

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th November 2023
for
West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

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for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30th November 2023. 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 Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's main objectives are:

To advance and promote the education of the public by performing both works from the standard operatic repertoire as well as little known works which deserve greater publicity.

To encourage the understanding and appreciation of this art form, in particular, but not exclusively, through the presentation of public performances of opera, music, lectures and master classes.

To provide a performance platform for young and emerging artists to hone and perfect their craft at a time when such experience in larger theatres and opera houses is becoming scarce due to the lack of arts funding generally.

To provide mentoring for such young and emerging artists by giving them access, both on the stage and in rehearsal, to established professional singers and directors and the chance to perform with such experienced colleagues in public.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity and in planning future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

The trustees believe that they fulfil these objectives through the charity's cultural activities in the staging of opera performances that are made available to the general public at an affordable cost and by the mentoring of young and emerging artists. In particular the charity encourages a younger generation to experience opera by offering any tickets unsold close to the performance date to under 25s at a discounted price of £25.

The "Aria Club" was introduced in 2018 to encourage those new to Opera or who buy single tickets to attend a performance at West Green.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Just as we thought matters could not get any worse with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, we found ourselves in 2023 also having to deal with the ripple effect of the post Covid economic downturn and the impact of the escalating war on supply chains. It seemed inevitable the USA would go into recession and we would follow suit and although the economic and political experts argued it should be a shallow recession, unfortunately interest rates continued to rise and the cost of living generally remained (and remains) high with the result that many of the population continues to struggle with higher food and energy prices and unattainable mortgages. Sadly, the feel good factor seems a long way off and the serious cuts made by the Arts Council signify even greater financial misery for our young and emerging artists who, following Brexit and the reintroduction of border controls for Brits travelling to Europe, cannot even access the European opera houses and their hugely important "fest" contracts. These are the bread and butter of many of our young artists who rely on this experience, not only to pay their bills but also to help hone their craft by trying out new roles in smaller venues and with guaranteed work for a year or more.

Europe leads the way on this as, unlike the United Kingdom, most large cities have their own opera house, fully equipped and purpose built, and all properly subsidised with a combination of mainstream Government funding and mandatory contributions deriving from the profits of the larger financial institutions and businesses. There are no cries of elitism there as everyone can afford a night at the opera!

Sadly, we choose not to follow their lead and so this forces our Arts organisations to rely more and more heavily on the generosity of private individuals and corporate sponsorship. The result is that even the most well funded Arts organisations, both public and private, are struggling to perform at their usual standard with ticket prices being increased (and often failing to sell) and the number of productions slashed to try and meet the funding shortfall. Even Glyndebourne was forced to cancel its annual touring season due to lack of Government funding and so yet another avenue of vital experience for the cream of our young artists has disappeared. In short, the crisis faced by the Performing Arts and by opera in particular has deepened so that it is now under even greater threat than during the dark days of the pandemic.

Despite this bleak outlook for the Arts, West Green felt it was even more important to try to keep going for the benefit of both the artists and its audiences and this we did in 2023, even though it proved to be our toughest Season yet with the unpredictable weather throughout the performance period adding to the already considerable demands placed on our performers and staff. In addition to the spiralling costs post Covid due largely to the scarcity and increased price of materials, we also noticed a change in the pattern of philanthropic giving, with even the wealthiest being cautious about how and on what they spend their money. Nevertheless, with our supporters' continued help we were determined to tough it out. Once again, we mixed the traditional with the new and offered our audiences as broad a range of musical delights as the budget allowed. This included the award winning director, Tom Guthrie, who created and produced a unique insight into Mozart's glorious music as told through the eyes of his beloved wife, Constanze, for whom he wrote many of his greatest arias for soprano. The performance was truly unique with Constanze, at this point, reflecting on her life with the recently deceased young genius, singing her own music amidst a host of projected and other multimedia surprises. The critics were entranced and asked why the production was only being performed once! Building on 2022's highly successful foray into the world of Early Music, we were delighted to welcome Oz Clarke (himself a former accomplished choral scholar) to host a further exploration of the greatest hits of Baroque opera and song, performed by some of the finest exponents of the art form. The evening was complemented by specially chosen wine pairings which Oz, in his usual endearing and avuncular fashion, encouraged us to taste and thereby enhanced the mood and the enjoyment of his audience.

