

# TWO'S COMPANY (THEATRE) LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1105633

## Details

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**Other names** TWO'S COMPANY

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [04978880](#)

**Registered** 2004-08-25

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 244 Upland Road  
London  
SE22 0DN

**Phone** 07768665293

**Email** [graham@2scompanytheatre.co.uk](mailto:graham@2scompanytheatre.co.uk)

**Website** [www.2scompanytheatre.co.uk](http://www.2scompanytheatre.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROMOTE, MAINTAIN, IMPROVE AND ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND PRACTICE OF THE ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR THE ARTS OF DRAMA, DANCE, MUSIC, SINGING, LITERATURE, SCULPTURE AND PAINTING.

**Activities:** Two's Company's principal aim is to re-discover and bring back to life plays of high quality which have been forgotten, and give these plays as wide an audience as possible. Education activities supporting the productions are also offered.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£0	£649	-	-
2024-03-31	£69,996	£77,759	-	-
2023-03-31	£0	£90	-	-
2022-03-31	£36,066	£32,564	-	-
2021-03-31	£0	£171	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>GRAHAM COWLEY</b>	Chair	2004-08-25
IAN CLIVE TALBOT OBE		
PATRICIA ANN COWLEY		2004-08-25

**TWO'S COMPANY (THEATRE) LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1105633

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# Accounts

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**Charity number: 1105633**  
**Company number: 04978880**  
**(England and Wales)**

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
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**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

Two's Company (Theatre) Limited has the following aims and objectives:

To promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public by the encouragement and practice of the arts and in particular the arts of drama, dance, music, singing, literature, sculpture and painting.

The company sets out to achieve these aims by producing plays, principally forgotten new plays of the past plays which date from earlier times and were written from the author's first-hand experience, which have fallen into unjust obscurity.

Equally important is our determination to reach as wide an audience as possible, particularly young people.

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Report of the Trustees Continued**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**Significant activities**

After taking a break last year to consider new projects, we returned, this time to a new theatre, with *Don't Destroy Me*, the first play written by Michael Hastings, whose *The Cutting of the Cloth* we had premiered in 2015. Once again this grew from the company's aim of re-discovering and bringing to notice excellent plays from the past which have been forgotten. This time it was a play first seen in 1956 - Michael Hastings wrote it during his time as a tailor's apprentice, referred to in *The Cutting of the Cloth*. Despite being produced in New York it had not had a revival since. Our production was greeted with a great many excellent reviews:

Hastings was just 18 and a tailor's apprentice, yet in Tricia Thorns's punchily atmospheric revival we can see why his work's raw promise quickly led to interest from the Royal Court.

Alex Marker's meticulously observed design immerses us in the claustrophobia of a down-at-heel but respectable flat in postwar London.

In a professional stage debut, Eddie Boyce blazes into their lives as the 15-year-old Sammy

Where Hastings's play resonates most, though, is in depicting lives shattered by war. The *Game of Thrones* actress Nell Williams in particular excels as the 17-year-old daughter, Suki, living upstairs, escaping into a fantasy world as she grapples with her mother's mental illness.

Overall, this is a poignant, beautifully acted revival. A resonant piece of theatrical history that still ignites today.

Rachel Halliburton, *The Times* \*\*\*\*

It is brilliantly performed by all the cast, but it's a young man's play and oddly shaped, too passionately overdrawn out at time. A few last scenes between Mrs Pond, Sammy and Suki make it feel as if it might move to a reconciliatory, youthful hope. But Sammy's final despairing question of the universe and its meaning is what leaves us, reeling slightly, after the boiling final act.

It is an oddity, not as accomplished as his later plays, but on a freezing night bus back along the Balls Pond Road it haunted me. The director Tricia Thorns of Two's Company has thrilled me with discoveries before, at the Finborough with *London Wall* and *Go Bang Your Tambourine* (1930s and 60s), at the Southwark Playhouse with an astonishing trio of contemporaneous WW1 plays about women's work and lives, and back in the late 50s Hastings' never-performed play - subtler than this one - about his real teenage life in an East End tailors' workshop. Her directorial eye is perfectly attuned to these contemporaneous realist plays: in an age of nostalgia, sanitized bonnet-drama and overimaginative 'reworkings' it is good to have such productions, and to know and feel how it actually felt to be there, in 20s or 30s or 1950s.

