

THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1160312

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-02-03

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

Contact

Address The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust
Administrative Offices
38 Henley Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
United Kingdom
CV37 6QW

Phone 01789204016

Email office@internationalshakespeare.org.uk

Website <http://internationalshakespeare.org.uk>

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY FURTHERING THE STUDY OF SHAKESPEARE'S LIFE AND WORK BY SUCH MEANS AS THE TRUSTEES DETERMINE INCLUDING BY: ORGANISING, HOLDING AND PROMOTING PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD SHAKESPEARE CONGRESS AND DISSEMINATING THE LEARNING FROM THAT EVENT; AND OFFERING ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL OR REGIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATIONS"

Activities: To advance the education of the public by furthering the study of Shakespeare's life and work by such means as the trustees determine including by:- Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress and disseminating the learning of that event; and- Offering advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Warwickshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£4,500	£176	-	-
2024-05-31	£487	£136	-	-
2023-05-31	£207	£125	-	-
2022-05-31	£2,517	£105	-	-
2021-05-31	£6,199	£3,803	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Atsuhiko Hirota	PROFESSOR	2016-08-24
CARLA DENTE	PROFESSOR	2002-08-12
CLARA CALVO	PROFESSOR	2002-08-12
DOMINIQUE GOY-BLANQUET	PROFESSOR	2007-04-23
Dr BI-QI BEATRICE LEI		2012-04-23
Dr Claudia Olk		2016-08-24
Dr LI LAN YONG		2012-04-23
Dr Manuel-Alfredo Michel-Modenessi		2016-08-24
GORDON ALEXANDER MCMULLAN	PROFESSOR	2012-04-23
LENA COWEN ORLIN	PROFESSOR	2002-08-12
LINGUI YANG	Professor	2011-08-12
PETER DAVID HOLLAND	PROFESSOR	2017-04-06
Professor Christopher Thurman		2022-05-06
Professor David McInnis		2022-06-10
Professor Jacek Fabiszak		2022-06-10
Professor Paraomita Chakravarti		2022-06-10
RAFIK DARRAGI	PROFESSOR	2007-04-23
TOM BISHOP		2012-04-23
TON HOENSELAARS		2007-04-23

THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160312

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	01	June	2024		31	May

Charity name

INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

Other names charity is known by

ISA

Registered charity number (if any)

1160312

Charity's principal address

The Shakespeare Birthplace
Trust
Administrative Offices
38 Henley Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
United Kingdom
CV37 6QW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

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Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Tom Bishop			Members at annual general meeting.
Chris Thurman			Members at annual general meeting.
Clara Calvo			Members at annual general meeting.
Nataliya Torkut			Members at annual general meeting.
Paromita Chakravarti			Members at annual general meeting.
Lingui Yang (Gary Rafiq) Darragi			Members at annual general meeting.
Li Lan Yong			Members at annual general meeting.
Jacek Fabisak			Members at annual general meeting.
Dominique Goy Blanquet			Members at annual general meeting.
Atsuhiko Hirota			Members at annual general meeting.
Ton Hoenselaars			Members at annual general meeting.
Peter Holland	CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting.
Hyon-U Lee			Members at annual general meeting.
Bi-qi Beatrice Lei	VICE CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting.
David McInnis			Members at annual general meeting.
Gordon McMullan			Members at annual general meeting.
Alfredo Modenessi			Members at annual general meeting.
Claudia Olk			Members at annual general meeting.
Lena Cowen Orlin			Members at annual general meeting.

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
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NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Peter Holland (Chair)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. This includes that they should have made a significant contribution to the study and appreciation of Shakespeare. When selecting new charity trustees, the charity's trustees and the members will ensure a suitable level of international representation, including, but not limited to, representatives of established and regional Shakespeare organisations. The vacancies so arising may be filled by the members at the annual general meeting and any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled by the charity trustees.
Additional governance issues (Optional information) You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about: • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and	The International Shakespeare Association is an umbrella organisation devoted to connecting Shakespearians and Shakespeare national societies around the world. Its primary activity since its foundation has been the organisation and planning of the World Shakespeare Congresses, which take place every five years. The original executive committee, like all committees since, was made up of representatives from around the world. The ISA offers an opportunity for individuals and institutions to further the knowledge of Shakespeare throughout the world. As befits a global academic organisation, the International Shakespeare Association is committed to principles of diversity and inclusion for all, as well as of academic freedom and freedom of expression. It believes that the world-wide exchange and engagement with the works of Shakespeare that the ISA promotes leads to greater understanding of and respect for different cultures and societies and the place of the individual within them.

training of trustees; 2 the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;

- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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To advance the education of the public by furthering the study of Shakespeare's life and work by such means as the trustees determine

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

- Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress, and disseminating the learning of that event.
- Offering advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations.