We were also thrilled to join forces once again with world renowned and multi award-winning Opera Rara in a semi staged concert performance of Offenbach's totally manic but musically sublime "Robinson Crusoe", complete with dancing cannibals and heroines chasing all over the globe in search of their marooned menfolk. Opera Rara recorded this gem some thirty odd years ago to great critical acclaim (repeated in 2023 at West Green) and then starring our own Artistic Advisor, Yvonne Kenny, one of the most celebrated singers of her generation. We were also hugely privileged to welcome to the podium internationally renowned conductor, David Parry, whose name graces many of the greatest Opera Rara recordings.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

An immense undertaking, we also staged the ever popular "Cav and Pag", beloved of generations of Grand Opera lovers with hit tune after hit tune, many used to accompany all manner of Italian based adverts featuring the ubiquitous "Nonna" and her cooking! Tragedy and comedy combined in West Green's production where the Lake and the breathtaking backdrop of Marylyn Abbott's incomparable Gardens added even more magic to the evening. With a truly stellar cast of emerging artists and conducted by the BBC's award winning young conductor, John Andrews, this resulted in another critically acclaimed and totally unforgettable experience.

Our second, fully staged performance was Stephen Sondheim's masterpiece "Sweeney Todd". Hailed by many of his admirers as perhaps his most operatic piece, it has attracted the greatest names in musical theatre to the roles of Sweeney and his partner in crime and "the worst pie maker in London", Mrs Lovett. From Len Cariou to Bryn Terfel as Sweeney and from Angela Lansbury to Emma Thompson as Mrs Lovett, not to mention the sumptuous film version starring Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham-Carter, this is a true tour de force demanding the highest level of musical performance across the board. Directed by our own Richard Studer who, as ever, also produced the spectacular designs, and conducted by another West Green veteran, Jon Lyness, this proved to be a truly grand re-imagining of the darkly and justifiably infamous Demon Barber of Fleet Street! The critics and audiences alike roared their approval.

Once again, thanks to the generosity of one of our supporters, we were able to offer more young artists the opportunity to learn and perform a new role via our cover programme and even though the cover artists did not have the opportunity to perform on the main stage at West Green in 2023, their considerable talents were on show at a weekend afternoon concert in the grounds at West Green as well as in a showcase staged in London, performing their roles in front of a specially invited audience, including many of the country's top agents hoping to spot the stars of tomorrow.

Once again, despite the torrential rain on certain days, Marylyn Abbott and her team worked miracles to make sure the Opera Garden experience was as unforgettable as always. There are many country house opera festivals which boast glorious settings but none rivals the Theatre on the Lake and the matchless beauty of the illuminated Gardens as the night falls. In 2023, we also experimented again with the audience experience, making sure accessibility, setting, sight and sound were the best they could be for everyone, wherever they might have been sitting. The dining options were also as varied as ever and in 2023, for the first time, we offered a plated service of our sumptuous picnics for members of the audience to enjoy at their own cabaret style table in the main auditorium or in our shared undercover pavilions on the lawns behind West Green House.

In preparation for our own bespoke Theatre on the Lake which has been in the planning since just after we were released from the second Covid lockdown, the final designs and technical drawings were completed and discussed between our architects, engineers and creatives, all working in tandem to produce something both uniquely aesthetic and practical. Unfortunately, the spiralling costs and the availability of essential materials (those interrupted supply chains again!) have warranted a degree of essential, prudent business caution by the Board but we are at last on our way.

Fundraising activities

Fundraising took the form of the ever popular Opera Gala Dinner in November 2023, this time held at Vintners Hall in the City of London, and also in May 2023, an ambitious long weekend of opera going at the famous La Scala and privately hosted sightseeing tours to magnificent private gardens and priceless collections in and around Milan. So popular did this prove to be, we had to organise a second trip in June 2023 to meet the demand. In addition to our loyal and ever generous regular supporters, new visitors to West Green showed a marked increase with more and more young people being seen in the audience, all of whom are potential future friends and patrons.