Libby Purves, *TheatreCat*

One of the welcome boons of this revival is that it incarnates a fresh-faced new generation in the form of debutant Eddie Boyce, who has charm in spades. ..

The simple good-nature of the dreamy boy-hero, just yearning to play his gramophone and seize the day, narrowly persists amid the claustrophobic fray, and I'll remember the hopeful gleam in Boyce's eyes long after the play itself has faded from mind.

Dominic Cavendish, *The Telegraph*

The strength of this play is in its characters. Here, Hastings created a range of complex and captivating personalities that are all so fantastically brought to life by the performers, and director, Tricia Thorns.

It would be unfair to say that a single member of the cast stole the show, they all excelled in bringing the flaws and follies to life, and that's as much of a testament to the director Thorns as it is the cast.

A Young(ish) Perspective \*\*\*\*

It's hugely satisfying to see this lost-forever world of post-war Jewish Brixton revived. ..

Tricia Thorns's ambitious production vaults us powerfully back to a particular moment in Anglo-Jewish history.

John Nathan, *Jewish Chronicle*

This is an outstanding debut play from Hastings and if it drifts from time to time over the two hours running time is swiftly gets back on track. As the youngest and possibly angriest of the emerging Angry Young Men - John Osborne was 27 at this point - the playwright has a lot of anger to express and is forcefully on point for the inability to escape the past, consolidate the now and work out a future that isn't just a tribute act for the societal mores of a generation subsumed in conflict and loss.

Tricia Thorns directs with a forensic eye for period sensibilities and choreographs her players so well in the playing area created by Alex Marker's inventive set design: they not only fit the interior of a Victorian townhouse into the Arcola stage, but make us all feel a part of it, almost embarrassed by the family truths and discomforts played out closely in front of us.

Eddie Boyce is extraordinary in this position and it's not understatement to say that he does not look out of place in this highly skilled and forceful set of players!

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Report of the Trustees Continued**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

I thank you theatre \*\*\*\*

Timely revival of Michael Hastings' unsettling 1956 play that examines the legacy of war on immigrants in postwar London. .. This is a smart rediscovery by 'Twos Company <http://2scompanytheatre.co.uk/site/> director Tricia Thorns and her nervily responsive cast.

David Jays, The Guardian

Staged by Two's Company, it's a drama that hums with authenticity and Tricia Thorns, directing, achieves a grainy evocation of bomb site-riddled, postwar London. Hastings (who wrote the hit play Tom & Viv) expresses sharply too the tension between generations traumatised by war, but in conflicting ways. Leo wants peace and quiet; his son wants jazz. ..

Eddie Boyce, in a professional stage debut as Sammy, invests the young character with vivid, hopeful vulnerability and brittle uncertainty. There are lovely performances too from Paul Rider, as Leo, a man buckling under his experience, Nicholas Day as the bemused rabbi, and Sue Kelvin as a worldly-wise landlady.

Sarah Hemming, Financial Times

We were delighted to present the play at the Arcola Theatre, where we had never performed before. The stage space was particularly appropriate for the play and we were welcomed warmly by the theatre staff. However, despite the enthusiasm from critics, we did not quite meet our audience target. At the time the Gaza war provoked anti-Israel feeling in London and our play about a Jewish family suffered somewhat. Also we later discovered that the slot just after Christmas was the least favourable time to perform there. However, the response from audiences was excellent.

We are very grateful for the support for the production by two charitable trusts which have funded us repeatedly - the John S Cohen Foundation and Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation. In addition we received contributions from other trusts who have helped us before: the Foyle Foundation, the Golsoncott Foundation, the Sylvia Waddilove Foundation and the Unity Theatre Trust. We are specially grateful to our loyal and generous co-producers - Karl Sydow and Tilly Films Ltd.

The company continually researches plays which fit its main aim of uncovering forgotten works from earlier times. It has several projects at different stages of development and is actively preparing a new production, in a new venue, for 2025.

We have enjoyed building relationships with theatres across London and look forward to continuing production for the foreseeable future.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Reserves**

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £10,345 at 31 March 2024. All income is raised and earned separately for each project and the directors consider this a satisfactory situation. All reserves are applied to future productions.

