

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1175309

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-10-23

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

Contact

Address Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye
TN31 7NT

Phone 01797226415

Email info@chatswoodassociates.co.uk

Website www.ryeartsfestival.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PROMOTING AND PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE APPRECIATION, UNDERSTANDING AND ENJOYMENT OF THE ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR OF MUSIC, OPERA, DANCE AND DRAMA, FILM, LITERATURE AND VISUAL ARTS, THROUGH THE PROMOTION AND RUNNING OF AN ANNUAL ARTS FESTIVAL IN RYE AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, AND SUCH OTHER ACTIVITIES AS THE TRUSTEES SHALL FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE.

Activities: Rye Arts Festival's primary activity is to provide an annual Arts Festival each September.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£87,144	£78,932	-	-
2024-12-31	£73,051	£63,278	-	-
2023-12-31	£75,236	£56,463	-	-
2022-12-31	£75,074	£69,268	-	-
2021-12-31	£80,682	£87,918	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW PETER STUART		2017-10-23
Arabella Ansar		2023-03-13
Catherine Bruce		2025-04-06
David Angell		2022-02-25
Michael Boyd		2023-03-13

Accounts

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Registered charity no. 1175309

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2025

CHATSWOOD ASSOCIATES
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2025

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Report	2-4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8-12

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2025

Charity Information

Trustees: Andrew Stuart
David Angell
Arabella Ansar
Michael Boyd
Catherine Bruce (from 06-Apr-25)

Treasurer: John Phillips

Registered Charity Number: 1175309

Registered address: Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Accountants: Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Main Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2025

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the Charity for the above period.

The financial statements of the charity which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charitable incorporated organisation are to advance education for the public benefit by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts and in particular music, opera, dance, film, literature and the visual arts, through an annual arts festival in and around Rye, and other activities from time to time.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Rye Arts Festival CIO, formerly Rye Arts Festival, was constituted by the Constitution dated 16 October 2017. The CIO took over from the Rye Arts Festival charity no 270474 on 1 January 2018.

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of Trustees is eight. Trustees serve for a three-year period retiring by rotation and are decided by the members at Annual General Meeting. Vacancies between AGMs may be filled by the existing Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with information on structure, business plans and recent financial performance of the CIO and are encouraged to consult with the Officers to facilitate the understanding of their role.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the CIO. It regularly considers the operational risks that the Charity faces and is satisfied that it has adequate systems in place to minimise their impact. The Board has appointed, on an annual basis, a Festival Organising Committee and monitors its compliance with standing orders and terms of reference.

Health & Safety

In 2017 the Trustees established a Health and Safety subcommittee to advise on policy and implementation. All appropriate personnel undergo first aid training, and our Stage Manager has undergone specialist Safeguarding training. All venues used in the Festival are risk assessed. The subcommittee regularly review the insurance policy to ensure adequate cover.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The 54th annual Rye Arts Festival was a big success, both in the quality and range of its events and financially, providing a welcome surplus which continues the work of the Trustees' and the Organising Committee to repair the charity finances (after the hits taken during Covid and the sad death of Queen Elixabeth II) and secure the Festival in the medium term future, with reserves matching the cost of putting on the Festival for one year.

So a packed fortnight of high-quality events, with the aim to offer something for everyone, including a number of events provided free of charge for the whole community to enjoy, was served up.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

A free concert by the Marsh Choir, led by Carly Bryant, on Thursday 12th September to a packed St Mary's Church in Rye provided a curtain raiser to the Festival. And the opening weekend featured street entertainers in the centre of Rye offering fun for all the family; a Captain Pugwash workshop at the St Mary Centre by Isabel Ryan; a soprano singing from the George balcony; the Town Crier, crying; and Ryebellion Drummers beating their rhythms.

The Classical Music programme saw the welcome return, as a duo for the first time, of Cordelia Williams and Tamsin Waley-Cohen. We were also delighted to welcome back, for the third time and by popular demand, the young Lithuanian pianist Gabriele Sutkute. And her audience continued to grow as her reputation spreads by word of mouth. For the first time the young classical guitarist Goncalo Caetano came to Rye and played to a packed room at the Mermaid. Martin Bruce entertained a good lunch time crowd on the St Mary's organ; and a production of Donizetti's opera *Lucia Di Lammermoor* by Barefoot Opera was well received.

The 'Traditional and Contemporary' music programme served up the Gambian kora player Jali Bakary Konteh with his four-piece band; the hot rhythmic Cuban/Colombian fusion sounds of Indira Roman and her band; the ska and reggae of Intensified got the often sedate Rye Community audience skanking early into their set; and Isle of Wight siblings Angelina and JC Grimshaw showed they deserve exposure beyond Vectis.

There was a wide ranging Books and Talks programme, with highlights including bestselling author Matt Haig; Iain Dale and Peter Tatchell from both sides of the political divide; archaeology presenter and actor Sir Tony Robinson; and Emily Maitlis, whose sell-out audience went home extremely happy after an engaging and informative talk which included background on 'that' interview with Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor!

We commemorated the 400th anniversary of the death of Jacobean playwright John Fletcher (who was born in Rye) and screened a performance of *Two Noble Kinsmen* (which Fletcher co-wrote with William Shakespeare) filmed live at The Globe Theatre in 2018. Rye's top film buff, Oliver Brooks, delivered an amusing introduction (eating an edible boot) to Charlie Chaplin's classic *The Gold Rush*, first released 100 years ago. And 60 years after its release *Dr Zhivago*, was giving a deserving and well-received showing on the big screen of the Kino.

Drama was provided by the wonderful Hilary Alexander, whose *Becoming Maverick* was a one-woman play re-imagining the back story of Mrs Danvers from *Rebecca*. And Rye Players performed *The Trial: Murder Aforesaid* about the trial in Rye of John Breads, the 18th century butcher who killed the wrong man, with three packed audiences in the Rye Town Hall, including one for students from Rye College!

There were the regular ghost and historical walks in Rye; cellar tours in Winchelsea; the annual coach tour to selected Romney Marsh churches; and nature walks in Rye Harbour Nature Reserve.

Once the Festival closed the Organising Committee started work immediately on the 2026 Festival, which will run from Thursday 10th to Sunday 26th September.

In the meantime, the Trustees would like to thank all our Members, whose subscriptions provide such an important financial input at the start of the year, as well as our generous private and corporate sponsors, the businesses that advertise in our brochure, the many venues in and around Rye, the volunteers and technicians who make it all happen, the performers, and last but very far from least our audiences!

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

Volunteers Members and Sponsors

The Organisers and Trustees of Rye Arts Festival are delighted by and thankful for the loyal support of our Members, Benefactors, sponsors and advertisers whose generosity gives the Festival's finances a huge boost before the tickets go on sale and whose contributions allow us to bring world class acts to Rye and charge very reasonable ticket prices, thereby meeting our charitable objective of promoting the arts and providing experiences which will encourage people to participate. The Trustees would also like to thank all the members of the Organising Committee and volunteers, without whom we could not put on the festival.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2025 Festival enabled us to continue to rebuild our reserves thanks to a surplus for the year of £8,212 (2024 £9,773). This surplus has meant that the CIO's reserves have increased to £68,697 (2024 £60,485), which the Trustees believe to be an appropriate level of reserves as it would enable the festival to survive a disastrous year should the festival have to be cancelled at the last minute.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain sufficient reserves, which in the opinion of the Trustees, allow them to cover management and administration costs and plan for future years' Festivals.