The charity does not use professional fundraisers and does not make appeals to the general public. The majority of donations received are from long standing supporters of the charity.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

During the year the charity had total incoming resources of £985,392 (2022 - £876,814). The majority of this increase, however was due to the highly successful visits to Milan which raised £132,300 before expenses. Although there was an overall reduction in donations received, 2022 included £140,000 earmarked towards the construction of the new theatre. There was an increase in donations for the general purposes of the charity of £94,503 (excluding Gift Aid recovered). This increase was due to some extremely generous donations from a number of individuals and trusts. Unfortunately there was a decrease in ticket income but this was more than offset by an increase in the claim for Theatre Tax Relief as a result of all the performances being produced directly by West Green House Opera. This was the second year when the relief was claimed at the enhanced rate of 45% and it has now been confirmed that this increase will be permanent (albeit at a slightly lower rate of 40%). The gala at Vintner's Hall also resulted in a surplus of £23,835 (2022 - surplus of £38,467 at Plaisterer's Hall) and the Milan trips a surplus of £72,577.

Offsetting the increased income, however, there was a significant increase in costs, particularly in respect of the costs of the opera performances. There was still, however, a surplus on the General Fund of £41,584 (2022 deficit £56,985). The donors of the remaining funds made for the new theatre project amounting to £88,554, have agreed that these funds may be transferred to the General Fund resulting in a surplus to be carried forward to future years on the General Fund as at 30th November 2023 of £130,765 (2022 - cumulative surplus £627). Further details of the charity's income and expenditure for the year are shown in the statement of financial activities and the accompanying notes.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

Although the level of reserves has improved, particularly following the transfer from the New Theatre Fund as mentioned above, the charity has been unable to maintain the above policy. The trustees are actively seeking to address this situation by seeking additional donors and by increasing the number of fund raising events.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk normally faced by the Charity relates to the potential loss of the donations which enable the Charity to continue to stage the operatic performances each year. In particular the Charity is reliant on a relatively small number of major donors. The trustees are endeavouring to widen the donor base of the Charity in order to mitigate this risk.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

FUTURE PLANS

Despite the entirely unpredictable weather during the entire performance period at West Green in July 2023, the Season was again another critically acclaimed success, especially our own production of "Sweeney Todd" which garnered rave reviews. This suggests we might make future seasons even more eclectic for our audiences.

Once again, we have decided to revise the audience seating arrangements to ensure maximum enjoyment for all, irrespective of the cost of the chosen seat. The cabaret style pavilion which proved so successful (and necessary) immediately after the Covid epidemic has served its purpose and will be replaced with a more traditional, theatre style seating, with everyone having perfect sight lines of the stage. The structure will, as always, ensure our audience is dry and under cover in case there's a repeat of the 2023 weather.

In addition to the reintroduction of multiple bespoke dining options in the Greenhouses and the Green Theatre, the shared undercover Pavilion will be extended to accommodate more people, as well as being the new home for the weekend lunchtime performances and the increasingly popular Early Music event held midweek.

2024 sees a truly varied programme of fully staged classic opera and for the first time, we welcome to West Green the BBC Concert Orchestra which will be showcasing the talents of some of our former young West Green artists who have since gone on to truly international careers. We are also in discussions with the BBC about broadcasting the Opera Gala later in 2024.

This year, our two fully staged operas are Verdi's final operatic masterpiece "Falstaff", and the perennial Rossini favourite, "The Barber of Seville". Both are new West Green productions and boast a cast of young and emerging artists of the highest calibre.

We will also stage Puccini's "Suor Angelica", rarely performed outside the main opera houses and even then, usually as part of the "Trittico". Being set in a Convent, this mini opera is the perfect vehicle for young female singers to demonstrate their vocal talents to the full. This is part of our covers programme which has once again been made possible by the generosity of one of our regular supporters.

Oz Clarke also returns to reprise his fantastically successful Early Music evening, this time on the theme of Gin through the centuries. Once again, it promises to be a truly immersive event with much audience participation!

A final decision will also be made this year about the form and style of our own Theatre on the Lake project and how best to integrate this with the siting of the new audience pavilion.

