choir's own concert of Christmas music and pop songs, and to support Paul Kerensa's Comedians and Carols evening.

Rehearsals commenced in January 2020 with a mixture of music from musicals, classical and lighter repertoire. With the onset of the first Covid-19 lockdown in March the choir's leader, Stephen Hall, established virtual rehearsals using the Zoom platform. This is far from ideal for choirs as owing to variable broadband latency it is not possible for singers to sing together. They can only sing along at the same time with the choir leader, an accompaniment, or a recording. The experience offered is many steps removed from being in a real choir, and it is not for everyone, but it was immensely successful in keeping the choir going and giving members something to look forward to each week.

On this basis the choir continued to learn new repertoire and also experimented with creating virtual recordings. Zoom-based rehearsals were held every week from March through to mid-August 2020, involving between 12 and 20 singers.

7. FREE FILM CLUBS – Silver Screen & So You Missed it on the Big Screen

Due to the pandemic 2019 – 2020 has been a year of two distinct parts for Silver Screen. Throughout Autumn 2019 the usual programme of free film screenings continued every other Tuesday for those who are retired or not in work. Regular attendances numbered around 30-35 guests, enjoying surround-sound movie experience in our first floor Studio Theatre. Feedback from guests continued to be positive, highlighting its benefits for those who live alone with limited opportunities for social interaction.

In Spring 2020 when the first lockdown was introduced, activities were necessarily put on hold. As soon as restrictions were eased, the LAC was able to restart in a COVID safe setting in the Main Church space with pre-booked seats for up to 25 guests. Each film was shown on two consecutive weeks to ensure no one missed out and around 30-40 guests attended every fortnight. This pattern continued through the Spring and Summer 2020 as the regulations allowed showing some great films. Despite the restrictions the feedback from guests was one of enthusiastic support for what has been much needed respite from the isolation many were feeling. Silver Screen was one of the few LAC activities still able to operate during the pandemic, and the Trustees remain committed to continuing this popular and much needed activity within a COVID safe setting and as restrictions allow.

8. LANTERN THEATRE COMPANY – Theatre Outreach

The Lantern Theatre Company (LTC) has continued to serve the local community and surrounding wider boroughs by delivering high quality performances and theatre experiences for young people and adults in churches and community venues. It offers touring pieces of Christian based theatre to venues around the UK at affordable prices and begin lasting relationships for the expansion of the aims and profile of the Lantern Arts Centre. Performances in 2019 - 2020 include The Hiding Place performed in local churches and a performance at HM Prison Send in Surrey.

9. COSTUME STORE – 10,000 items of costume wear

The LAC runs its own onsite costume store where a dedicated team of volunteers work with many local primary and secondary schools and their parents in helping to costume their productions and special events, such as World Book Day. Also, local amateur theatre groups - all of which have to work to a very tight budget - come to the LAC for an affordable deal and also for the expertise of the volunteer staff who will always go out of their way to help costume their productions appropriately.

Whilst we reach the local community through schools and local theatre groups, many individuals also hire from the Costume Store for parties or special events. Several professional theatre groups who have also

discovered the Costume Store along with a couple of local care homes who frequently put on special events and activities for their residents.

10. ARTISTS' GALLERY

Using the modest first floor foyer space, the LAC has an established programme of shows by local artists each lasting about two months. Exhibitions have included a range of artists using varying styles and media. Through this, the LAC provides an opportunity to exhibit work either as a solo or joint show. No up-front charge is made but the LAC takes a modest percentage of any sales. As well as providing artists with an affordable venue to exhibit, it also enriches the overall life of the LAC by celebrating the visual arts alongside performance arts with which the LAC is usually associated. During the lockdown in April 2020 an online Junior Photofest was launched. Entries were displayed both online and in the Arts Centre, ready for the return of the LAC community.

11. LANTERN BELLS

The Lantern Handbell Team, consisting of 11 Ringers, continues to flourish and improve. This is in spite of the reduced number of rehearsals over this past year, with 8 sessions in Spring 2020. The group joined with Lantern Methodist for their Carols by Candlelight Service in December 2019 and gave a handbell performance which was well received. A very enjoyable Handbells Workshop took place in February 2020 led by Sandra Winter of the Handbell Ringers of Great Britain, with lots of helpful advice given for a (planned) forthcoming Charity Handbells Concert on 25 April 2020. This was sadly cancelled due to the outbreak of Covid 19.

During the following weeks members were able to stay connected and positive as a group through the Bells WhatsApp group, Zoom, and a number of videos. When restrictions were eased, the group met for a socially-distanced 'ring' in August 2020. A further 6 rehearsals were managed before the second national lockdown.

12. ONE OFF PERFORMANCES

Christmas Celebration, November 2019
This joint fundraising event the Lantern Methodist Church showcased the range of activities that go on at the Lantern Centre. Performances ran on the main stage from 10am to 4pm including the CTC and Youth Theatre, Choir, various dance groups and the Lantern Hand Bells group – not to mention some visits from 'Harvey' the rabbit! The event was a successful fundraiser for the church and incorporated a Christmas market, a brass band and carol singing as we turned on our Christmas lights.