Investment powers and policy

The Trust Deed authorised the Trustees to make and hold investments using the General Funds of the CIO. The Trustees having regard to the cash flow requirements of the Charity keep available funds in interest bearing accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with Charity Commission guidance and for maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to seek new trustees. The Board will be seeking to broaden audience base and introduce new forms of event which will help achieve an increase in revenue. The Trustees are keen to develop the membership base and to increase involvement by them in the Festival.

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Andrew Stuart, Trustee
11 February 2026

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- 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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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 is 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



David Andrews ACIB, MCICM, FCT
Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7NT

9 February 2026

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	17,773	9,225
Charitable activities	3	62,269	56,341
Investment income		1,518	1,580
Memberships		5,584	5,905
Total income		87,144	73,051
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	78,932	63,278
Total expenditure		78,932	63,278
Net income/ (expenditure)		8,212	9,773
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		60,485	50,712
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		68,697	60,485

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Balance Sheet as at

31 December 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10	-		-	
Current assets					
Debtors	11	128		8,500	
Cash at bank	14	106,291		112,480	
		<u>106,419</u>		<u>120,980</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	12	37,722		60,495	
		<u>37,722</u>		<u>60,495</u>	
Net current assets			68,697		60,485
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>68,697</u>		<u>60,485</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>68,697</u>		<u>60,485</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 11 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by



Andrew Stuart, Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing at least £500 for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the expected useful lives on the following basis:

Equipment and software	- 20% pa straight line basis
------------------------	------------------------------

1.3 Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be measured reliably.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

1.6 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of events and educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1.7 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programmes and activities.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2025

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of one year or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.12 Volunteers

The Festival is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers and their input continues to be a key element in the Festival's ability to control expenditure.

2 Donations	2025	2024
	£	£
Sponsorship	13,680	6,530
Donations	470	550
Gift aid claimed	3,623	2,145
	<u>17,773</u>	<u>9,225</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	53,352		48,054	
Bars (net)	1,962		1,897	
Advertising revenue	6,360		6,390	
Other income	595		-	
Total income		62,269		56,341
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	45,404		36,377	
Lieder films	8,500		-	
Other Festival expenses	45		128	
Printing and design	9,339		9,658	
Publicity expenses	7,319		7,849	
Other costs (non-festival)	347		319	
Total expenditure		70,954		54,331
Net income/(costs)		(8,685)		2,010
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		13,680		6,530
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		4,995		8,540
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		70,954		54,331
Governance costs (note 6)		70		391
Support costs (note 5)		7,908		8,556
		78,932		63,278
5 Membership and support costs				
Stationery and postage		17		11
Website costs		3,515		3,854
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		-		303
Insurance		2,317		2,375
Travel costs		-		-
Accountancy		750		750
Telephone		80		88
Bank charges		1,229		1,175
Depreciation		-		-
		7,908		8,556

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2025

6 Governance costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Committee expenses	-	-
AGM costs	70	391
	<u>70</u>	<u>391</u>

7 Staff costs

No staff were employed during the year and therefore no staff remuneration was paid.

8 Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the period.

9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

10 Fixed assets for use by the Charity

All fixed assets have been fully depreciated and considered to have no value.

11 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments	517	8,500
Gift Aid	(389)	-
	<u>128</u>	<u>8,500</u>

12 Sundry creditors

37,722	60,495
<u>37,722</u>	<u>60,495</u>

13 Investment Income

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2025

14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025	2024
	£	£
CAF Bank	74,528	54,657
Lloyds Bank	30,884	57,106
PayPal	879	717
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>106,291</u>	<u>112,480</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-25	Income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-25
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>60,485</u>	<u>87,144</u>	<u>(78,932)</u>	<u>68,697</u>

16 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Festival is exempt from tax on charitable activity.

Accounts

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Registered charity no. 1175309

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

CHATSWOOD ASSOCIATES
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Report	2-4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8-12

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Charity Information

Trustees:	Andrew Stuart David Angell Arabella Ansar Michael Boyd
Registered Charity Number:	1175309
Registered address:	Abingworth New England Lane Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT
Accountants:	Chatswood Associates Abingworth New England Lane Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT
Main Bankers:	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the Charity for the above period.

The financial statements of the charity which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charitable incorporated organisation are to advance education for the public benefit by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts and in particular music, opera, dance, film, literature and the visual arts, through an annual arts festival in and around Rye, and other activities from time to time.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Rye Arts Festival CIO, formerly Rye Arts Festival, was constituted by the Constitution dated 16 October 2017. The CIO took over from the Rye Arts Festival charity no 270474 on 1 January 2018.

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of Trustees is eight. Trustees serve for a three-year period retiring by rotation and are decided by the members at Annual General Meeting. Vacancies between AGMs may be filled by the existing Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with information on structure, business plans and recent financial performance of the CIO and are encouraged to consult with the Officers to facilitate the understanding of their role.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the CIO. It regularly considers the operational risks that the Charity faces and is satisfied that it has adequate systems in place to minimise their impact. The Board has appointed, on an annual basis, a Festival Organising Committee and monitors its compliance with standing orders and terms of reference.

Health & Safety

In 2017 the Trustees established a Health and Safety subcommittee to advise on policy and implementation. All appropriate personnel undergo first aid training, and our Stage Manager has undergone specialist Safeguarding training. All venues used in the Festival are risk assessed. The subcommittee regularly review the insurance policy to ensure adequate cover.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The 2024 Rye Arts Festival, in our view, was a success on many levels.

Firstly, the Festival has reported a reasonable surplus for 2024 which, with the previous year's result, has helped rebuild the Festival's finances to a sustainable level. Our reserves are very nearly at the same amount as one year's Festival costs – a level that the Trustees believe is prudential and would help us survive a repeat of such recent shocks as the death of the monarch on the eve of a Festival and cancellation due to a pandemic.

The Trustees acknowledge what an excellent job the organising committee had done in recent years to reduce costs, whilst continuing to deliver a broad range of events with uncompromised high standards. Ticket sales across the Festival stood up well as we once again brought international and local artistes to our audience.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Looking at the different categories that make up the Festival, classical music remains at its heart. The organisers were pleased to welcome back the Piatti Quartet, on the 10th anniversary of their initial appearance in Rye as the Quartet in Residence in 2014. They gave two concerts - one in St Mary's Church, Rye and the next night in St Thomas' Winchelsea, the second of which was in memory of former Rye Arts Festival classical music director Peter Brice who had first brought them to Rye.

We were also thrilled to welcome back, by popular demand, the young Lithuanian pianist Gabriele Sutkute. Her musicality, emotion and choice of programme in 2023 left the lucky audience members demanding that we should bring her back, and soon. Around three times as many came to witness her 2024 concert! There was also short concert and a Q&A with Teddy Otieno, a young Kenyan pianist who had appeared on the TV Programme The Piano. Crispian Steele-Perkins, a venerable British classical trumpet player of global reputation, gave a memorable concert at St Mary's. And Michael Boyd entertained with a pianola concert featuring Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and other jazz standards.

The Traditional and Contemporary team's programme served up recently reformed Le Rue, Britain's finest players of Zydeco and Cajun music; the British guitarist Steve Tilston; middle American troubadour Ben Bedford; Struggle Buggy, from Sunderland, played down good-time blues from pre-War Chicago; and An Danna Dub, who combined traditional Scottish music dub reggae fusion got the Rye Community Centre on its feet and skanking!