We will also be building on last year's innovative fundraising event in Milan with other exciting experiences, including an Opera Club, intended not only to bring our supporters and patrons closer to the heart of what we do at West Green but also to offer them something a little more entertaining than the traditional Opera Gala Dinner.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its Memorandum and Articles (governing document) and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee.

The charity is run by the trustees listed below. Under the charity's rules the minimum number of trustees that can serve each year is two but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum. The trustees shall be appointed by resolution at a general meeting or by written resolution signed by all the trustees.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees is the governing body which administers the Charity. All major decisions are made by the Board which meets regularly to discuss and formulate policy and to decide on strategy. A scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibilities for the affairs of the Charity rests with a Management Team headed by Jane Mossop (Operations Manager), Michael Whalley (Treasurer, assisted by Jane Mossop) and, Andrea Gawn (Marketing, Membership and Fundraising).

The Operations Manager is authorised to run the day to day affairs of the Charity and has overall responsibility (assisted by Michael Whalley and Andrea Gawn) for the financial health of the Charity. Jane Mossop reports directly to the Trustees on substantive matters relating to budget and risk management.

The Main Board of Trustees also has access to an Advisory Council comprising donors who themselves run successful businesses and who, free of charge, provide the Trustees with commercial advice and commentary as well as opening their own homes and businesses as a source of fundraising for the Charity.

All final decisions relating to finances and budgeting rest with the Chairman, Glenn Hurstfield, in consultation with his fellow Main Board Trustees, Michael Whalley, Ann Grafton, and the owner of West Green House, Marylyn Abbott. The Board is also assisted with all artistic matters by Yvonne Kenny and Marylyn Abbott and by Neil Daykin regarding technical and production matters.

Trustee induction and training

Any new trustees would upon appointment be fully briefed and trained by the existing committee and made aware of their responsibilities and duties. Where felt necessary they would be sent to external training courses relevant to their appointment.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07756429 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1148939

Registered office

2 Oriel Court
Omega Park
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 2YT

Principal address

West Green House
Thackhams Lane
Hartley Wintney
Hampshire
RG27 8JB

Trustees

M D Abbott
G C Hurstfield (Chairman)
M D Whalley OAM
A Grafton
P D R Dobson (resigned 9.5.23)

West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

D A Sanders BA (Hons) FCA
Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
2 Oriel Court
Omega Park
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 2YT

Bankers

Nat West Bank plc
176 Fleet Road
Fleet
Hampshire
GU51 4DE

Solicitors

Keystone Law
48 Chancery Lane
London
WC2A 1JF

Operations Manager

Jane Mossop

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17/4/2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
G C Hurstfield - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of West Green House Opera Limited

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of West Green House Opera Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30th November 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you 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 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.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

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 accounting 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.



D A Sanders BA (Hons) FCA

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
2 Oriel Court
Omega Park
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 2YT

Date: 19th Nov 2024

West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	361,936	-	361,936	399,313
Charitable activities					
Opera performances	5	450,830	-	450,830	418,168
Activities for generating funds	3	172,499	-	172,499	59,265
Investment income	4	127	-	127	68
Total		<u>985,392</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>985,392</u>	<u>876,814</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	75,619	-	75,619	20,652
Charitable activities					
Opera performances	7	855,857	-	855,857	760,163
Governance costs		12,332	-	12,332	12,984
Total		<u>943,808</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>943,808</u>	<u>793,799</u>
NET INCOME		41,584	-	41,584	83,015
Transfers between funds	17	<u>88,554</u>	<u>(88,554)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		130,138	(88,554)	41,584	83,015
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		627	208,113	208,740	125,725
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>130,765</u>	<u>119,559</u>	<u>250,324</u>	<u>208,740</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

West Green House Opera Limited (Registered number: 07756429)
(a company limited by guarantee)