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The charity, a C.I.O., has the following policies:

- Complaints policy and procedures.
- Engaging external speakers at charity events policy and procedures.
- Financial reserves policy and procedures.
- Internal charity financial controls policy and procedures.
- Safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Trustee conflicts of interest policy and procedures.
- Trustee expenses policy and procedures.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional Information) - You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

It does not own and/or lease land or property.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In the year ending 2025, the I.S.A. has:

- Continued to advise the charity's mailing-list about how to update its membership.
- Received monies of updated and new memberships in support of the charity's aims and objectives.
- Updated members about international, Shakespeare-related events.
- Continued its organisation of the World Shakespeare Congress in Verona, 20-26th July 2026.

The theme of the 2026 World Shakespeare Congress is 'Planetary Shakespeares', and it will address questions related to the role of Shakespeare in connection with contemporary concerns about the destiny of our planet and human beings at a time when humanism has been deeply challenged. The Congress will foster discussion of the many ways in which Shakespeare may be conceived as 'planetary', reaching out to resonances with new cultural galaxies of enquiry, debate, and knowledge.

In 2024-2025, the organising bodies of the 12th World Shakespeare Congress have:

- set up a WSC website <https://www.wsc2026.org> and implemented a registration facility within it.
- made a presentation about the WSC at the Shakespeare Association of America conference in Boston in March 2025.
- opened enrolments for 35 seminars and 5 workshops, which were fully booked by September 2025 and achieved 490 submissions by December 2025.
- secured the venues for all of the WSC's panels, workshops, and seminars.
- applied for the granting of patronage by the Italian Ministry of Culture.
- organised book launches, shows, concerts, and other presentations within the programme of the Congress.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

Our Constitution states that our trustees have the power to “set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves”

Details of any funds materially in deficit

NA.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

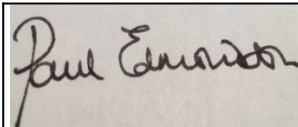
Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)



Paul Edmondson

Full name(s)

Position (eg Secretary, Chair,

Executive Secretary and Treasurer

Paul Edmondson

etc)

Date

March 2026.

International Shakespeare Association

Accounts

Year: 2024/25

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receipts:			
Membership	£4,174.97		£4,174.97
Donations	£65.00		£65.00
Grant Income			£0.00
Bank Interest	£260.23		£260.23
Royalties			£0.00
	<hr/>		
	£4,500.20	£0.00	£4,500.20
Expenditure:			
Grant Subsidy			£0.00
Bank Charges	£60.00		£60.00
PayPal Fees	£116.19		£116.19
Refreshments			£0.00
Costs of Secretariat			£0.00
Travel & Accommodation			£0.00
Printing & Stationery			£0.00
Gifts			£0.00
Professional Fees			£0.00
WSC2021 Funding			£0.00
	<hr/>		
	£176.19	£0.00	£176.19
	<hr/>		
Net receipts/(payments)	£4,324.01	£0.00	£4,324.01
	<hr/>		
Cash Funds last year end	£13,135.49	£802.31	£13,937.80
	<hr/>		
Cash Funds this year end	£17,459.50	£802.31	£18,261.81

	81022865			51452134	
	OUT	IN	TOTAL	OUT	IN
Opening Balance		15.00	15.00		13,284.69
Interest				69.18	
Interest				64.59	
Interest				64.40	
Interest				62.06	
Membership				1,039.79	
Paypal					
Paypal					
Membership					
Donation				65.00	
Membership					
Fees					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
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Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Bank Charges					
Closing Balance			15.00		

GRAND TOTAL

13,937.80

69.18

64.59

64.40

62.06

1,039.79

65.00

3,135.18

-116.19

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

-5.00

18,261.81

THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160312

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	01	June	2023		31	May

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION
Other names charity is known by	ISA
Registered charity number (if any)	1160312
Charity's principal address	The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Administrative Offices 38 Henley Street Stratford-upon-Avon United Kingdom CV37 6QW
Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity	