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>Name of Charity</b>	Two's Company (theatre) Limited
<b>Charity registration number</b>	1105633
<b>Company registration number</b>	04978880
<b>Principal address</b>	244 Upland Road London Se22 0Dn

### **Trustees**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

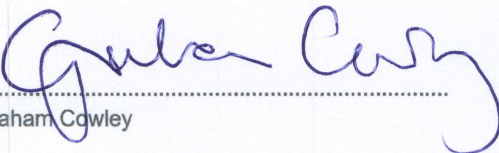
Graham Cowley  
Patricia Ann Cowley  
Ian Clive Talbot (OBE)

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited  
Report of the Trustees Continued  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Independent examiners**

Andrew M Wells FMAAT  
Counterculture Partnership LLP  
Bank Chambers, Main Street  
Hawes  
North Yorkshire  
DL8 3QL

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by

  
.....  
Graham Cowley

21 October 2024

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiners statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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



.....  
Andrew M Wells FMAAT  
Counterculture Partnership LLP  
Bank Chambers, Main Street  
Hawes  
North Yorkshire  
DL8 3QL

21 October 2024

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	10,450	-
Charitable activities	3	59,546	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>69,996</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	4/5	(77,759)	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>(77,759)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>		<b>(7,763)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		18,108	18,108
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>10,345</b>	<b>18,108</b>

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		11,425	18,108
		<b>11,425</b>	<b>18,108</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(1,080)	-
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>10,345</b>	<b>18,108</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>10,345</b>	<b>18,108</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
Unrestricted income funds	11	10,345	18,108
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>10,345</b>	<b>18,108</b>

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
 Graham Cowley  
 Trustee

21 October 2024

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Two's Company (theatre) Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

**Going concern**

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

**Funds**

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the board of trustees to carefully monitor the application of those funds in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them.

There is no formal policy of transfer between funds or on the allocation of funds to designated funds, other than that described above

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**Resources expended**

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure.

**Taxation**

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the company, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**2. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
Donations received	1,050	-
Grants received	9,400	-
	<b>10,450</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>10,450</b>	<b>-</b>

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements Continued**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Analysis of grants received**

	<b>2024</b>	
	<b>£</b>	
Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation	2,000	-
Foyle Foundation	2,400	-
Golsoncott Foundation	1,000	-
John S Cohen Foundation	2,000	-
Sylvia Waddilove Foundation	1,000	-
Unity Theatre Trust	1,000	-
	<b>9,400</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>9,400</b>	<b>-</b>

**3. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
<i>Theatre Costs</i>		
Income from charitable activities	59,546	-

**4. Costs of charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
Theatre Costs	22,953	-
Production costs	4,410	-
Theatre writing	2,526	-
Actors, creative team, stage	37,861	-
Publicity and marketing	8,459	-
Support costs	1,550	-
	<b>77,759</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>77,759</b>	<b>-</b>

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements Continued**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**5. Costs of charitable activities by activity type**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Support costs</b>				
Theatre Costs	22,953	1,550	24,503	-
Production costs	4,410	-	4,410	-
Theatre writing	2,526	-	2,526	-
Actors, creative team, stage	37,861	-	37,861	-
Publicity and marketing	8,459	-	8,459	-
	<b>76,209</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>77,759</b>	<b>-</b>

**6. Analysis of support costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Theatre Costs</b>		
Finance	49	-
Insurance and Administration	421	-
Governance costs	1,080	-
	<b>1,550</b>	<b>-</b>

**7. Net income/(expenditure) for the year**

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Accountancy fees	1,080	-

**8. Particulars of employees**

	2024	2023
Actors	8	0
Stage Management	3	0
	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements Continued**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**9. Comparative for the Statement of Financial Activities**

The comparative year values on the Statement of Financial Activities are for unrestricted funds.

**10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,080	-
	1,080	-

**11. Movement in funds**

**Unrestricted Funds**

	Balance at 01/04/2023	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General	18,108	69,996	(77,759)	10,345
	18,108	69,996	(77,759)	10,345

**Unrestricted Funds - Previous year**

	Balance at 01/04/2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General	18,108	-	-	18,108
	18,108	-	-	18,108

**Purpose of unrestricted Funds**

General

Maintained for the general running of the charity.

