



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	January	2024		31	December	2024

### Section A

### Reference and administration details

Charity name **North East Theatre Organ Association**

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) **1169463**

Charity's principal address **c/o The Chairman, Mr. J. L. Heslop**

**25, The Green, Elwick,**

**Hartlepool**

**Postcode**

**TS27 3EF**

### 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	John Leister Heslop	Chairman	(Re-elected as Trustee at AGM 01/07/2024)	
2	David Wright	Honorary Secretary		
3	Joseph William Marsh	Honorary Treasurer		
4	David Kirkbride			
5	Suzanne Kirkbride			
6	James Robinson			
7	Rosilyn Ann Raine	Joint Friends' Secretary	(Re-elected as Trustee at AGM 01/07/2024)	
8	Barry Raine	Joint Friends' Secretary	(Re-elected as Trustee at AGM 01/07/2024)	
9	Geoffrey Donald Jackson	Ticket Sales Officer	(Appointed as Trustee at special GM 14/08/2024)	
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO Foundation Model Constitution dated 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2016
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by Members of the CIO to serve for a 3 year period

**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.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits in return for duties carried out on behalf of the charity.

The Trustees have considered major risks associated with the day-to-day operations carried out by the NETOA and have produced a number of Risk Assessments and Policies to assist with addressing these and other statutory requirements. Insurance is carried to cover the charity against losses associated with the premises of the New Victoria Centre, Howden le Wear and the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ and other contents; also Public and Employers Liability Insurance. Although there are no paid employees of the charity, the 'Employees Liability' section of the insurance covers volunteers working on behalf of the charity and visiting professional musicians employed on a one-off contract basis.

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

To promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in theatre pipe organ music, its history and heritage. This is to be achieved by the preservation of a theatre pipe organ (or organs) and using this / these organ(s) to educate the public through open days, performances and other means; training and education of those who wish to learn the skills of playing and maintaining such organs, etc. Also to further such other purposes as are exclusively charitable under the laws of England and Wales, as determined by the Trustees.

## 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)

The Trustees of the NETOA CIO have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at trustee meetings and when planning activities, etc. and when carrying out their duties.

The effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on the operation of the charity were reduced during 2024, but whilst we were able to operate a full programme of events, audience numbers had still not recovered to pre-covid levels (a problem experienced by most similar organisations). Visits by outside organisations (such as U3As, Womens Institutes, Rotary & Probus Clubs, works organisations, etc.) who typically visit the New Victoria Centre to learn about the history and development of the theatre organ were starting to build up again and there was interest for 2025 bookings.

Organ practice sessions for Friends of the NETOA and Friends Concerts were resumed but numbers attending were still limited at times.

Additional information relating to the history and development of the theatre organ, the NETOA and details about our own organ installation in particular are now made available to the general public via the NETOA website in furtherance of the objectives relating to education in theatre organ matters and we had a very successful day when we joined in the national Heritage Open Days programme in September - see below).

Further detailed information about the activities and their success is provided in the 'Achievements and Performance' section of the report.

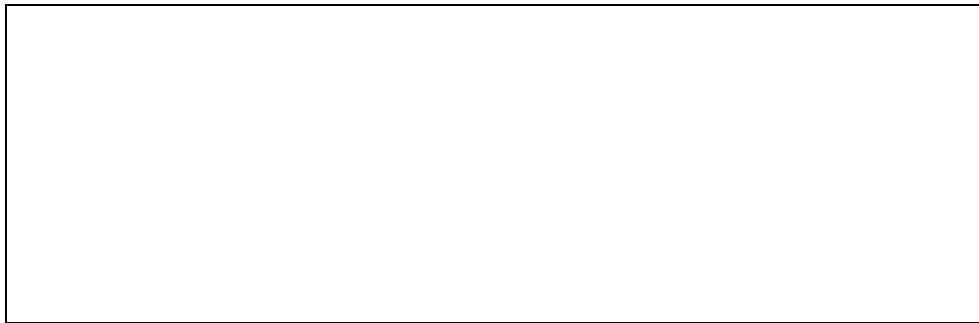
## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

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

The contribution made by volunteers to the charity's operation has, as always, continued to be of the greatest importance as the North East Theatre Organ Association continues into its second half-century of activity.

Having been originally founded in 1968, the Association had operated as a non-charitable not-for-profit organisation until becoming a CIO on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and during that earlier period, the great generosity of many donors and the practical help of almost 200 volunteers made possible a project that led to the great honour of the NETOA being presented with the 'Queen's Award for Voluntary Service' (sometimes called the "MBE for Volunteer Groups") in 2016. We believe that we were the first organisation operating in this particular sector to have been given this award.



## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Following on from the insulation work carried out in 2023 to the New Victoria Centre main concert hall loft, there was a noticeable improvement in comfort levels in the room and the start of 2024 saw the team of volunteers continue the energy efficiency drive during the 'shut-down' period in January and February. Work already started fitting additional insulation in the Tea Room loft was continued to bring this fully up to current standards and help to further reduce fuel bills.

David and Suzanne Kirkbride, after many years service as Ticket Sales Officer and General Sales Officer respectively, retired from these positions at the end of 2023 but agreed to continue as Trustees and assist in whatever way they could. A presentation of a mounted organ pipe had been made to David at the final concert in 2023 and the Trustees thanked both for their sterling service.

Talking of Christmas, it came early to the New Victoria Centre in 2024 (April to be precise) as young organist Aaron Hawthorne had been invited to make a recording of the Wurlitzer organ (his first and our first for 12 years!) and he decided that an album of Christmas music would be a good choice. So just after Easter Aaron arrived for his first rehearsal and during his regular visits we enjoyed Christmas carols and other (un)seasonal favourites for the next six months. By the end of September he was fully prepared and, as usual, everyone 'mucked in' to get things ready, the organ tuned, the hall prepared and then 80 members of Rock Choir north east arrived one day to join in and we started recording; young schoolgirl soprano Annie Pitchers-Moffit came to record 'Walking in the Air' and then Aaron finished his solo recordings before popping over to Lancashire to visit former BBC Radio 2 presenter and NETOA President Nigel Ogden to record a vocal contribution. Everything then went off for editing to Damon Cox in Surrey whilst artwork was prepared and then on to production of the final CDs for release at the Christmas concert.

The A.G.M. of 'Members' of the NETOA CIO was held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

Further to the note regarding the hosting of the NETOA Website in last years report, this was transferred from the company 'Creative Marketing' who had taken over our original web hosts 'Autus' during 2023 (this had resulted in greatly increased charges) to 'Richard Tokeley & Associates'. Richard had been the original designer of the website for 'Autus' and offered both a better service and more reasonable charges.

In April we held a special event in association with the Royal College of Organists 'International Organ Day' when we threw the doors open to the public who could find out all about the 'ins and outs' of the theatre pipe organ - and even have a go at playing it if they wanted to! We were especially grateful to world famous organ builders Harrison and Harrison Ltd. of Durham for bringing along a display of some of their work showing

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

the amazing skill and craftsmanship which they put into building and restoring some of the world's finest pipe organs. We later enjoyed a busy Heritage Open Days Weekend in September with a steady stream of visitors coming to see the Wurlitzer from the minute we opened the doors at 10.00 a.m. Organ chamber tours were available for those interested and visitors were able to enjoy Stuart Wright's fabulous Gavioli fairground organ playing outside in the car park.

Concert audience numbers continued to improve slowly, but it was noticeable that there was a trend for more tickets to be sold 'on the day' rather than in advance. The Christmas concert was 'sold out' and a second concert had to be put on to fit in the extra people who wanted tickets plus Rock Choir members who wanted to come along also.

At the end of the year our Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Joseph Marsh, retired from the post after over 33 years in the post. Joe felt that due to declining health he could no longer manage to attend events, etc., to collect and manage money, but he agreed to the Trustees request that he remain as a Trustee to assist and advise in whatever way he could. Mr. Marsh was presented by the Chairman with an album containing pictures taken over the years of himself and his family at NETOA events and activities for which he thanked everyone.

### Trustee Matters:

Four Trustees were due to retire by rota and were duly re-elected at the 2024 AGM & one new Trustee was appointed at a separate meeting (see above).

## Section E

## Financial review

### **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The charity's aim is to have a working reserve of approximately two years turnover available in the main bank account for day-to-day operational purposes (which has now generally been achieved). Additional (restricted) reserve funds are maintained for: a) 'Organ Maintenance, Repairs & Renovations' and b) 'Building Maintenance & Repair'. Two savings accounts are held with Banks / Building Societies for 'reserve funds' (one giving easy access and one 'notice' account - both paying significantly better interest than our high street bank had been offering. The Restricted Funds account was moved from the Bath Building Society to the Hampshire Trust Bank in October to obtain improved terms.

### **Details of any funds materially in deficit**

N/A

### **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

The CIO's principal source of funding is from running of concerts and other events featuring the Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ at the New Victoria Centre, Howden le Wear, for which admission is charged.

Other funds are raised from events organised by the Friends of the NETOA; donations from visiting organisations; participation in the annual National Heritage Open Days weekend and general donations (including from those using the organ for private practice).

- of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Expenditure in the year has supported key objectives by continuing to maintain the New Victoria Centre (the principal operating base for the NETOA) and its Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ in good overall condition and working order, thereby providing the basis for meeting the educational and heritage objectives.