Books and talks were wide ranging, with a highlight being bestselling Robert Harris whose latest novel Precipice launched at the end of August. He also trailed Conclave – the multi-award-winning film based on one of his novels. And Robert's wife Gill Hornby talked about her historical novels, with the audience getting the added bonus of Robert doing the interview – a lovely family affair! The recent ITV miniseries Miss Austen was based on Gill's novel and much of it was filmed in Rye, Camber and Pett Level. Helen Simonson, who was brought up in and around Rye, came home from the USA to talk about her latest novel rooted in the charming, pre-war, bucolic England.

The film programme featured a 70th anniversary screening of Godzilla, introduced and explained by Rye's biggest fan of the giant lizard, Oliver Brooks. Chinatown, starring Jack Nicholson, got a 50th anniversary screening, and aficionados of the finest wines available to humanity watched a big screen showing of Withnail and I. And Green Grow the Rushes, which was filmed on Romney Marsh, was screened to a packed audience at Rye Community Centre.

Drama was provided by Heather Alexander whose Havisham was a fascinating study of the manipulative anti-heroine of Great Expectations – a one-woman tour de force! Jonny Fluffypunk offered a kind of theatre of the absurd, whilst delving into his and our inner heroism. And the Rye Players' Holmes Under the Hammer was a rip-roaring farce about Sherlock Holmes penned by local polymath Oliver Brooks.

There were ghost and historical walks in Rye; cellar tours in Winchelsea; the annual coach tour to selected Romney Marsh churches; a literary walk to East Guldeford; and nature walks in Rye Harbour Nature Reserve.

The opening weekend featured street entertainers in the centre of Rye offering fun for all the family; juggling and circus skills and Captain Pugwash workshops at Tilling Green Community Centre; the Town Crier, crying; and Ryebellion Drummers beating their driving rhythms.

The Trustees would like to thank all the performers, the organisers and volunteers who work tirelessly, throughout the year and not just in the fortnight in September to put on the festival.

We would also like to thank our members, as well as the advertisers in the brochure and sponsors, both private and corporate, whose upfront financial commitment means income is guaranteed before any tickets are put on sale. Work is well under way for the 2025 Festival.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

Volunteers Members and Sponsors

The Organisers and Trustees of Rye Arts Festival are delighted by and thankful for the loyal support of our Members, Benefactors, sponsors and advertisers whose generosity gives the Festival's finances a huge boost before the tickets go on sale and whose contributions allow us to bring world class acts to Rye and charge very reasonable ticket prices, thereby meeting our charitable objective of promoting the arts and providing experiences which will encourage people to participate. The Trustees would also like to thank all the members of the Organising Committee and volunteers, without whom we could not put on the festival.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are attached to this report, show the festival finances to be in better shape than they have been for some years. The accounts show a surplus for the year of £9,773 (2022 £18,773). This surplus has meant that the CIO's reserves have increased to £60,485, which the Trustees believe to be an appropriate level of reserves as it would enable the festival to survive a disastrous year should the festival have to be cancelled at the last minute.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain sufficient reserves, which in the opinion of the Trustees, allow them to cover management and administration costs and plan for future years' Festivals.

Investment powers and policy

The Trust Deed authorised the Trustees to make and hold investments using the General Funds of the CIO. The Trustees having regard to the cash flow requirements of the Charity keep available funds in interest bearing accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with Charity Commission guidance and for maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to seek new trustees. The Board will be seeking to broaden audience base and introduce new forms of event which will help achieve an increase in revenue. The Trustees are keen to develop the membership base and to increase involvement by them in the Festival.

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Andrew Stuart, Trustee
4 March 2025

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- 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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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 is 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



David Andrews ACIB, MCICM, FCT
Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7NT

5 March 2025

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	9,225	10,884
Charitable activities	3	56,341	57,970
Investment income		1,580	232
Memberships		5,905	6,150
Total income		73,051	75,236
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	63,278	56,463
Total expenditure		63,278	56,463
Net income/ (expenditure)		9,773	18,773
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		50,712	31,939
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		60,485	50,712

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Balance Sheet as at

31 December 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10	-		-	
Current assets					
Debtors	11	8,500		8,500	
Cash at bank and in hand	14	112,480		62,354	
		<u>120,980</u>		<u>70,854</u>	
Creditors	12	60,495		20,142	
		<u>60,495</u>		<u>20,142</u>	
Net current assets			60,485		50,712
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>60,485</u>		<u>50,712</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>60,485</u>		<u>50,712</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 4 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by



Andrew Stuart, Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 202

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS102) Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing at least £500 for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the expected useful lives on the following basis:

Equipment and software	- 20% pa straight line basis
------------------------	------------------------------

1.3 Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be measured reliably.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

1.6 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of events and educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1.7 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programmes and activities.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2024

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of one year or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.12 Volunteers

The Festival is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers and their input continues to be a key element in the Festival's ability to control expenditure.

2 Donations	2024	2023
	£	£
Sponsorship	6,530	7,980
Donations	550	560
Gift aid claimed	2,145	2,344
	<u>9,225</u>	<u>10,884</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	48,054		51,230	
Bars (net)	1,897		1,420	
Advertising revenue	6,390		5,320	
Other income (non-festival)	-		-	
Total income		56,341		57,970
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	36,377		36,840	
Prior year costs	-		(6,788)	
Other Festival expenses	128		1,421	
Printing and design	9,658		8,547	
Publicity expenses	7,849		7,735	
Other costs (non-festival)	319		78	
Total expenditure		54,331		47,833
Net income/(costs)		2,010		10,137
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		6,530		7,980
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		<u>8,540</u>		<u>18,117</u>
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		54,331		47,833
Governance costs (note 6)		391		276
Support costs (note 5)		8,556		8,354
		<u>63,278</u>		<u>56,463</u>
5 Membership and support costs				
Advisors		-		-
Stationery and postage		11		127
Website costs		3,854		3,424
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		303		583
Insurance		2,375		2,128
Travel costs		-		-
Accountancy		750		750
Telephone		88		121
Bank charges		1,175		1,221
Depreciation		-		-
		<u>8,556</u>		<u>8,354</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) **for the year ended 31 December 2024**

6 Governance costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Committee expenses	-	-
AGM costs	391	276
	<u>391</u>	<u>276</u>

7 Staff costs

No staff were employed during the year and therefore no staff remuneration was paid.

8 Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the period.

9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

10 Fixed assets for use by the Charity

	Equipment	Software	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets			
At 1 January 2024	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	-	-	-
Charge for year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments	8500	8,500
Gift Aid	-	-
	<u>8,500</u>	<u>8,500</u>

12 Current liabilities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sundry creditors	60,495	20,142
	<u>60,495</u>	<u>20,142</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2024

13 Investment Income

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
CAF Bank	54,657	34,548
Lloyds Bank	57,106	26,944
PayPal	717	862
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>112,480</u>	<u>62,354</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-24	Income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-24
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	50,712	73,051	(63,278)	60,485

16 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Festival is exempt from tax on charitable activity.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1175309

Accounts

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Registered charity no. 1175309

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

CHATSWOOD ASSOCIATES
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9-13

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Charity Information

Trustees:	Andrew Stuart	
	Linda Harland	Until 13-Mar-23
	John Case	Until 16-Nov-23
	David Angell	
	Arabella Ansar	Appointed 13-Mar-23
	Michael Boyd	Appointed 13-Mar-23

Registered Charity Number: 1175309

Registered address: Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Accountants: Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Main Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the Charity for the above period.