Dessert Lounge, October 2019
An event to celebrate the LAC's 25th birthday mixed a range of musical talent with some delicious sweet treats from celebrated pastry chef Martin Powell (Pastry Chef of the Year 2014). Coffee and tea was provided courtesy of the Lantern Coffee House and over 100 guests enjoyed a great evening of music in the main sanctuary of the Lantern Methodist Church. Sadly, the June 2020 Dessert Lounge was cancelled because of Covid.

I'm Sorry I haven't a Cue, January 2020
In a first for the LAC, this fast-paced evening saw songs and puns from a panel of guests attempting to talk without hesitation, repetition or deviation. It was a lively studio performance by actors from the LAC community.

Julie-Anne Shapiro, January 2020
Performing songs from her album 'Met by Grace' inspired by her personal story, Julie Anne delivered an evening that left the audience moved and uplifted.

13. DANCE CLASSES FOR ADULTS – SWING DANCE

Swing Dance is a weekly dance class for adults, teaching the fundamentals of this lively partnered dance which originated in 1920's Harlem (New York). Participants learn the authentic steps of Lindy Hop and Charleston. The classes, with up to 10 people in them, are run by Dawn and Moh who live locally and have danced all over London and around the world and who have 26 years of dance experience between them.

14. VISITING THEATRE COMPANIES & MUSICAL CONCERTS

The Lantern Arts Centre has 2 studios which are regularly used by a range of groups. These include theatre companies, dance troupes, orchestras, rehearsing for shows based both in London and around the UK. In addition, regular classes are held including ballet, street dance, swing dance, yoga, zumba and pilates. These bring a considerable number of people to the Lantern Arts Centre who are subsequently involved in other events and activities around the building.

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The Charity's income for the year was £114,248 (2019: £149,542) against expenditure of £108,524 (2019: £131,803) leading to a surplus of £5,724 (2019: £17,739).

In a typical year, the LAC generates the majority of its income through donations and charitable activities, such as its productions and classes. However, in line with government COVID 19 restrictions in place, the LAC had to close the doors to its buildings on 17t March 2020. This has meant activities took place as 'normal' for most of the autumn and spring term but were cancelled or provided online for the summer term. As a result, total income has decreased by 24% compared to the previous year, with production income reduced by 62% and classes income reduced by 46%. However, the LAC gratefully received additional income from the Government's Coronavirus Fund, the Merton Giving Fund and generous donations from its Angels and supporters.

Expenditure decreased by 18% compared to the previous year in line with reduced activity. Staff were placed on (partial) Furlough from April 2020 in line with the closure of the Lantern Centre. During the closure period, essential maintenance activities took place around the building.

The Trustees continue to closely monitor the performance of the Charity's activities, particularly in light of the developing COVID-19 situation and the continuously changing government restrictions impacting performing arts and community groups. The Trustees proactively seek to develop a programme of activities that ensures the LAC continues to be accessible to wide audiences on a range of mediums throughout these difficult times.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are committed to further stabilise the financial future of the LAC, particularly in these uncertain times. The purpose of the reserves policy is to mitigate against any risk to ongoing activities, which may be caused by an unforeseen increase in expenditure, incoming funds falling short of expectations or a temporary cash shortage due to the periodical nature of the LAC's activities.

The Trustees undertake an annual risk assessment to determine the level of reserves that need to be maintained.

Reserves include restricted and unrestricted funds. Only the unrestricted funds can be used at the discretion of the Trustees, i.e. to address the above risks. The restricted funds may only be used for their specific purpose. Total fund balances carried forward are £34,676, made up of £2,375 of restricted funds and £32,301 of unrestricted funds.

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain at least 3 months operating costs as unrestricted reserves to meet immediate commitments and to enable a timely reaction to any downturn in activities.

The Trustees consider the level of reserves held at Year End to be reasonable.

6. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make sound judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and requirements of the Charities Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015).

Audit

As noted on the Trustees' statement on the Balance Sheet, the trustees have taken advantage of the exemption from audit applicable to the Charity and these accounts have not been audited.

The Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on **01.05.2021** and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Welsh
Chair of Trustees
Lantern Arts Centre

7. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income:					
Grants and donations	3	9,637	11,500	21,137	21,705
Other income		0	0	0	0
Services to Lantern Centre		6,000	0	6,000	6,000
Incoming Resources from charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	4	87,111	0	87,111	121,837
Investment Income					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
Total Incoming Resources		**102,748**	**11,500**	**114,248**	**149,542**
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising costs of grants and donations	5,7	3,339	0	3,339	4,055
Charitable activities					
Operation of theatre and arts centre	6,7	93,685	11,500	105,185	127,748
Total Resources Expended		**97,024**	**11,500**	**108,524**	**131,803**
Transfers Between Funds					
Net Movement in Funds					
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		5,724	0	5,724	17,739
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2019		26,599	2,375	28,932	11,213
Restatement of reserves		-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2020		**32,301**	**2,375**	**34,676**	**28,952**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st AUGUST 2020

	Note	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Other debtors		1,683		4,284	
Cash at bank and in hand		39,452		28,951	
		41,135		33,234	
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	8	6,459		4,283	
Net Current Assets			34,676		28,952
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			34,676		28,952
Accumulated Funds					
Restricted funds	11	2,375		2,375	
Unrestricted funds - General	11	32,301		26,577	
					28,952
Total charity funds			34,676		28,952

Audit Exemption

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the Company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and;
- preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the 2006 Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the Company.

