

Barefoot Opera

Registered Charity No. 1167730

Annual Accounts

for the period

1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

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Hastings Voluntary Action
Jackson Hall
Portland Place
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1QN

**Organisational information for
Barefoot Opera
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

Name of charity:	Barefoot Opera
Charity No:	1167730
Legal form:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Governing document:	Constitution dated 15th June 2015, amended 10 June 2022
Address:	6 The Uplands St. Leonards-on-Sea East Sussex TN38 0HL
Trustees:	Joao Figueirido (Chair) David Rogers (Treasurer) Appointed 10th May 2024 Virginia Gilbert Retired May 2024 Susan Cowell appointed 23rd February 2024, retired 1st July 2025 Elizabeth Allen - Retired 14th November 2025 Olivia Shaw - Retired 11th April 2025 Laurelle Hughes Laura Mucha Mary Long
Director:	Jenny Miller - Appointed as a trustee 23rd May 2025
Bankers:	CAF Bank (online), 25 Kings Hill Ave, West Malling, ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner:	Laura Dawson, Independent Examiner HVA, Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN
Objects:	To advance education about, promote public appreciation of, and encourage participation in, the art of opera and singing for the public benefit by: a) Developing singing at all levels from amateur to professional standard; b) Encouraging emerging professional singers to find new approaches to the rehearsal and performance of opera; and c) Developing new audiences for opera, music recitals and concerts with innovative, inclusive and accessible performances. d) Promote singing for mental and physical health for all.

Barefoot Opera

The Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025

Barefoot Young Artists Tour 2025: We started community workshops for the tour in May and continued until the end of September. Our ACE supported tour expanded to 12 performances in 6 venues of Verdi's La Traviata. We reached a total of 1760 live audience. We engaged with six non auditioned community choirs of which three were new to us. Those choirs totalled 108 singers, of whom 59 were new to opera, c. 50%.

We engaged with four schools, of which three schools were new to our company. The school groups totalled 76 performers, of which 68 were new to opera, over 90%.

We garnered the most reviews we have ever had as a company, including reviews in Hastings and St Leonards, Brighton and the Arcola, totalling 6 reviews of which 5 were highly favourable. On December 7th 2024 we supported the Seaview Centre for vulnerable adults in their annual Christmas Carol fundraising concert. We held our usual Burns Night fundraiser on January 25th and raised £1300 for the company. We held regular advanced singers' workshops in our London studio. From January 2025 to April 2025 we toured Red!, a children's opera written by Lucy Mulgan and commissioned by us, to 10 primary schools and 300 children. This was also ACE supported. We then performed Red! at the Royal Opera House in April 2025 for their children's outreach programme, with 100 children performing. We appointed an interim Artistic Director for 6 months from October 2024.

Barefoot Opera

Receipts & Payments accounts

for the period

1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Previous Year			Current Year		
		Notes	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	<u>Receipts</u>				
31,644	Grants		83,955	-	83,955
750	Sponsorship/Fund raising		-	10,385	10,385
16,490	Ticket sales		-	18,887	18,887
2,450	Student fees		-	285	285
-	Programme sales		-	-	-
690	Bar/Raffle		-	1,022	1,022
6,511	Donations		-	12,144	12,144
9,247	Festival Fees		-	27,852	27,852
145	Miscellaneous Income		-	7,748	7,748
2,910	Friends Membership		-	4,424	4,424
-	Gift Aid Reclaimed		-	-	-
(612)	Less Stripe Commission		-	-	-
<u>70,225</u>			<u>83,955</u>	<u>82,746</u>	<u>166,701</u>
	<u>Expenditure</u>				
11,435	Direction/Management		22,399	5,250	27,649
1,650	Coaching		-	-	-
23,003	Musicians		21,731	59,714	81,445
480	Travel expenses		625	222	847
4,033	Venue hire		6,023	-	6,023
1,700	Costume & set		8,207	-	8,207
3,745	Technical expenses		3,584	-	3,584
1,768	Transport costs		2,268	210	2,478
502	Food costs and preparation		1,490	197	1,687
5,896	Publicity		7,710	380	8,090
158	Website		-	480	480
-	Insurance		-	378	378
13,130	Admin/Office expenses		1,042	821	1,863
5,310	Fundraising costs		-	1,264	1,264
1,409	Other/Misc		-	9,234	9,234
<u>74,219</u>			<u>75,080</u>	<u>78,149</u>	<u>153,229</u>
(3,994)	Net surplus (deficit)		8,875	4,598	13,473
	Movement between Funds		(194)	194	-
<u>19,415</u>	Fund balances b/f	1/4/24	<u>194</u>	<u>15,227</u>	<u>15,421</u>
<u>15,421</u>	Fund balances c/f	31/3/25	<u>8,875</u>	<u>20,019</u>	<u>28,894</u>

			Restricted Income	Unrestricted Income	Total	Previous year Total
Current assets						
Current Account	@	31/03/25	8,875	19,971	28,847	15,374
Cash in hand	@	31/03/25		47	47	47
Receipts awaiting banking				-	-	-
			<u>8,875</u>	<u>20,018</u>	<u>28,894</u>	<u>15,421</u>
Current liabilities						
Uncashed cheques				-	-	-
			<u>8,875</u>	<u>20,018</u>	<u>28,894</u>	<u>15,421</u>

Chantry Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Approved by the Trustees on 15 January 2026 and signed on their behalf by

15 January 2026
Jocelyn J. G. [unclear]
DM [unclear]

Joao Figueirdo (Chair)

David Rogers (Treasurer)

Barefoot Opera
Notes to the Accounts
for the period

01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Restricted Funds

			Income	Spent	Left
<u>CEN -</u>	b/fwd	-			
Grants received			3,516.00		
Expenses				3,516.00	
Amount carried forward					£ -
<u>FEST -</u>	b/fwd	193.35			
Grants received					
Expenses					
Contribution to reserves				193.35	
Amount carried forward					£ -
<u>Traviata</u>	b/fwd	-			
Grants received			55,464.00		
Expenses				55,464.00	
Amount carried forward					£ -
<u>RED</u>	b/fwd	-			
Grants received			24,975.00		
Expenses				16,100.00	
Amount carried forward					£ 8,875.00
Total Restricted Fund b/fwd		193.35			
Total Income			83,955.00		
Total Spent				75,273.35	
Total Restricted Funds Held					£ 8,875.00

Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee of Barefoot Opera

I report on the accounts of Barefoot Opera
for the twelve month period ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on the previous pages.

Respective responsibilities of committee & examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the supporting documentation presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Laura Dawson
Finance Manager
Hastings Voluntary Action
Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN

Dated:

19/1/2026