The financial statements of the charity which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charitable incorporated organisation are to advance education for the public benefit by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts and in particular music, opera, dance, film, literature and the visual arts, through an annual arts festival in and around Rye, and other activities from time to time.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Rye Arts Festival CIO, formerly Rye Arts Festival, was constituted by the Constitution dated 16 October 2017. The CIO took over from the Rye Arts Festival charity no 270474 on 1 January 2018.

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of Trustees is eight. Trustees serve for a three-year period retiring by rotation and are decided by the members at Annual General Meeting. Vacancies between AGMs may be filled by the existing Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with information on structure, business plans and recent financial performance of the CIO and are encouraged to consult with the Officers to facilitate the understanding of their role.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the CIO. It regularly considers the operational risks that the Charity faces and is satisfied that it has adequate systems in place to minimise their impact. The Board has appointed, on an annual basis, a Festival Organising Committee and monitors its compliance with standing orders and terms of reference.

Health & Safety

In 2017 the Trustees established a Health and Safety subcommittee to advise on policy and implementation. All appropriate personnel undergo first aid training, and our Stage Manager has undergone specialist Safeguarding training. All venues used in the Festival are risk assessed. The subcommittee regularly review the insurance policy to ensure adequate cover.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The 2023 Festival was a success on many levels. It brought talkers and performers with a national and international reputation to the Rye audience; showcased the very best of local talent from across the different fields of the arts; achieved a much-needed surplus to help secure the Festival's financial future; and, thankfully, avoided the interruptions of recent years!

The programme included many local authors and people with a story to tell. Anwesha Ayra talked about how Rye has inspired her from her first visit in 1997 and 'Writing Rye in Light' is Anwesha's latest book is a collaboration between photography and poetry.

The Festival was delighted that Dr Pat Argar returned to continue her insightful talks into the writers who lived and wrote in our area. She also gave a fascinating and entertaining talk about Hop Picking in and around Rye.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Chris O'Donoghue talked about designing and building gardens at the Chelsea Flower Show - he has three medal-winning gardens to his name!

The author William Shaw has deservedly been called 'a modern crime master', and while he's not a local his brilliantly drawn detective DS Cupidi is!

There was a whistle-stop tour through the life and work of Sir Reginald Blomfield, an extraordinary Rye resident, by his great granddaughter, Isabel Ryan.

Local resident, Miriam McGuirk, talked about her latest book *Second Chances* to an appreciative audience in the Mermaid's Tudor Room. Jens Knoop opened his first chocolate shop in Rye just before the pandemic and expects to have 15 across the UK before the end of September and he entertained an audience about his life before chocolate and his many influences including architecture, philosophy and Japanese cinema, which lead up to his exciting new venture.

Stephen Kember, who has an antiques shop on Cinque Ports Street in Rye, is nationally well-known for his work on the BBC's hit show *The Repair Shop*, where he is the in-house musical box restorer. Stephen was in conversation with Rye's pianola specialist Mike Boyd.

The Festival included a selection of walks. Timberlina, Rye's resident bearded lady, lead three walking tours around the town highlighting landmarks and houses associated with salacious gossip and intrigue. Timberlina also hosted a Bingo Night.

Paul Goring, who is Rye's wonderful Town Crier, led an atmospheric ghost walk on a couple of evenings and also did daytime walks showing the hidden history of Rye.

After nearly 25 years Mike Boyd brought the Pianola concert back to Rye Arts Festival. And what a performance he gave! The first half featured musical interpretations on the Pianola, and the second half featured a Reproducing piano!

And drama is always present at Rye Arts Festival, with the Rye Players once again leading the way with a performance at the Tudor Room in the Mermaid Inn. 'Book Club', which is about a local dysfunctional book club, was a tour de force! A total triumph!

Martin Wimbush and Sally Bayly and friends came back on the last weekend of the Festival. With songs, poems, reading and laughter.

Celebrating the 90th anniversary of the release of *King Kong*, we screened the movie at the Kino, with a special introductory talk by our local monster expert and number one fan, Oliver Brooks.

The Classical Music programme was varied and focussed on young musicians. It kicked off with a wonderful concert on Saturday 16th September by the acclaimed British pianist Cordelia Williams. The Festival was delighted that Cordelia was able to perform in 2023 as her concert had to be cancelled at short notice in 2022 owing to the sad death of Queen Elizabeth II.

And also with a re-arranged concert we enjoyed the Ensemble Hesperis, whose concert was of Venetian Baroque composers inspired by Canaletto's famous views of Venice. The concert was brought to Rye in partnership with the City Music Foundation (CMF), which helps promote rising young talents. CMF was also instrumental in the Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo concert featuring saxophonist David Zucchi and Spanish accordionist Iñigo Mikeleiz-Borrade. And those who came to see and hear the young Lithuanian pianist Gabrielė Sutkutė to Rye were served up a real treat. Her musicianship was truly extraordinary, and we were lucky to enjoy a concert from a future star.

There was an awesome foursome of folk and blues music concerts, with the Errol Linton Blues Vibe gig selling out within days of going on sale. Rye Community Centre also played host to Martin Simpson, the legendary

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

folk singer/guitarist, who made a triumphant third visit to Rye.

Last year, the Rye audience was looking forward to the Fay Hield Trio's gig, but it had to be cancelled at the last minute owing to a tragedy affecting the band, so we were delighted that they were able to come to Rye for this Festival. Fay has one of the finest voices of her generation and is supported by Sam Sweeney (ex Bellowhead) on fiddle and Rob Harbron, heralded by The Guardian as a 'concertina Wizard'. Enthusiasts of down-home Mississippi blues loved the pure atmosphere created by Kelvin Davies and Gary Jones.

Turning to the movies, 50 years after its release, we offered a golden anniversary screening of 'The Sting' the film that reunited Paul Newman and Robert Redford after 'Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid'. Going back further in time, in partnership with Rye Film Club we presented a double bill of black and white films, both shot locally – 'The Loves of Joanna Godden' and 'The Quiet Woman'. A packed audience at Rye Community Centre was enthralled!

Turning to books and talks, wine writer Henry Jeffreys spoke about the amazing success story of English wine, much of it produced on our doorstep!

Sarah Stanfield was 'Barmy in Wonderland' exploring the lives and writing of PG Wodehouse and Lewis Carroll and reveals the many connections between the two authors. The audience was spell-bound and educated by her talk.

A younger (mainly female) audience joined Louise Boyce, mother of three and a model, to hear her tell tales from her debut book in the intimate surroundings of Rye Brewery Yard Club. It was a hurtling gallop through the 'real' parenting calendar, covering the highs and lows of modern motherhood.

Patrick Diamond talked about the Labour Party's past civil wars, and Rye Rugby Club hosted rugby writer Peter Bills for an affectionate history of the rugby across the channel published to coincide with France hosting the 2023 Rugby World Cup.

Moving on to drama, which was headed by an award-winning actress, Melanie Gall, who flew in especially from the US to perform at Rye. She performed 'Ingénue, Judy Garland and Deanna Durbin' which told the true tale of the lifelong friendship - and rivalry - between Durbin and Garland. Melanie also performed 'A Talent to Amuse' – a play about the fascinating true story of Noel Coward's irreverent and unforgettable life, featuring a dozen iconic songs, including 'Mad About the Boy', and 'Mad Dogs and Englishmen'.