**Two's Company (theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements Continued**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**12. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Net current assets / (liabilities) £	Net Assets  £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
<i>General</i>		
General	10,345	10,345
	<b>10,345</b>	<b>10,345</b>
<b>Previous year</b>		
	Net current assets / (liabilities) £	Net Assets  £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
<i>General</i>		
General	18,108	18,108
	<b>18,108</b>	<b>18,108</b>

**TWO'S COMPANY (THEATRE) LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1105633

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity Number  
1105633

Registered Company Number  
04978880

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**Annual Report and Accounts**

**31st March 2022**

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Annual report and accounts**  
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**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Charity references and administrative details**

<b>Registered Charity</b>	Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital Company number 04978880 Charity number 1105633
<b>Directors</b>	Graham Cowley Ian Talbot, OBE Patricia Ann Cowley
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Graham Cowley
<b>Registered Office</b>	244 Upland Road London SE22 0DN
<b>Bankers</b>	Bank of Scotland plc 600 Gorgie Road Edinburgh EH11 3XP
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Tom Wilcox FCIS FCIE DChA Counterculture Partnership LLP Unit 115 Ducie House Ducie Street Manchester M1 2JW

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Trustees' report**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2022**

The directors present their report with the financial statements of Two's Company (Theatre) Limited for the year ended 31st March 2022.

**Governance, structure, and management**

Constitution

Two's Company (Theatre) Limited is a registered charity (No 1105633) and also a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital (No 04978880). The company's memorandum and articles of association dated 18th November 2003 are its primary governing documents.

Members' liability

The liability of members in the event of winding up is limited to £10 per member.

Directors

The directors of the charity are also trustees for the purposes of charity legislation. The directors in office throughout the year were as follows:

Graham Cowley  
Ian Talbot OBE  
Patricia Ann Cowley

Membership of the board is kept continually under review. Any new directors must be able to contribute particular knowledge, experience, expertise or perspective to that which is already available to the board. The directors may attend any new courses which they feel are relevant to the development of their role and to keep up-to-date with any changes in legislation.

**Aims, objectives and activities**

Principal aims and objectives

Two's Company (Theatre) Limited has the following aims and objectives:

To promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public by the encouragement and practice of the arts and in particular the arts of drama, dance, music, singing, literature, sculpture and painting.

The company sets out to achieve these aims by producing plays, principally forgotten "new plays" of the past – plays which date from earlier times and were written from the author's first-hand experience, which have fallen into unjust obscurity.

Equally important is our determination to reach as wide an audience as possible, particularly young people.

Public benefit statement

In planning the year's activities and setting objectives, the Directors have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The company relies on grants and the income from fees, guarantees and admission charges, to cover its operating costs. In setting the level of fees, charges and concessions, the Directors give careful consideration to the accessibility of the company's productions for those on low incomes.

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Trustees' report**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2022**

Risk Management

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific operational areas of the company, and its finances. The directors believe that by monitoring reserves levels, by ensuring controls exist over key financial systems, and by examining the operational and business risks faced by the charitable company, they have established effective systems to mitigate those risks. A summary of the major risks is formally considered and updated by the directors every year.

Employees

Two's Company is an equal opportunities employer and applies objective criteria to assess merit. It aims to ensure that no job applicant or employee is placed at a disadvantage by reason of their race, colour, ethnic or national origins, culture, gender, marital status, disability, class, age, trade union activities and political or religious beliefs, by requirements or conditions which cannot be justifiable on other grounds.

**Achievements and performance**

Progress during the year

Finally returning to activity after more than a year of Covid-19 lockdown, the one full production of the year followed the company's aim of re-discovering and bringing to notice excellent plays from the past which have been forgotten. This time it was a play first seen in 1966 in the West End, *Staircase* by Charles Dyer. It had not had a revival in England since 1967, and the author was delighted to hear of our production just before his death, aged 94. Our production was greeted with a great many excellent reviews:

"The mission of Two's Company is producing "new plays from the past", and their talent is for treasure-hunting. Plays written now about past decades are fine, but there is something grittily satisfying about contemporaneous writing: especially forgotten ones, outside the famous names worn smooth by repetition. This company's WW1 plays taught me more about how it really felt than any documentary; London Wall vividly evoked the emergence of women out of chaperonage into the office jungle, The Cutting of the Cloth and A Day By The Sea – these are all recorded here – had separate and particular value in each setting.

This one, in its day, was important; historically and emotionally it still is...