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Tom Bishop			Members at annual general meeting.
Chris Thurman			Members at annual general meeting.
Clara Calvo			Members at annual general meeting.
Nataliya Torkut			Members at annual general meeting.
Paromita Chakravarti			Members at annual general meeting.
Lingui Yang (Gary Rafiq) Darragi			Members at annual general meeting.
Li Lan Yong			Members at annual general meeting.
Carla Dente			Members at annual general meeting.
Jacek Fabisak			Members at annual general meeting.
Dominique Goy Blanquet			Members at annual general meeting.
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Ton Hoenselaars			Members at annual general meeting.
Peter Holland	CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting.
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David McInnis			Members at annual general meeting.
Gordon McMullan			Members at annual general meeting.
Alfredo Modenessi			Members at annual general meeting.
Claudia Olk			Members at annual general meeting.
Lena Cowen Orlin			Members at annual general meeting.

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Peter Holland (Chair)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

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Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and
- Paul Edmondson The International Shakespeare Association is an umbrella organisation devoted to connecting Shakespearians and Shakespeare national societies around the world. With its headquarters at The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, a small committee of prominent Shakespearians, including John Russell Brown, O. B. Hardison, George Hibbard, and Levi Fox helped shape the association's original objectives, including advising on the initiation and planning of World Shakespeare Congresses. The original executive committee, like all committees since, was made up of representatives from around the world. The ISA offers an opportunity for individuals and institutions to join together to further the knowledge of Shakespeare throughout the world. As befits a global academic organisation, the International Shakespeare Association is committed to principles of diversity and inclusion for all, as well as of academic freedom and freedom of expression. It believes that the world-wide exchange and engagement with the works of Shakespeare that the ISA promotes leads to greater understanding of and respect for different cultures and societies and the place of the individual within them.

training of trustees; 2 the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;

- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

To advance the education of the public by furthering the study of Shakespeare's life and work by such means as the trustees determine

Section C Objectives and activities

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- Offering advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations.

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- Financial reserves policy and procedures.
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- Safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Trustee conflicts of interest policy and procedures.
- Trustee expenses policy and procedures.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional Information) You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

It does not own and/or lease land or property.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In the year ending 2024, the I.S.A. has:

- Completed further preparations for the 12th World Shakespeare Congress in Verona, 20-26th July 2026, fifty years on from the 1st W.S.C. in 1976. This is a major collaboration between the I.S.A. and the Skenè Centre, University of Verona.
- Continued to advise the charity's mailing-list about how to update its membership.
- Received monies of updated and new memberships in support of the charity's aims and objectives.
- Updated members about international, Shakespeare-related events.

The theme of the 2026 World Shakespeare Congress is 'Planetary Shakespeares', and it will address questions related to the role of Shakespeare in connection with contemporary concerns about the destiny of our planet and human beings at a time when humanism has been deeply challenged. The Congress will foster discussion of the many ways in which Shakespeare may be conceived as 'planetary', reaching out to resonances with new cultural galaxies of enquiry, debate, and knowledge.

The following organisational structure for the W.S.C. 2026 was established:

Skenè Local Organizing Committee for the W.S.C. 2026.

- CHAIR: Silvia BIGLIAZZI (University of Verona, Italy)
- CO-CHAIR: Emanuel STELZER (University of Verona, Italy)
- Simona BRUNETTI (University of Verona, Italy)
- Sidia FIORATO (University of Verona, Italy)
- Vlado JELCIC (University of Verona, Italy)
- Susan PAYNE (University of Florence, Italy)
- Cristiano RAGNI (University of Verona, Italy)
- Beatrice RIGHETTI (University of Verona, Italy)
- Anmol Deep SINGH (University of Verona, Italy)
- Roberta ZANONI (University of Verona, Italy)

Members of the Advisory Board for the W.S.C. 2026.

- Shaul BASSI (University of Venice Ca' Foscari, Italy)
- Fernando CIONI (University of Florence, Italy)
- Eric NICHOLSON (NYU Florence, Italy)

Programme Committee for the W.S.C. 2026.