Heather Alexander, fresh from winning awards at Buxton Festival, presented 'ROOM: A Room of One's Own', a one-woman-play about Virginia Woolf in 1929 as she haunts the shadows of Oxbridge.

Volunteers Members and Sponsors

The Organisers and Trustees of Rye Arts Festival are delighted by and thankful for the loyal support of our Members, Benefactors, sponsors and advertisers whose generosity gives the Festival's finances a huge boost before the tickets go on sale and whose contributions allow us to bring world class acts to Rye and charge very reasonable ticket prices, thereby meeting our charitable objective of promoting the arts and providing experiences which will encourage people to participate. The Trustees would also like to thank all the members of the Organising Committee and volunteers, without whom we could not put on the festival.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 are attached to this report. These show a surplus of £18,773 (2022 £5,806). This consisted of a surplus for 2023 of £11,985 and a write back of unneeded accruals from the previous year of £6,788. This surplus has meant that the CIO's reserves have increased to £50,712, which is a much healthier level. The Trustees believe that the appropriate level of reserves would be around

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

which is a much healthier level. The Trustees believe that the appropriate level of reserves would be around £60,000, which would enable the festival to survive a disastrous year should the festival have to be cancelled at the last minute.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain sufficient reserves, which in the opinion of the Trustees, allow them to cover management and administration costs and plan for future years' Festivals.

Investment powers and policy

The Trust Deed authorised the Trustees to make and hold investments using the General Funds of the CIO. The Trustees having regard to the cash flow requirements of the Charity keep available funds in interest bearing accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with Charity Commission guidance and for maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to seek new trustees. The Board will be seeking to broaden audience base and introduce new forms of event which will help achieve an increase in revenue. The Trustees are keen to develop the membership base and to increase involvement by them in the Festival.

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Andy Stuart, Trustee
24 January 2024

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- 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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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 is 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



David Andrews ACIB, MCICM, FCT
Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7NT

25 January 2024

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	10,884	21,690
Charitable activities	3	57,970	46,913
Investment income		232	26
Membership		6,150	6,445
Total income		75,236	75,074
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	56,463	69,268
Total expenditure		56,463	69,268
Net income/ (expenditure)		18,773	5,806
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		31,939	26,133
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		50,712	31,939

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Balance Sheet as at

31 December 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10		-		-
Current assets					
Debtors	11	8,500		8,504	
Cash at bank and in hand	14	62,354		50,689	
		<u>70,854</u>		<u>59,193</u>	
Creditors	12	20,142		27,254	
		<u>20,142</u>		<u>27,254</u>	
Net current assets			50,712		31,939
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>50,712</u>		<u>31,939</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>50,712</u>		<u>31,939</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 January 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Andy Stuart, Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing at least £500 for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the expected useful lives on the following basis:

Equipment and software	- 20% pa straight line basis
------------------------	------------------------------

1.3 Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be measured reliably.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

1.6 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of events and educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1.7 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programmes and activities.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2023

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of one year or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.12 Volunteers

The Festival is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers and their input continues to be a key element in the Festival's ability to control expenditure.

2 Donations	2023	2022
	£	£
Sponsorship	7,980	17,980
Donations	560	611
Gift aid claimed	2,344	3,099
	<u>10,884</u>	<u>21,690</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	51,230		39,968	
Bars (net)	1,420		40	
Advertising revenue	5,320		6,905	
Other income (non-festival)	-		-	
Total income		57,970		46,913
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	36,840		43,243	
Prior year costs	(6,788)		-	
Other Festival expenses	1,421		180	
Printing and design	8,547		6,646	
Publicity expenses	7,735		9,148	
Other costs (non-festival)	78		-	
Total expenditure		47,833		59,217
Net income/(costs)		10,137		(12,304)
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		7,980		17,980
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		18,117		5,676
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		47,833		59,217
Governance costs (note 6)		276		560
Support costs (note 5)		8,354		9,491
		56,463		69,268
5 Membership and support costs				
Advisors		-		-
Stationery and postage		127		97
Website costs		3,424		5,133
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		583		-
Insurance		2,128		2,131
Travel costs		-		25
Accountancy		750		750
Telephone		121		95
Bank charges		1,221		1,148
Depreciation		-		112
		8,354		9,491

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

6 Governance costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Committee expenses	-	363
AGM costs	276	197
	<u>276</u>	<u>560</u>

7 Staff costs

No remuneration was paid to staff costs in the year.

8 Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the period.

9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

10 Fixed assets for use by the Charity

	Equipment	Software	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets			
At 1 January 2023	-	552	552
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>552</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	-	552	552
Charge for year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>552</u>
Net book value	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
11 Debtors		
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments	8,500	8,500
Gift Aid	-	4
	<u>8,500</u>	<u>8,504</u>

12 Current liabilities

Sundry creditors	20,142	27,254
	<u>20,142</u>	<u>27,254</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2023

13 Investment Income

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
CAF Bank	34,548	14,516
Lloyds Bank	26,944	32,971
PayPal	862	3,202
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>62,354</u>	<u>50,689</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-23	Income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-23
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	31,939	75,236	(56,463)	50,712

16 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Festival is exempt from tax on charitable activity.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1175309

Accounts

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Registered charity no. 1175309

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

CHATSWOOD ASSOCIATES
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9-13

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Charity Information

Trustees: Andrew Stuart
Linda Harland
John Case
David Angell Since 25-Feb-22

Registered Charity Number: 1175309

Registered address: Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Accountants: Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Main Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the Charity for the above period.

The financial statements of the charity which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charitable incorporated organisation are to advance education for the public benefit by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts and in particular music, opera, dance, film, literature and the visual arts, through an annual arts festival in and around Rye, and other activities from time to time.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Rye Arts Festival CIO, formerly Rye Arts Festival, was constituted by the Constitution dated 16 October 2017. The CIO took over from the Rye Arts Festival charity no 270474 on 1 January 2018.

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of Trustees is eight. Trustees serve for a three-year period retiring by rotation and are decided by the members at Annual General Meeting. Vacancies between AGMs may be filled by the existing Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with information on structure, business plans and recent financial performance of the CIO and are encouraged to consult with the Officers to facilitate the understanding of their role.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the CIO. It regularly considers the operational risks that the Charity faces and is satisfied that it has adequate systems in place to minimise their impact. The Board has appointed, on an annual basis, a Festival Organising Committee and monitors its compliance with standing orders and terms of reference.

Health & Safety

In 2017 the Trustees established a Health and Safety subcommittee to advise on policy and implementation. All appropriate personnel undergo first aid training, and our Stage Manager has undergone specialist Safeguarding training. All venues used in the Festival are risk assessed. The subcommittee regularly review the insurance policy to ensure adequate cover.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

After the cancellation of the 2020 Festival due to Covid and the nervousness of audiences as we came out of lockdown before the 2021 Festival, the organisers and trustees were looking forward to 2022 as a fresh start. However, the sad passing of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on Thursday 8th September, the eve of the Festival brought a whole set of different problems. Our main venue St Mary's Church was closed to us immediately for the period of National Mourning through to and including Monday 19th September and, at short notice, no comparable venue in Rye was available, so several classical music concerts and some talks had to be cancelled, as rescheduling for almost all these events was impossible.