So here it is again, with Paul Rider as the resigned, more benevolently resentful Harry, and John Sackville as the volatile Charlie, a failed actor to whom Harry gave a trade and a home. For two hours the pair circle round one another, bantering and bickering and dealing with a triply awkward situation. They are roundedly idiosyncratic and human, not queenly caricatures but ordinary men hobbled by the thousand shames and aggressions of their condition...

But goodness, they're believable and identifiable, and evocation of those ancient shames and crushing minority loneliness's reminds us why Pride marches were needed and still are. And when it gets close to a deep-blue-sea ending but swerves elegantly away from it, there's proper satisfaction. Southwark is always, always worth the trip."

Libby Purves, *TheatreCat*

"If anyone walks out of this production thinking it period-limited, that themes flatten, gay men haven't got to glance back and wince with recognition – sorry, you've been nodding for two hours-five. But you won't nod. Even in a distanced audience the cheers echo; we get it...

Directed fluidly by Tricia Thorns with a real sense of ebb and paciness, it's grounded in some first-rank production values...

Laws might have dissolved, gay couples can marry and parent children. But the pressures of otherness, of assumptions, of exclusion explored by Dyer, remain. *Staircase* is one of those spirals from there to here. And did I say it was heartbreakingly funny?

Last revival Two's Company brought to Southwark -in February 2019 – was the unjustly-neglected James Saunders' *Bodies*, a superb 1977 play. Always searching for prescient neglected small classics, *Staircase* proves them – and Southwark – again unerringly on point...

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Trustees' report**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2022**

A first-rate revival of a play that with its ostensible shock-value in aspic, reveals subversions and a clever structure so unsettling we should all look in the mirror and wince.

*Fringe Review – MUST SEE SHOW*

BOYZ:

Staircase by Charles Dyer is a rousing look at a period in gay history where the heavy arm of the law weighed over gay men in 1960's London; with the threat of prison and substantial fines the world of gay men in this period was a select, secret and very private one...

Stylish, witty and worthy of view. Fabulous!

*BOYZ*

LGBT POET LAUREATE:

It felt strange to laugh out loud at the hilarious comments the couple exchanged, whilst feeling simultaneously saddened by the unfairness of their life experience. The (socially distanced) audience was totally immersed in this comedic tragedy. I chatted with some older men in the interval who had lived through similar experiences in their own lives. "Staircase" is a salutary reminder of our recent history. Not to be missed!

*LGBT Poet Laureate*

Despite this enthusiasm from theatre websites, it again proved difficult to get newspaper reviews. We had chose the smaller theatre at Southwark, as being the more appropriate space for the play, but found it is largely ignored by critics. We still felt the repercussions of the Covid pandemic: following government directives, the capacity was severely reduced, audiences were still masked and groups were separated by Perspex screens, all of which made the experience far from what we would have wished. We also found that many people were still not ready to sit in a theatre at all. However, the response from audiences was excellent and on occasion uproarious.

We are very grateful for the support for the production by two charitable trusts which have funded us repeatedly – the John S Cohen Foundation and Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation. In addition we are specially grateful to our loyal and generous co-producers – Karl Sydow and Tilly Films Ltd.

The company continually researches plays which fit its main aim of uncovering forgotten works from earlier times. It has several projects at different stages of development and held several readings on Zoom during the year of plays being considered for production. Our actor friends participated gladly in these readings, but regretted they were not able to gather in a pub afterwards ...

We hope to return soon to our usual pattern of one new production per year. We plan to maintain our association with Southwark Playhouse in its new home, while also building relationships with other London theatres.

### **Financial review**

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £18,198 at 31 March 2022. All income is raised and earned separately for each project and the directors consider this a satisfactory situation. All reserves are applied to future productions.

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Trustees' report**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2022**

**Statement of Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the management committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Committee has elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the board is required to:-

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and that enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

**Method of 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 on 17 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:**



.....  
**Graham Cowley**  
**Director and Trustee**

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the charity**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

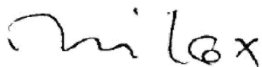
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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



Tom Wilcox FCIS FCIE DChA  
Counterculture Partnership LLP  
Unit 115 Ducie House  
Ducie Street  
Manchester  
M1 2JW

Date: 17 November 2022

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Period Total Funds
		2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>	3a	19,945	10,000	29,945	-
<i>Voluntary income</i>	3b	-	3,500	3,500	-
<i>Other income</i>	4	2,621	-	2,621	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>22,566</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>36,066</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>Costs of generating funds</i>	5a	2,895	-	2,895	-
<i>Charitable activities</i>	5b	15,329	13,500	28,829	171
<i>Governance costs</i>	5c	840	-	840	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>19,064</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>32,564</b>	<b>171</b>
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers between funds</b>		<b>3,502</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,502</b>	<b>(171)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		14,696	-	14,696	14,867
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>18,198</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,198</b>	<b>14,696</b>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these accounts.