- Bi-qi Beatrice LEI (Shakespeare Association of America) – chair
- Tom BISHOP (University of Auckland, New Zealand)
- Chris THURMAN (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)
- Nathalie VIENNE-GUERRIN (Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3, France)

Accounts

Year: 2023/24

Congress Committee for the W.S.C. 2026.

- Peter HOLLAND (University of Notre Dame, USA) – chair
- Ton HOENSELAARS (Utrecht University, Netherlands)
- Lena Cowen ORLIN (Georgetown University, USA)

Unrestricted Restricted Total

Receipts:

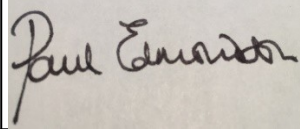
Section E Financial review					
	Donations			£20.00	
	Grant Income			£0.00	
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	Bank Interest	Our Constitution states that our trustees have the power to "set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves"		£224.20	
	Royalties			£0.00	
			£244.20	£242.89	£487.09
Details of any funds materially in deficit	Expenditure:				
	Grant Subsidy	NA.		£0.00	
	Bank Charges		£85.00	£85.00	
	PayPal Fees		£7.48	£7.48	
Further financial review details (Optional information)					
You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:	Refreshments			£0.00	
	Costs of Secretariat	We acknowledge a difference of £30.45 between the closing and opening balances in 2023. After close scrutiny, this has been identified as sitting across both restricted and unrestricted funding. The opening balances included on the 2023-2024 accounts match the bank statements, and the ISA's Paypal account.		£0.00	
	Travel & Accommodation			£0.00	
	Printing & Stationery			£0.00	
	Gifts			£0.00	
	Professional Fees		£43.84	£43.84	
	WSC2021 Funding			£0.00	
• the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);		£136.32	£0.00	£136.32	
• how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;	Net receipts/(payments)	£107.88	£242.89	£350.77	
• investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	Cash Funds last year end	£13,008.45	£559.42	£13,567.87	
	Cash Funds this year end	£13,116.33	£802.31	£13,918.64	

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		Paul Edmondson
Full name(s)		
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Executive Secretary and Treasurer	
Date	17 April 2025.	

THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160312

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date			
01	June	2022	31	May	2023

From

To

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

Other names charity is known by

ISA

Registered charity number (if any)

1160312

Charity's principal address

Shakespeare Centre

Henley Street

Stratford-upon-Avon

Postcode CV37 6QW

Warwickshire

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Tom Bishop			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
2	Dominique Goy Blanquet			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
3	Clara Calvo			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
4	Paromita Chakravarti			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
5	Rafik Darragi			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
6	Carla Dente			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
7	Jacek Fabiszak			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
8	Atsuhiko Hirota			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
9	Ton Hoenselaars			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
10	Peter Holland	CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees

11	Peter Holbrook		01.06.22-01.07.22	Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
12	Hyon-U Lee			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
13	Bi-qi Beatrice Lei	VICE CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
14	David McInnis			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
15	Gordon McMullan			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
16	Alfredo Modenessi			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
17	Claudia Olk			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
18	Lena Cowen Orlin			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
19				
20	Christopher Thurman			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
21	Nataliya Torkut			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
22	Lingui Yang (Gary Yang)			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
23	Li Lan Yong			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Peter Holland (Chair)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity’s trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
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Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; □ the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The [International Shakespeare Association](#) is an umbrella organisation devoted to connecting Shakespeareans and Shakespeare national societies around the world. With its headquarters at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, a small committee of prominent Shakespeareans, including John Russell Brown, O. B. Harrison, George Hibbard, and Levi Fox helped shape the association’s original objectives, including advising on the initiation and planning of World Shakespeare Congresses. The original executive committee, like all committees since, was made up of representatives from around the world. The ISA offers an opportunity for individuals and institutions to join together to further the knowledge of Shakespeare throughout the world.

As befits a global academic organisation, the International Shakespeare Association is committed to principles of diversity and inclusion for all, as well as of academic freedom and freedom of expression. It believes that the world-wide exchange and engagement with the works of Shakespeare that the ISA promotes leads to greater understanding of and respect for different cultures and societies and the place of the individual within them.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- To advance the education of the public by furthering the study of Shakespeare's life and work by such means as the trustees determine including by:
- Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress and disseminating the learning from that event; and

Offering advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations.

Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Disseminating learning

ISA members were given access to digital recordings made of the 2021 congress in Singapore. Free access to these digital resources helped serve the ISA's aim to advance the education of the public as they provided a special opportunity to understand how and why Asian practitioners bring Shakespeare onto their stages. Disseminating learning from world congresses is a key ISA objective, and the recordings from this important international event will have benefitted young scholars and those who were unable to attend the event in 2021. The resources enabled and promoted cultural exchange between scholars, students and Shakespeare enthusiasts from across the globe.

Promoting international participation

Our constitution allows for the appointment of new Trustees, who also serve on the ISA's Executive Committee. In view of a number of retirements by Trustees the present Executive Committee followed previous practice in taking informal soundings of members and considered the recommendations of the Nominations Committee formed by the Chair. It gave careful consideration to the composition of the Executive Committee, with a view to placing recommendations before the membership for approval. In presenting the candidates for nomination, the Executive Committee kept closely in mind the need for the Committee to reflect the international character of the Association, to encompass wide-ranging interests and experience, and to ensure an appropriate degree of change and renewal in its composition.

The election of our new members acted in the public benefit by increasing international representation for our membership at large. Our new Executive members include:

Paromita Chakravarti is Professor of English at Jadavpur University in Kolkata, and Coordinator of the "Shakespeare in Bengal" Project at its Centre for Advanced Studies. She has been a Visiting Fellow at, for example, Oxford and Amsterdam. Her publications include co-edited anthologies on Shakespeare and Indian Cinemas and on Changing Frames of Gender Politics in India.

Jacek Fabiszak is University Professor at the Adam Mickiewicz University, president of the Polish Shakespeare Association, and past treasurer of the European Shakespeare Research Association. His books include Polish Televised Shakespeares and Shakespeare's Drama of Social Roles.

Hyon-U Lee is Professor of English at Soon Chun Hyang University in Korea. As well as numerous articles on a wide range of topics in the study of Shakespeare performance, translation and adaptation, he has directed Coriolanus, Shrew and Q1 Hamlet.

David McInnis is Associate Professor of Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama at the University of Melbourne. He is author of Shakespeare and Lost Plays, and Mind-Travelling and Voyage Drama in Early Modern England, and editor of Dekker's Old Fortunatus for the Revels. He is co-founder and co-editor of the Lost Plays Database.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Chris Thurman is Professor at Witwatersrand University in South Africa, and Director of its Tsikinya-Chaka Centre. He is president of the Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa and founder of Shakespeare ZA. He is editor of the journal Shakespeare in Southern Africa and editor of South African Essays on 'Universal' Shakespeare.

Nataliya Torkut, as Director of the Shakespeare Centre at Zaporizhzhia National University, has worked to promote both Shakespeare scholarship and public awareness of Shakespeare in Ukraine. She maintains a Ukrainian Shakespeare portal and also contributes to the World Shakespeare Bibliography.

Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress

The 2026 World Shakespeare Congress will take place in Verona, Italy, a vital crossroads of ancient and early modern Europe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the setting for *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Romeo and Juliet*. The WSC will address questions related to the role of Shakespeare in connection with contemporary concerns about the destiny of our planet and human beings at a time when humanism has been deeply challenged. The Congress will foster discussion of the many ways in which Shakespeare may be conceived as 'planetary', reaching out to resonances with new cultural galaxies of enquiry, debate, and knowledge.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information) You may choose

to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The continued development of a new vision for the ISA designed to encourage further opportunities for the public to benefit from the organisation's work via recordings, publications, and digital and hybrid events.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

June 2022

Nomination and election of 6 new members of the Executive Committee

June 2022

Draft proposal for world congress to be held for the public benefit in 2026 in Verona, Italy.