## Section F

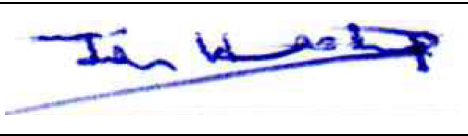

## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	John L. Heslop	Joseph W. Marsh
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Honorary Treasurer
Date	08.07.2025	



# **NORTH EAST THEATRE ORGAN ASSOCIATION**

**Registered Charity Number 1169463**

**BALANCE SHEET AND  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER 2024**

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE MEMBERS OF THE  
NORTH EAST THEATRE ORGAN ASSOCIATION**

I have examined the financial statements on pages 2 to 6 with reference to bank statements and vouchers for receipts and payments.

In my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the receipts and payments of the North East Theatre Organ Association for the year ended 31st December 2024.

**MRS I HATTON**  
*Independent Examiner*  
21st February 2025  
Newcastle upon Tyne



# NORTH EAST THEATRE ORGAN ASSOCIATION

## BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	1		
Land & Buildings		150,000	150,000
Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ		50,000	50,000
Fixtures & Fittings		20,000	20,000
		<u>220,000</u>	<u>220,000</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Bank & Building Society deposits -- unrestricted	61,825		62,517
Bank & Building Society deposits -- restricted	54,902		54,882
		<u>116,727</u>	<u>117,399</u>
		<u>336,727</u>	<u>337,399</u>
		<u>£ 336,727</u>	<u>£ 337,399</u>
<b>REPRESENTED BY :</b>			
Accumulated Funds brought forward		337,399	334,970
Total net ( Loss ) / Surplus on all Funds for the year		(672)	2,429
		<u>£ 336,727</u>	<u>£ 337,399</u>
Accumulated Funds carried forward		<u>£ 336,727</u>	<u>£ 337,399</u>

**J L HESLOP**  
Chairman

**J W MARSH FCA MCMI**  
Honorary Treasurer

21st February 2025

# NORTH EAST THEATRE ORGAN ASSOCIATION

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

### UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<i>Receipts from ordinary activities</i>					
Concert income	2		10,028		8,158
Friends' subscriptions			487		621
Donations	3		3,113		3,770
Sales office takings			1,511		231
Friends' & other events			1,012		1,500
Raffles			770		854
Gift Aid			-		342
Bank and Building Society interest			2,218		1,660
			<u>19,139</u>		<u>17,136</u>
<i>Payments on ordinary activities</i>					
Organists' fees and expenses			3,200		3,320
Building expenses	4		9,024		7,877
Organ tuning and maintenance			680		720
Printing, postage, telephone and advertising			3,471		2,245
Sales Office purchases			2,285		-
Refreshments			749		934
Performing Right & License fees			102		90
Website charges			320		944
			<u>19,831</u>		<u>16,130</u>
<i>( Loss )/ Surplus for the year</i>			(692)		1,006
Balance brought forward			62,517		61,511
Balance carried forward			<u>£ 61,825</u>		<u>£ 62,517</u>

# NORTH EAST THEATRE ORGAN ASSOCIATION

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

	BUILDING FUND	ORGAN FUND	2024 £	2023 £
<i>Receipts</i>				
Balance brought forward	27,980	26,902	54,882	53,459
Sponsor a pipe appeal	-	85	85	565
Building Society interest	378	377	755	758
Transfer from Unrestricted Funds	-	-	-	100
	<u>28,358</u>	<u>27,364</u>	<u>55,722</u>	<u>54,882</u>
<i>Payments</i>				
Uniflex upgrade	-	(820)	(820)	-
Balance carried forward	<u>£ 28,358</u>	<u>£ 26,544</u>	<u>£ 54,902</u>	<u>£ 54,882</u>

# NORTH EAST THEATRE ORGAN ASSOCIATION

## NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

### 1 Fixed Assets

The values attributed to these assets represents the estimated value that the Association would expect to receive at the Balance Sheet date if these assets were sold on the open market. It is our policy to review these values at each year end and revise the figures as necessary. This policy removes the need for an annual depreciation charge.

The Land & Buildings comprise the New Victoria Centre plus attached Car Park.

The Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ is the original instrument from the New Victoria Theatre, Bradford complete with all additions and upgrades.

The Fixtures & Fittings comprise the Brenkert F7 Master Brenograph with attachments, the sound and lighting equipment, the seating and the kitchen equipment.

	2024 £	2023 £
2 Concert income		
Ticket sales	8,892	7,578
Refreshments and programmes	636	580
Theatre Organ Club Concert Support Grant	500	-
	<u>£ 10,028</u>	<u>£ 8,158</u>
3 Donations		
Use of New Victoria Centre	232	210
Organ private practice	975	1,555
General donations	1,906	2,005
	<u>£ 3,113</u>	<u>£ 3,770</u>
4 Building expenses		
Electricity and gas	5,676	3,082
Insurance	1,926	1,758
Water rates	242	212
Repairs and maintenance	1,180	2,825
	<u>£ 9,024</u>	<u>£ 7,877</u>