The Festival's insurance would have paid out should the venue have become available to us due to physical damage, but not due to closure following the death of the Sovereign. As a result, ticket refunds had to be

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

made, whilst payments had to be made to contracted artists, although some ticketholders chose, very generously, to waive their refunds and some artistes also chose to waive their payments.

And our generous sponsors, including our headline sponsors NFU Mutual Ashford, Tenterden and Whitfield branch, and advertisers also fully supported the Festival through this unprecedented turn of events.

Classical Music bore the brunt of the cancellations, but in the second week of the Festival we were able to hold some concerts in conjunction with City Music foundation, with whom we had entered into an exciting partnership in 2022 to bring some of the finest young talent to Rye, with concerts from artistes at the start of their professional careers. Lunchtime audiences in St Mary's enjoyed one concert by flautist Sirius Chau with pianist Victor Lim and another by double bass soloist Toby Young accompanied on piano by Benjamin Powell. And an opera evening at St Mary's was a huge success with the audience. Soprano Laura Lolita Peresivana from Latvia, Welsh spinto soprano Sian Dicker and British-Ukrainian mezzo Rozanna Madylus sang beautifully, accompanied by Lithuanian pianist Rokas Valuntonis, as the audience was treated to a selection of operatic arias.

And the Festival closed with a wonderful Winchelsea and Rye Musical Pilgrimage, featuring, as in 2021, choral performances by Victoria Consort at St Thomas' Winchelsea and St Mary's Rye, with a walk between the two towns, although this year the direction of travel was reversed and the music was from the Spanish Royal Court.

The non-classical or 'traditional and contemporary' programme of music kicked off with a full audience at Rye Community Centre for Festival favourites the Mountain Firework Company who did not disappoint! However, the Fay Hield Trio had to cancel as a close friend of the band died the night before they were due to drive down from Sheffield. The small audience for the twin guitarists steeped in Americana, Brooks Williams and Aaron Catlow, enjoyed their artistry and musical skills. And the west African sounds of Kadialy Kouyate Sound Archive held a good-sized audience at times spell-bound and at others on its feet.

The planned Books and Talks programme was the biggest in the Festival's 51 year history. But the closure of St Mary's meant the talk by best-selling novelist Robert Harris had to be cancelled and as he was on a national tour could not be re-scheduled. And the author Patrick Gale had to cancel due to national train strikes – he could get to Rye but couldn't get home. Similarly, Miranda Seymour and James Runcie had to cancel due to rail closures! When it rains it pours!

But a strong, varied and extensive programme did go ahead. Rev Richard Coles came back to talk about his new novel and attracted a sell-out audience to St Mary's Church. Good-sized audiences came to talks at the recently reopened George Inn ballroom by Chris O'Donoghue, who was one of the original Rye Potters, and TV journalist Gavin Esler.

With 2022 being the centenary of the publication of Miss Mapp there was a fascinating E.F. Benson Morning at Rye Community Centre. And Lamb House hosted a selection of his stories read by actors Richard Crowest and Rosalyn Landor, which were sell-outs and well-received by the audiences.

Local authors figured prominently. Elaine Luke focused on Malcolm Saville's life and writing, and Dr Pat Agar did two separate and fascinating talks about writers who lived and were influenced by Rye and the neighbouring land. Most famously, Henry James but also Joseph Conrad and Ford Maddox Ford were featured in one talk while Sheila Kaye-Smith, Radclyffe Hall, Russell Thorndike and others features in another.

In a welcome addition to the programme and to celebrate diversity, there were two fabulous queer literary events held at a new venue for the Festival, The Old Brewery Yard. Awards-winning poets Joelle Taylor and

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

Keith Jarrett enjoyed standing ovations, and Neil Bartlett, Sam Kenyon and host Nathan Evans held the audiences in rapt attention. The audiences were small and didn't cover the costs, but those who attended enjoyed stand-out performances that will live long in their memories! A true highlight!

Drama featured spoken word performances at the Brewery Yard Club for the first time, with stand-out shows by Molly Naylor and Bernadette Russell. And Timberlina's Bingo Night brought both a new audience to the Festival and also to the legendary bingo caller with a heightened sense of drama.

The Rye Players put on a series of sell-out performances at the Mermaid Inn of Spinach, a ghost story by EF Benson, which were hugely enjoyed by the audiences. And Gerald Logan's single-hander about Oscar Wilde, was truly mesmerising – a dramatic tour-de-force, which attracted a good-sized audience.

The truncated film programme was well-received with audiences who enjoyed 50th anniversary screenings of Cabaret, starring Liza Minelli and Michael York, and The Harder They Come – a Jamaican movie with an amazing reggae soundtrack.

Walks once again proved very popular, with sell outs for Barry Yates around Rye Harbour Nature Reserve, and day and night walks round the streets of Rye lead by the wonderful Rye Town Crier Paul Goring. And Simon Parsons from Rye Heritage Centre lead a new walk for 2022 – Rye at War – which attracted a very large and appreciative crowd. Also new for 2022, the town's Timberlina, introduced a Salacious Tour of Rye, with an enthusiastic audience visiting private homes and gardens around town which had been scenes of naughty shenanigans in yesteryear.

In November, the Festival was able to hold two events postponed from the Festival proper. Jeremy Howe (who has been the editor of the The Archers on Radio 4 since 2018 and a Rye resident for much longer) and Felicity Finch (who has played Ruth Archer since 1987) were in conversation about what makes the show so enduringly successful.

And novelist Alex Preston, who lives in the Rye hinterland, was in conversation with Adam Nicolson to discuss his acclaimed and best-selling new novel, Winchelsea, which is an electrifying story of smuggling, vengeance and transformation set in the town and on the High Seas!

Volunteers Members and Sponsors

The Festival depends for its existence on its volunteers, its members and its personal and business sponsors. In combination they allow us to bring world class acts to Rye and charge very reasonable ticket prices, thereby meeting our charitable objective of promoting the arts and providing experiences which will encourage people to participate. The Trustees would also like to thank all the members of the Organising Committee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Thanks to the NFU Mutual Ashford, Tenterden & Whitfield agency for continuing their generous headline sponsorship of the 2022 Festival.

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 are attached to this report. These show a surplus of £5,806 (2020 £7,236 deficit). This surplus was achieved despite a number of events in St. Mary's Church being cancelled due to the death of Queen Elizabeth. This surplus has allowed the CIO's reserves to increase to £31,939, which is still too low and so are aware of the need for the 2023 festival to show a surplus.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain sufficient reserves, which in the opinion of the Trustees, allow them to cover management and administration costs and plan for future years' Festivals.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

Investment powers and policy

The Trust Deed authorised the Trustees to make and hold investments using the General Funds of the CIO. The Trustees having regard to the cash flow requirements of the Charity keep available funds in interest bearing accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with Charity Commission guidance and for maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FUTURE PLANS

The Trustees continue to seek a permanent Chairperson to lead the festival. The Board will be seeking to broaden audience base and introduce new forms of event which will help achieve an increase in revenue. The Trustees are keen to develop the membership base and to increase involvement by them in the Festival.