September 2022

Public announcement of the 11th World Shakespeare Congress in 2026 to be held in Verona, Italy. The Local Organizing Committee is headed by Professor Silvia Bigliuzzi of the Università di Verona, with Emanuel Stelzer as co-Chair. Professors Shaul Bassi (University of Venice Ca Foscari), Fernando Cioni (University of Florence) and Eric Nicholson (NYU, Florence) are members of the Advisory Board. The dates of the world congress will be 20-26 July, 2026

January 2023

Formation of Programme and Congress Committee for WSC 2026

May 2023

Development of World Shakespeare Congress website as gateway for those interested in coming together in Verona for a Shakespearian celebration in 2026: <https://www.wsc2026.org/>

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves	Our Constitution states that our trustees have the power to “set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves”
Details of any funds materially in deficit	NA

Further financial review details (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted. 	N/A

Section F Other optional information

World Shakespeare Congress 2026: Verona – open access website invitation

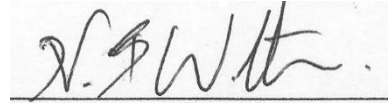
The 2026 World Shakespeare Congress will mark the International Shakespeare Association’s 50th anniversary. Let us celebrate together in fair Verona, Italy, where, from July 20th to 26th 2026, Shakespeareans will gather in this beautiful and historic city on the Adige River, a vital crossroads of ancient and early modern Europe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the setting for *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Romeo and Juliet*. The WSC will address questions related to the role of Shakespeare in connection with contemporary concerns about the destiny of our planet and human beings at a time when humanism has been deeply challenged. The Congress will foster discussion of the many ways in which Shakespeare may be conceived as ‘planetary’, reaching out to resonances with new cultural galaxies of enquiry, debate, and knowledge.

Planetary Shakespeares offers a way to tackle a whole range of issues beyond the present concern with Global Shakespeare and suggesting multifarious ways in which Shakespeare’s infinite variety and complexities can offer an entrance point to the humanities, enabling them to confront planetary crises and reconsider relations among nature, art and technology, as well as the need to reconfigure our sense of reality both socially and epistemologically. Now that we have moved into the digital, the virtual, the cyborg, and the posthuman ages, and the notion itself of reality has been challenged from different angles, including our experience of augmented reality, we have become aware of new turning points in history, and how they affect our perception of the contradictions embedded in our sense of the real. Theatre best captures such transformations and possible contradictions. “Planetary Shakespeares” offers convenient gateways into the most varied experiences of ‘the real’ via a plurality of interconnected issues.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	N.B.Walton	
Full name(s)	Nick Walton	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Executive Secretary and Treasurer	
Date	9 th April 2024	

International Shakespeare Association

Accounts

Year: 2022-2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receipts:			
Membership	160.00		160.00
Donations	-		-
Grant income	-		-
Bank interest	47.22		47.22
Royalties	-		-
	<hr/>		
	207.22	-	207.22
Expenditure:			
Grant Subsidy	-	-	-
Bank Charges	120.00	-	120.00
PayPal Fees	5.48		5.48
Refreshments	-		-
Costs of Secretariat	-		-
Travel & Accommodation	-		-
Printing & Stationery	-		-
Gifts	-		-
Professional Fees	-		-
WSC2021 Funding		-	
	<hr/>		
	125.48	-	125.48
	<hr/>		
Net Receipts (payments)	81.74	-	81.74
Cash Funds (last year end)	12,936.68	519.00	13,455.68
Cash Funds (this year end)	13,018.42	519.00	13,537.42

THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160312

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	June	2021		31	May	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

Other names charity is known by ISA

Registered charity number (if any) 1160312

Charity's principal address

Shakespeare Centre	
Henley Street	
Stratford-upon-Avon	
Postcode CV37 6QW	Warwickshire

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Tom Bishop			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
2	Clara Calvo			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
3	Sukanta Chaudhuri		01.06.21 - 24.07.21	Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
4	Rafik Darragi			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
5	Carla Dente			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
6	Peter Holland	CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
7	Peter Holbrook			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
8	Ton Hoenselaars			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
9	Alfredo Modenessi			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
10	Li Lan Yong			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees

11	Bi-qi Beatrice Lei			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
12	Gordon McMullan			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
13	Lena Cowen Orlin			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
14	Martin Prochazka		01.06.21 - 24.07.21	Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
15	Claudia Olk			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
16	Dominique GoyBlanquet			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
17	Lingui Yang (Gary Yang)			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
18	Atsuhiko Hirota			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Peter Holland (Chair)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. This will include that they should have made a significant contribution to the study and appreciation of Shakespeare. When selecting new charity trustees, the charity trustees and the members will ensure a suitable level of international representation, including, but not limited to, representatives of established and regional Shakespeare organisations. The vacancies so arising may be filled by the members at the annual general meeting and any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled by the charity trustees.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; □ the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- To advance the education of the public by furthering the study of Shakespeare's life and work by such means as the trustees determine including by:
 - Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress and disseminating the learning from that event; and
- Offering advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Objective: Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress and disseminating the learning from that event

Within the period 01.06.21 – 31.05.22 The International Shakespeare Association hosted the 11th World Shakespeare Congress in Singapore (18-24 July 2021), and made plans towards the next world congress to be held for the public benefit in Italy in 2026. This congress will benefit young scholars in the UK and across Europe enabling cultural exchange between scholars, students and Shakespeare enthusiasts from across the globe.