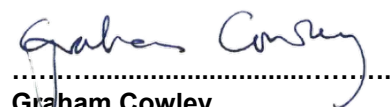
**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**as at 31st March 2022**

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b><i>The assets and liabilities of the charity :</i></b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	6	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		19,038	18,157
		<u>19,038</u>	<u>18,157</u>
<b>Creditors:-</b>			
Amounts due within one year	7	840	3,461
		<u>18,198</u>	<u>14,696</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>18,198</b>	<b>14,696</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>18,198</b>	<b>14,696</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>18,198</b>	<b>14,696</b>
<b><i>The funds of the charity :</i></b>			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		18,198	14,696
Restricted revenue accumulated funds		-	-
		<u>18,198</u>	<u>14,696</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<b>18,198</b>	<b>14,696</b>

The directors are satisfied that for the year ended 31st March 2022 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an Independent Examiner whose report appears on page 6.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts that give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities SORP (FRS102) and the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to smaller charities and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.



**Graham Cowley**  
**Director**

**Approved by the board of trustees on 17 November 2022**

**The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these accounts.**

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2022**

**1 Accounting policies**

***Basis of preparation of the accounts***

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and Update Bulletin 2, and the Charities Act 2011.

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company. The particular accounting policies adopted are set out below.

***Accounting convention***

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

***Incoming resources***

Grants and donations are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the 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.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

***Resources expended***

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles, modified where necessary in accordance with the guidance given in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales.

***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

***Governance costs***

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2022**

**Taxation**

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incomes received or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available for general funds.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as lay down by the donors. Expenditure, which meets these criteria, is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

**2 Winding up or dissolution of the charity**

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

<b>3 Income</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021 £</b>
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**3a, Incoming resources from generated funds**

Box office income	19,647	-	<b>19,647</b>	-
Co-production income	-	10,000	<b>10,000</b>	-
Programme sales and other income	298	-	<b>298</b>	-
	<u><b>19,945</b></u>	<u><b>10,000</b></u>	<u><b>29,945</b></u>	<u>-</u>

**3b, Voluntary income**

*Grants receivable for core activities:-*

John S Cohen Foundation	-	1,500	<b>1,500</b>	-
Boris Karloff Charitable Fndn	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	-
	<u>-</u>	<u><b>3,500</b></u>	<u><b>3,500</b></u>	<u>-</u>

**4 Other income**

Other income	<u>2,621</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>2,621</b></u>	<u>-</u>
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**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2022**

<b>5 Expenditure</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021 £</b>
<b>5a, Costs of generating funds</b>				
Publicity and marketing	2,895	-	<b>2,895</b>	-
	<u>2,895</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,895</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>5b, Costs of charitable activities</b>				
Actors, creative team, stage management fees and expenses	1,970	13,500	<b>15,470</b>	-
Production costs	4,274		<b>4,274</b>	-
Theatre, insurance and admin costs	7,514	-	<b>7,514</b>	171
Theatre writing	1,571	-	<b>1,571</b>	-
	<u>15,329</u>	<u>13,500</u>	<u>28,829</u>	<u>171</u>
<b>5c, Governance costs</b>				
Independent Examiner's fees	840	-	<b>840</b>	-
	<u>840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>6 Debtors</b>				
			<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Trade debtors			-	-
Accrued income			-	-
			<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>				
			<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Other creditors and accruals			840	3,461
			<u>840</u>	<u>3,461</u>

**Two's Company (Theatre) Limited**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2022**

**8 Endowment funds**

The charity had no endowment funds in the year ended 31st March 2022.

**9 Analysis of the net movement in funds**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net movement in funds from Statement of Financial Activities	<u><b>18,198</b></u>	<u><b>14,696</b></u>

**10 Share capital**

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 2006 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding ten pounds as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

There are three members of the company.

**11 Trustees remuneration**

During the year none of the trustees received any remuneration during the year. (2021: Nil)