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Dr Linda Harland, Trustee
24th January 2023

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- 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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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 is 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

David Andrews

David Andrews ACIB, MCICM, FCT
Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7NT

20th January 2023

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	21,690	27,613
Charitable activities	3	46,913	47,012
Investment income		26	2
Membership		6,445	6,055
Other income		-	-
Total income		75,074	80,682
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	69,268	87,918
Total expenditure		69,268	87,918
Net income/ (expenditure)		5,806	(7,236)
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		26,133	33,369
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		31,939	26,133

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Balance Sheet as at

31 December 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10		-		112
Current assets					
Debtors	11	8,504		1,295	
Cash at bank and in hand	14	50,689		47,436	
		<u>59,193</u>		<u>48,731</u>	
Creditors	12	27,254		22,710	
		<u>27,254</u>		<u>22,710</u>	
Net current assets			31,939		26,021
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>31,939</u>		<u>26,133</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>31,939</u>		<u>26,133</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 24th January 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Dr Linda Harland, Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing at least £500 for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the expected useful lives on the following basis:

Equipment and software - 20% pa straight line basis

1.3 Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be measured reliably.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

1.6 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of events and educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1.7 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programmes and activities.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of one year or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.12 Volunteers

The Festival is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers and their input continues to be a key element in the Festival's ability to control expenditure.

2 Donations	2022	2021
	£	£
Sponsorship	17,980	24,030
Donations	611	685
Gift aid claimed	3,099	2,898
	<u>21,690</u>	<u>27,613</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	39,968		41,962	
Bars (net)	40		-	
Advertising revenue	6,905		5,050	
Other income (non-festival)	-		-	
Total income		46,913		47,012
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	43,243		53,903	
Other Festival expenses	180		1,096	
Printing and design	6,646		6,252	
Publicity expenses	9,148		12,293	
Other costs (non-festival)	-		-	
Total expenditure		59,217		73,544
Net income/(costs)		(12,304)		(26,532)
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		17,980		24,030
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		5,676		(2,502)
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		59,217		73,544
Governance costs (note 6)		560		170
Support costs (note 5)		9,491		14,204
		69,268		87,918
5 Membership and support costs				
Advisors		-		5,000
Stationery and postage		97		450
Website costs		5,133		4,308
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		-		391
Insurance		2,131		2,110
Travel costs		25		-
Accountancy		750		750
Telephone		95		94
Bank charges		1,148		991
Depreciation		112		110
		9,491		14,204

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

6 Governance costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Committee expenses	363	170
AGM costs	197	-
	<u>560</u>	<u>170</u>

7 Staff costs

No remuneration was paid to staff costs in the year

8 Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the period.

9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

10 Fixed assets for use by the Charity

	Equipment	Software	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets			
At 1 January 2022	-	552	552
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>552</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	440	440
Charge for year	-	112	112
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>552</u>
Net book value	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments	8,500	-
Gift Aid	4	1,295
	<u>8,504</u>	<u>1,295</u>

12 Current liabilities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sundry creditors	27,254	22,710
	<u>27,254</u>	<u>22,710</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

13 Investment Income

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2022	2021
	£	£
CAF Bank	14,516	21,996
Lloyds Bank	32,971	25,077
PayPal	3,202	363
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>50,689</u>	<u>47,436</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-22	Income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-22
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	26,133	75,074	(69,268)	31,939

16 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Festival is exempt from tax on charitable activity.

Accounts

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Registered charity no. 1175309

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021**

CHATSWOOD ASSOCIATES

Abingworth

New England Lane

Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Report	2-4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8-12

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

Charity Information

Trustees:

John Phillips	(Until 30-Sep-21)
Michael Sweeney	(Until 30-Sep-21)
Andrew Stuart	
Linda Harland	
John Case	

Registered Charity Number: 1175309

Registered address: Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Accountants: Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Main Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the Charity for the above period.

The financial statements of the charity which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charitable incorporated organisation are to advance education for the public benefit by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts and in particular music, opera, dance, film, literature and the visual arts, through an annual arts festival in and around Rye, and other activities from time to time.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Rye Arts Festival CIO, formerly Rye Arts Festival, was constituted by the Constitution dated 16 October 2017. The CIO took over from the Rye Arts Festival charity no 270474 on 1 January 2018.

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of Trustees is eight. Trustees serve for a three-year period retiring by rotation and are decided by the members at Annual General Meeting. Vacancies between AGMs may be filled by the existing Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with information on structure, business plans and recent financial performance of the CIO and are encouraged to consult with the Officers to facilitate the understanding of their role.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the CIO. It regularly considers the operational risks that the Charity faces and is satisfied that it has adequate systems in place to minimise their impact. The Board has appointed, on an annual basis, a Festival Organising Committee and monitors its compliance with standing orders and terms of reference.

Health & Safety

In 2017 the Trustees established a Health and Safety subcommittee to advise on policy and implementation. All appropriate personnel undergo first aid training and our Stage Manager has undergone specialist Safeguarding training. All venues used in the Festival are risk assessed. The subcommittee regularly review the insurance policy to ensure adequate cover.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

It was an achievement to put on a full programme of events despite the uncertainty and restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic. We decided early that because of these restrictions we would reduce the number of seats on sale but even so we were able to present varied and high quality events in all areas. There is no denying that ticket sales overall were disappointing, especially for the classical events and films.

The Festival kicked off on Friday evening with Gyles Brandreth entertaining an audience of over 200 in St Mary's Church with tales of his very varied life, celebrating the publication of his autobiography, *Odd Boy Out*, and over the course of an hour he regaled us all with tales of his very varied life.

This was followed on Saturday by free events around the town during the day which were very popular and a bespoke app-based murder mystery game which participants played in their own time using mobile phones. The day concluded with classical and electric blues concerts in the evening.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

A novel and highly successful event was the Rye and Winchelsea Musical Pilgrimage, featuring choral performances from the Victoria Consort at St Mary's Rye and St Thomas' Winchelsea with a walk between the two towns, and was a great success with many of the audience enthusiastically joining the walk. To tie in with this event, Peter Stanford, author of *Pilgrimage: Journeys of Meaning*, gave a wonderfully interesting and entertaining talk about pilgrimage in St Mary's.

Highlights of the classical music programme were Martin Roscoe's memorable recital of Beethoven Piano Sonatas, (originally planned for 2020, Beethoven's 250th Anniversary) and the rising star of the chamber music firmament, Hill Quartet's recital. Iain Burnside contributed two wonderful performances: *View From The Villa*, a Wagner biopic, was both musically fulfilling and dramatically compelling; and the Trio Balthasar's public debut performance. There were also recitals from Felix Kemp (baritone) and Simon Lepper (piano), from piano duo Artur Pizarro and Stephen Coombs and Diva Opera as well as Russian Soul, an insight into the internal world of Sergei Rachmaninov by pianist Sholto Kynoch, and singer Ilona Domnich.

The Contemporary music programme began with a wonderful electric blues concert from Errol Linton's Blues Vibe which received a justly deserved standing ovation at the end. Vic Smith presented a fascinating portrait of the late Rye Harbour folk singer, Johnny Doughty, which combined 1980s radio interviews with many photographs of Johnny's life. Concerts from Crooked Weather, Vera van Heerington Trio and Ben Bedford were all well received.

Impropera gave us a lot of fun with their fast-paced, witty improvised operatic performance. Other drama was confined to local performers. Rye Shakespeare performed "Canterbury Tales" to three sell out audiences. "Where Did It All Go Wrong" was a show case for Martin Wimbush's acting talents and Sally Bayly's vocals. The cabaret show sold out two performances.