Balance Sheet
30th November 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	-	119,559	119,559	92,225
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	259,840	-	259,840	170,243
Cash at bank and in hand		28,516	-	28,516	31,363
		<u>288,356</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>288,356</u>	<u>201,606</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(157,591)	-	(157,591)	(85,091)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>130,765</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>130,765</u>	<u>116,515</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>130,765</u>	<u>119,559</u>	<u>250,324</u>	<u>208,740</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>130,765</u>	<u>119,559</u>	<u>250,324</u>	<u>208,740</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				130,765	627
Restricted funds				<u>119,559</u>	<u>208,113</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>250,324</u>	<u>208,740</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30th November 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30th November 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Balance Sheet - continued
30th November 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17/11/2024 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
G C Hurstfield - Trustee

West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	24,837	(329)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		24,837	(329)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(27,811)	(75,940)
Interest received		127	68
Net cash used in investing activities		(27,684)	(75,872)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		31,363	107,564
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		28,516	31,363

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	41,584	83,015
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	477	748
Interest received	(127)	(68)
Increase in debtors	(89,597)	(107,298)
Increase in creditors	72,500	23,274
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	24,837	(329)

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS/(DEBT)

	At 1.12.22	Cash flow	At 30.11.23
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	31,363	(2,847)	28,516
	31,363	(2,847)	28,516
Debt			
Debts falling due within 1 year	-	(100,000)	(100,000)
	-	(100,000)	(100,000)
Total	31,363	(102,847)	(71,484)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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 1st January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102))', 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland - (FRS102)', the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the trustees have confirmed that they will continue to support the charity for the foreseeable future.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are accounted for as income either when received or if conditions are attached to the donation then when those conditions have been fulfilled. Donations received from patrons and friends in respect of their membership are treated as income of the period to which the membership relates.

Legacies are accounted for as income when the receipt of the legacy is probable and when the amount receivable can be reliably determined.

Government grants towards expenditure are accounted for as income when the expenditure to which the grant relates has been incurred.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 20% on cost
Equipment	- 25% on cost

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Expenses have been incurred in connection with the proposed construction of a demountable stage at West Green House. These expenses have been treated as improvements to property but will not be depreciated until such time as the stage is brought into use.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The charity is claiming Theatre Tax Relief in respect of its operatic performances. This is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can 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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations and legacies	323,149	368,646
Gift Aid	38,787	30,667
	<u>361,936</u>	<u>399,313</u>

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising activities	172,031	59,119
Royalties and commission	468	146
	<u>172,499</u>	<u>59,265</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>127</u>	<u>68</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2023 £	2022 £
Tickets and other income	Activity		
from opera performances	Opera performances	214,514	249,476
Theatre Tax Relief	Opera performances	236,316	168,692
		<u>450,830</u>	<u>418,168</u>

6. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Fundraising trading and other costs	<u>75,619</u>	<u>20,652</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

Expenses of opera performances £855,857 (2022 - £760,163) represents the direct costs of the opera performances (including advertising and public relations expenses) of £777,815 (2022 - £679,965), rent and service charges payable to West Green House Limited of £36,000 (2022 - £36,000) and support costs, including wages, insurance, computer running costs, telephone costs, bank charges, ticketing commission, sundry expenses and depreciation of tangible fixed assets of £42,042 (2022 - £44,198).

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Governance costs	<u>12,332</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation - owned assets	477	748
Payment to independent examiner	2,120	1,920
Other accountancy fees	<u>5,252</u>	<u>5,724</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30th November 2023 nor for the year ended 30th November 2022.

Trustees' expenses

During the year a total of £429 (2022: £72) was paid to 1 (2022: 1) trustee in respect of reimbursement of payments made on behalf of the charity.

11. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	24,600	22,000
	<u>24,600</u>	<u>22,000</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Management and administration	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	259,313	140,000	399,313
Charitable activities			
Opera performances	418,168	-	418,168
Activities for generating funds	59,265	-	59,265
Investment income	68	-	68
Total	<u>736,814</u>	<u>140,000</u>	<u>876,814</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	20,652	-	20,652
Charitable activities			
Opera performances	760,163	-	760,163
Governance costs	12,984	-	12,984
Total	<u>793,799</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>793,799</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(56,985)	140,000	83,015

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	57,612	68,113	125,725
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>627</u>	<u>208,113</u>	<u>208,740</u>