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provision Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 01.05.2021 and signed on their behalf by: -

M Welsh
Chairman of Trustees

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting basis and standards

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and 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 (FRS102)-Charities (SORP 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

(b) Going Concern

The Trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The level of reserves held at year end are sufficient to maintain basic office expenditures for a period of 6 – 9 months. Ongoing and continuous contingency planning and risk management mean the LAC is well prepared to deal with adversities. The LAC receives a strong level of support from its "Angels" who donate on a regular basis as well as from its wider company who volunteer much of their time to support the activities. In addition, the Trustees have formed a new Fundraising subcommittee to work on further diversifying the LAC's income base. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

(c) Incoming Resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding are of a general nature and are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial trading activities is recognised as earned (as the related goods and services are provided). Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided).
Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is deferred when;

Admission fees or performance related grants are received in advance of the performances or events to which they relate.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds. Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the staging of concerts, stage

production, art exhibitions and educational programmes and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.
Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

(f) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either: -

Unrestricted General Funds - which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted Funds - which may only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

(g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

(i) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount can be measured or estimated reliably.

2. Constitution

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceased to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10

3. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Grants	0	11,500	11,500
Donations	9,637	0	9,637
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	9,637	**11,500**	**21,137**

Prior Year Comparative (2019)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £
Grants	0	3,334	3,334
Donations	15,410	1,000	16,410
Gift Aid	1,961	0	1,961
Fundraising Activities	0	0	0
	17,371	**4,334**	**21,705**

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Classes	16,011	0	16,011
Productions	17,457	0	17,457
Lettings	14,655	0	14,655
Other	38,988	0	38,988
	87,111	**0**	**87,111**

Prior Year Comparative (2019)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £
Classes	29,742	0	29,742
Productions	45,479	0	45,479
Lettings	14,014	0	14,014
Other	32,602	0	32,602
	121,837	**0**	**121,837**

5. Analysis of expenditure on costs of generating funds

The charity allocates 5% of support costs to generate funds in line with actual time spent on this activity.

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	3,339	3,339

Prior Year Comparative (2019)

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2019
	£	£	£
Fundraising	0	4,055	4,055

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

The charity allocates its support costs between the three activities undertaken as shown in the table below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Classes	12,869	27,278	40,147
Productions	7,556	9,467	17,023
Lettings	5,475	16,939	22,414
Other	2,851	22,750	25,601
Total	**28,751**	**76,434**	**105,185**

Prior Year Comparative (2019)

Activity or Programme	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	Total 2019
	£	£	£
Classes	18,361	29,094	47,455
Productions	15,718	10,097	25,815
Lettings	6,610	18,067	24,677
Other	5,537	24,264	29,801
Total	**46,226**	**81,522**	**127,748**

7. Analysis of Support Costs

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Contractor Fees	16,344	15,000
Salaries	28,002	28,247
Advertising & Promotions	470	1,886
Office Costs	21,158	25,474
Printing, Postage & Stationery	4,333	6,032
Travel & Subsistence	3,100	3,116
Accountancy Fees	3,110	3,110
Bank Charges	1,275	874
Insurance	1,282	1,418
Sundry Expenses	699	420
	79,773	**85,577**

During the year, no Trustee received remuneration for their services as Trustee (2019-£Nil) However, A. McBride was paid £680 for Tech Services provided to the Lantern Arts Centre to support its activities (2019 - £1,435).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2019-£Nil).
During the year, no Trustees received any expenses. (2019-£Nil).

8. Creditors

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Other Creditors	0	0
Accruals	6,459	4,283

9. Support Staff

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Wages and Salaries	27,876	27,707
Social Security	0	0
Pension Costs	126	540

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
Administration	1	1

During the year, no employee was paid a salary above £60,000 in 2020 (2019-£Nil).

Key management personnel comprise of the Trustees. No remuneration was paid to the Trustees.

10. Related Parties

No related party transactions have taken place during the year.

11. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of unrestricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	(to)/from Reserve Funds	Fund at 31 August 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	26,577	102,748	97,024	0	32,301

Analysis of restricted fund movements

	Balance at September 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	(to)/from Reserve Funds	Fund at 31 August 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Performance Grants	2,375	0	0	0	2,375
Other	0	11,500	11,500	0	0
Total	**2,375**	**11,500**	**11,500**	**0**	**2,375**

Restricted funds represent grants or donations given to perform or support the expenditure in specific productions or work in the theatrical field

8. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LANTERN ARTS CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2020, which are set out on pages 16 to 20.

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 145 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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