The walks, Rye Harbour Nature Reserve conducted by Barry Yates & town walks by Paul Goring, the Rye Town Crier, were a huge success and sold out six walks.

A huge disappointment was the free fringe event, of Scintillas (three woman and one man). It was one of the best talks but extremely poorly attended. Perhaps it would have attracted more interest if tickets had been sold.

As well as the events mentioned above the Books & Talks programme offered an eclectic and wide-ranging number of events. Also at St Mary's was another sell out event with the Reverend Richard Cole who spoke movingly about his personal struggles following the death of his partner of 12 years. We were also delighted to present our second Rye Crime Day, which was a celebration of crime writing featuring bestselling writers Elly Griffiths, Nicola Upson, Andrew Wilson and Martin Edwards. Our second themed day in 2021 was Rye Spy - a celebration of spy's, espionage, codebreakers and secret agents, with Dermot Turing, nephew of Alan, Tania Szabo, daughter of SOE agent Violette, and the writer David Burke.

The festival held a number of author events at the newly opened Rye Harbour Discovery Centre including a fascinating and entertaining talk by Charlie Corbett, whose book *Twelve Birds to Save Your Life*, told the inspiring story of how nature, and birdwatching in particular, can help overcome anxiety and depression. Adam Nicholson, no stranger to the Festival, explored the natural wonders of the intertidal and our long relationship with it, and ecological garden designer Matt Rees-Warren shared his ideas about the best ways to make your garden more eco-friendly.

One of the themes of the Books & Talks programme in 2021 was a celebration of local writers and Pat Argar celebrated the life and work of Sussex author Sheila Kaye-Smith; Richard Ormrod shone a light on the public and private lives of Radclyffe Hall in Rye, and also the War Poets of Kent & Sussex. Acclaimed Children's author Linda Newberry gave a fascinating talk on Monica Edwards, whose children's book set in Rye Harbour in the 1950s were once extremely popular. We were also delighted to present two very entertaining poetry events, the first with the Rye Harbour Poet Jane Lovell and the second with iconic poet George Szirtes. We hope to run more poetry events in 2022.

Other authors included Vanessa Nicholson on the floods in Florence in 1966; Hester Grant speaking about

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

her acclaimed biography of the 18th Century Sharps family, and Rachel Tretheway speaking about Winston Churchill's daughters.

Sadly the films shown were poorly attended but enjoyed by those who went, in line with the UK wide trend during the pandemic, probably due to reluctance to be in a confined indoor space. A highlight was the documentary film of local legend Roger Hubbard made by Rye film director Joe Snelling.

Volunteers Members and Sponsors

The Festival depends for its existence on its volunteers, its members and its personal and business sponsors. In combination they allow us to bring world class acts to Rye and charge very reasonable ticket prices, thereby meeting our charitable objective of promoting the arts and providing experiences which will encourage people to participate. The Trustees would also like to thank all the members of the Organising Committee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Thanks to the NFU Mutual Ashford, Tenterden & Whitfield agency for their generous headline sponsorship of the 2021 Festival.

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 are attached to this report. These show a deficit of £7,236 (2020 £1,766). The continuing restrictions and difficulties due to Covid meant that audiences were smaller than for previous festivals and this was the major contributing factor to the deficit. This leaves the CIO with reserves of £26,133. The Trustees recognise that deficits are not sustainable in the long term and are seeking ways to eliminate deficits in future.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain sufficient reserves, which in the opinion of the Trustees, allow them to cover management and administration costs and plan for future years' Festivals.

Investment powers and policy

The Trust Deed authorised the Trustees to make and hold investments using the General Funds of the CIO. The Trustees having regard to the cash flow requirements of the Charity keep available funds in interest bearing accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with Charity Commission guidance and for maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FUTURE PLANS

The Trustees continue to seek a permanent Chairperson to lead the festival. The Board will be seeking to broaden audience base and introduce new forms of event which will help achieve an increase in revenue. The Trustees are keen to develop the membership base and to increase involvement by them in the Festival.

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Dr Linda Harland, Trustee

16 February 2022

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- 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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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 is 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



David Andrews ACIB, MCICM, FCT
Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7NT

16 February 2022

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2021	2020
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	27,613	8,071
Charitable activities	3	47,012	-
Investment income		2	14
Membership		6,055	6,339
Other income		-	-
Total income		80,682	14,424
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	87,918	16,190
Total expenditure		87,918	16,190
Net income/ (expenditure)		(7,236)	(1,766)
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		33,369	35,135
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		26,133	33,369

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10		112		222
Current assets					
Debtors	11	1,295		7,175	
Cash at bank and in hand	14	47,436		47,279	
		<u>48,731</u>		<u>54,454</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	12	22,710		21,307	
		<u>22,710</u>		<u>21,307</u>	
Net current assets			26,021		33,147
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>26,133</u>		<u>33,369</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>26,133</u>		<u>33,369</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 16th February 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Dr Linda Harland, Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing at least £500 for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the expected useful lives on the following basis:

Equipment and software - 20% pa straight line basis

1.3 Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be measured reliably.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

1.6 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of events and educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1.7 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programmes and activities.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of one year or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.12 Volunteers

The Festival is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers and their input continues to be a key element in the Festival's ability to control expenditure.

2 Donations

	2021	2020
	£	£
Sponsorship	24,030	5,175
Donations	685	445
Gift aid claimed	2,898	2,451
	<u>27,613</u>	<u>8,071</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	41,962		-	
Bars (net)	-		-	
Advertising revenue	5,050		-	
Other income (non-festival)	-		-	
Total income		47,012		-
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	53,903		3,084	
Other Festival expenses	1,096		-	
Printing and design	6,252		-	
Publicity expenses	12,293		1,503	
Other costs (non-festival)	-		-	
Total expenditure		73,544		4,551
Net income/(costs)		(26,532)		(4,551)
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		24,030		5,175
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		(2,502)		624
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		73,544		4,551
Governance costs (note 6)		170		707
Support costs (note 5)		14,204		10,932
		87,918		16,190
5 Membership and support costs				
Advisors		5,000		5,000
Stationery and postage		450		46
Website costs		4,308		1,759
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		391		60
Insurance		2,110		1,370
Legal fees		-		-
Accountancy		750		400
Telephone		94		714
Bank charges		991		221
Depreciation		110		1,362
		14,204		10,932

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

6 Governance costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Committee expenses	170	270
AGM costs	-	437
	<u>170</u>	<u>707</u>

7 Staff costs

No remuneration was paid to Trustees in the year

8 Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the period.

9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

10 Fixed assets for use by the Charity

	Equipment	Software	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets			
At 1 January 2021	-	552	552
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	-	552	552
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	-	332	332
Charge for year	-	110	110
At			
31 December 2021	-	440	440
Net book value	-	112	112

11 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments	-	604
Gift Aid	1,295	6,571
	<u>1,295</u>	<u>7,175</u>

12 Current liabilities

Sundry creditors	22,710	21,307
	<u>22,710</u>	<u>21,307</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) **for the year ended 31 December 2021**

13 Investment Income

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2021	2020
	£	£
CAF Bank	21,996	36,692
Lloyds Bank	25,077	10,127
PayPal	363	460
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>47,436</u>	<u>47,279</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-21	income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-21
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	33,369	80,682	(87,918)	26,133

16 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Festival is exempt from tax on charitable activity.