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st December 2022	173,298	2,993	176,291
Additions	27,811	-	27,811
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 30th November 2023	<u>201,109</u>	<u>2,993</u>	<u>204,102</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st December 2022	81,550	2,516	84,066
Charge for year	-	477	477
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 30th November 2023	<u>81,550</u>	<u>2,993</u>	<u>84,543</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 30th November 2023	<u>119,559</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,559</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 30th November 2022	<u>91,748</u>	<u>477</u>	<u>92,225</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	9,159	-
Theatre Tax Relief	236,316	168,691
Prepayments and accrued income	14,365	1,552
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>259,840</u>	<u>170,243</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other loans (see note 16)	100,000	-
Trade creditors	12,626	34,515
Social security and other taxes	-	251
Accruals and deferred income	44,965	50,325
	<u>157,591</u>	<u>85,091</u>

16. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Other loans	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.12.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 30.11.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	627	41,584	88,554	130,765
Restricted funds				
New Theatre Fund	208,113	-	(88,554)	119,559
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>208,740</u>	<u>41,584</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>250,324</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	985,392	(943,808)	41,584
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>985,392</u>	<u>(943,808)</u>	<u>41,584</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.12.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.11.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	57,612	(56,985)	627
Restricted funds			
New Theatre Fund	68,113	140,000	208,113
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>125,725</u>	<u>83,015</u>	<u>208,740</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	736,814	(793,799)	(56,985)
Restricted funds			
New Theatre Fund	140,000	-	140,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>876,814</u>	<u>(793,799)</u>	<u>83,015</u>

With the agreement of the donors, the balance of the New Theatre Fund was transferred to the General Fund during the year. The remaining balance on the New Theatre Fund represents expenditure on preparatory works for the new theatre.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The opera performances and the charity's administrative functions are carried out from West Green House where facilities are shared with West Green House Limited, a company of which Marylyn Abbott (a trustee) is the sole director and shareholder. £36,000 (2022 - £36,000) was paid in the year to West Green House Limited in respect of rent and service charges. £220 (2022 - £Nil) was paid to West Green House Limited in respect of other expenses in connection with the opera performances. During the year the charity received income from West Green House Limited of £1,790 (2022 - £Nil) in respect of picnic commission.

During the year the charity received royalties of £468 (2022 - £146) from GP & J Baker Limited a company of which Ann Grafton (a trustee of the charity) is a director. GP & J Baker also purchased an advertisement for £2,500 (2022 - £1,500).

During the year total donations of £1,350 (2022 - £1,000) were received from the trustees. No restrictions were placed on these donations.

19. SHARE CAPITAL

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have a share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the company in the event of there being a deficiency on a winding up.

West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and legacies	323,149	368,646
Gift Aid	38,787	30,667
	<u>361,936</u>	<u>399,313</u>
Activities for generating funds		
Fundraising activities	172,031	59,119
Royalties and commission	468	146
	<u>172,499</u>	<u>59,265</u>
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	127	68
Charitable activities		
Tickets and other income from opera performances	214,514	249,476
Theatre Tax Relief	236,316	168,692
	<u>450,830</u>	<u>418,168</u>
Total incoming resources	985,392	876,814
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Fundraising trading and other costs	75,619	20,652
Charitable activities		
Wages	24,600	22,000
Direct expenses of opera performances	758,183	663,516
Rent and service charges	36,000	36,000
Insurance	1,469	1,894
Telephone	548	701
Postage and stationery	1,448	940
Advertising, printing and artwork	18,356	13,595
Sundry expenses	-	126
Marketing and public relations	1,276	2,854
Ticketing commission	5,856	9,832
Bank charges	7,644	7,957
Carried forward	855,380	759,415

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

West Green House Opera Limited
(a company limited by guarantee)

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30th November 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	855,380	759,415
Depreciation of office equipment	477	748
	<u>855,857</u>	<u>760,163</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	7,372	7,644
Legal and professional fees	4,960	5,340
	<u>12,332</u>	<u>12,984</u>
Total resources expended	<u>943,808</u>	<u>793,799</u>
Net income	<u><u>41,584</u></u>	<u><u>83,015</u></u>