The 2021 digital Congress streamed and live-hosted from Singapore served the public benefit through being more affordable, accessible, and inclusive. Our hosts in Singapore were able to present many more performances for the public benefit than could have been staged live, and delegates who would not have been able to make the trip were able to join our community.

This was the first Congress where communities of Shakespeare scholars, teachers and practitioners in over 40 countries were able to gather and interact while remaining each in their own locations, time zones, climates, and cultures for Shakespeare.

Over 500 delegates from 42 countries came together over the space of one week for the online event to take part in seminars, panels, and group-viewings and discussions of theatre productions by ten renowned and emerging directors across East, South and Southeast Asia.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information) You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Watch-parties and In-Conversation sessions with the directors of these performances helped serve the ISA’s aim to advance the education of the public as they provided a special opportunity to understand how and why Asian practitioners bring Shakespeare onto their own stages. Selected as windows into Asian aesthetics, the performances illustrated how diverse, creative, and unique Shakespearean interpretations can emerge from aesthetic practices that remain deeply rooted in Asian religious rituals, traditional culture, and philosophy.

The ISA’s Executive committee has had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

**Section D
Achievements and
performance**

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Selection of Italy as the host for our 2026 world congress
-
- Nominations for new members of the Executive Committee
-
- The sudden requirement but smooth transition into transforming an in-person World Congress into an online event in the space of less than 6 months.
- Over 500 delegates from 42 countries attending the ISA's first online World Shakespeare Congress.
- Over 70 fee waivers granted.
- The online congress witnessed a notable increase in Asian and student participants.
- The delivery of a rich online programme of events including: 4 keynotes lectures; 4 roundtable sessions; 4 director-in-conversation sessions; 14 panels; 34 seminars and workshops; 5 community events, and one book launch.
- Providing access to all congress materials for one year after the event for the public benefit.
- The continued development of a new vision for the ISA designed to encourage further opportunities for the public to benefit from the organisation's work via recordings publications, and digital and hybrid events.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	Our Constitution states that our trustees have the power to "set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves"
Details of any funds materially in deficit	NA

Further financial review details (Optional information)

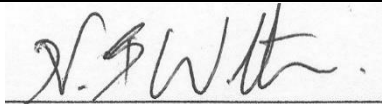
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);• how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;• investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	
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Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	N.B.Walton	
Full name(s)	Nick Walton	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Executive Secretary and Treasurer	
Date	30 th March 2023	

International Shakespeare Association

Accounts

Year: 2021/22

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receipts:			
Membership	2,517.38		2,517.38
Donations	-		-
Grant income	-		-
Bank interest	0.03		0.03
Royalties			
	2,517.41	-	2,517.41
Expenditure:			
Grant Subsidy	-	-	-
Bank Charges	25.00	-	25.00
PayPal Fees	80.04		80.04
Refreshments	-		-
Costs of Secretariat	-		-
Travel & Accommodation	-		-
Printing & Stationery	-		-
Gifts	-		-
Professional Fees	-		-
WSC2021 Funding			
	105.04	-	105.04
Net Receipts (payments)	2,412.37	-	2,412.37
Cash Funds (last year end)	10,524.31	519.00	11,043.31
Cash Funds (this year end)	12,936.68	519.00	13,455.68

THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160312

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
01	June	2020	31
From		To	

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

Other names charity is known by ISA

Registered charity number (if any) 1160312

Charity's principal address

Shakespeare Centre	
Henley Street	
Stratford-upon-Avon	
Postcode CV37 6QW	Warwickshire

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Tom Bishop			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
2	Clara Calvo			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
3	Sukanta Chaudhuri			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
4	Rafik Darragi			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
5	Carla Dente			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
6	Peter Holland	CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
7	Peter Holbrook			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
8	Ton Hoenselaars			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
9	Alfredo Modenessi			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
10	Li Lan Yong			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees

11	Bi-qi Beatrice Lei			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
12	Gordon McMullan			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
13	Lena Cowen Orlin			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
14	Martin Prochazka	VICE-CHAIR		Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
15	Claudia Olk			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
16	Dominique GoyBlanquet			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
17	Lingui Yang (Gary Yang)			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
18	Atsuhiko Hirota			Members at annual general meeting after WSC/ charity trustees
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Peter Holland (Chair)
Martin Prochazka (Vice-Chair)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
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Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; □ the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- To advance the education of the public by furthering the study of Shakespeare's life and work by such means as the trustees determine including by:
 - Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress and disseminating the learning from that event; and

Offering advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Objective: Organising, holding and promoting participation in the World Shakespeare Congress and disseminating the learning from that event

Travel restrictions in 2021 in light of the global pandemic led to a digital reimagining of the World Shakespeare Congress, which had originally been planned to take place in-person in Singapore.

Ultimately, this digital Congress streamed and live-hosted from Singapore served the public benefit through being more affordable, accessible, and inclusive. Our hosts in Singapore were able to present many more performances for the public benefit than could have been staged live, and delegates who would not have been able to make the trip were able to join our community.

This was the first Congress where communities of Shakespeare scholars, teachers and practitioners in over 40 countries were able to gather and interact while remaining each in their own locations, time zones, climates, and cultures for Shakespeare.

Over 500 delegates from 42 countries came together over the space of one week for the online event to take part in seminars, panels, and group-viewings and discussions of theatre productions by ten renowned and emerging directors across East, South and Southeast Asia.

Watch-parties and In-Conversation sessions with the directors of these performances helped serve the ISA’s aim to advance the education of the

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information) You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

public as they provided a special opportunity to understand how and why Asian practitioners bring Shakespeare onto their own stages. Selected as windows into Asian aesthetics, the performances illustrated how diverse, creative, and unique Shakespearean interpretations can emerge from aesthetic practices that remain deeply rooted in Asian religious rituals, traditional culture, and philosophy.

The ISA’s Executive committee has had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

**Section D
Achievements and
performance**

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- The sudden requirement but smooth transition into transforming an in-person World Congress into an online event in the space of less than 6 months.
- Over 500 delegates from 42 countries attending the ISA's first online World Shakespeare Congress.
- Over 70 fee waivers granted.
- The online congress witnessed a notable increase in Asian and student participants.
- The delivery of a rich online programme of events including: 4 keynote lectures; 4 roundtable sessions; 4 director-in-conversation sessions; 14 panels; 34 seminars and workshops; 5 community events, and one book launch.
- Providing access to all congress materials for one year after the event for the public benefit.
- The continued development of a new vision for the ISA designed to encourage further opportunities for the public to benefit from the organisation's work via recordings publications, and digital and hybrid events.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our Constitution states that our trustees have the power to "set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves"

Details of any funds materially in deficit

NA

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

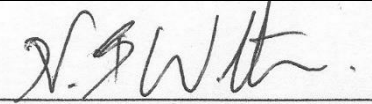
Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	N.B.Walton	
Full name(s)	Nick Walton	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Executive Secretary and Treasurer	
Date	16 March 2022	

International Shakespeare Association

Accounts

Year: 2020/21

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receipts:			
Membership	6,198.96		6,198.96
Donations	-		-
Grant Income	-		-
Bank Interest	0.06		0.06
Royalties	-		-
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	6,199.02	-	6,199.02
Expenditure:			
Grant Subsidy	-	-	-
Bank Charges	-		-
PayPal Fees	203.25		203.25
Refreshments	-		-
Costs of Secretariat	3,600.00		3,600.00
Travel & Accomodation	-		-
Printing & Stationery	-		-
Gifts	-		-
Professional Fees	-		-
WSC2021 Funding		-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	3,803.25	-	3,803.25
Net receipts/(payments)	<hr/>		<hr/>
	2,395.77	-	2,395.77
Cash Funds last year end	8,128.54	519.00	8,647.54
Cash Funds this year end	<hr/>		<hr/>
	10,524.31	519.00	11,043.31