

Trustees' Annual Report for the period From 2023-09-01 Period start date To 2024-08-31 Period end date Charity name: Opera Viva Merseyside Charity registration number: 1177385	
Objectives and Activities	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	To advance education in the operatic and dramatic arts for the benefit of the public, in particular ..., by developing skills in musicianship and performance, and by developing appreciation of music and drama through the presentation of public performances.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	During this period we were able to put on the following events: Concert: Opera Magic St Mary's College, Crosby 04/11/23 Heswall Methodist Church, Heswall 11/11/23 Masterclass: Robert Alderson St Mary's College, Crosby 10/02/24 Opera: The Magic Flute Ukrainian Welcome Centre, Crosby 17/05/24 Neston Civic Hall 18/05/2024 St Anthony of Padua Church, Queens Drive 19/05/24 Concert: Operatic and Show-tunes Highlights St Helen's Church, Crosby (As part of Crosby Community Choir Festival) 03/07/24 St Mary's College, Crosby 19/07/24
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	All trustees have received and read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and have regard to it when taking decisions.
Additional Information	
Policy on grant making	The charity does not make grants.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	The charity has no social investment program
Contribution made by volunteers	The charity's activities are almost entirely carried out by volunteers, who (a) improve their own knowledge and skills in music and drama, and in stage production skills under the guidance of, and through the example of, professional conductors, pianists and singers, while (b) providing accessible public performances in community venues.

Achievements and Performance	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole	The charity brought high-standard classical opera and operetta, and other art music, in low-cost and fully accessible informal performances to several local venues in Merseyside. One of these performances was given at a local cultural festival promoted by a community choir. The amateur performers ranged in age from under 20 to over 70. The important and unusual opportunity we provide is demonstrated by the journeys made to take part: from as far as Bolton, North Wales, and Preston. During the opera, our amateur and emerging professional performers were accompanied by a professional pianist and directed and trained by professional conductors of a very high standard. We additionally promoted a masterclass for singers which was led by a professional singer and teacher of international standard.
Financial Review	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	The charity made a deficit of £353.47 over the period, and remains solvent.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Reserves policy agreed by Opera Viva Committee on 24/4/19: Opera Viva aims to have a reserve of £2,000, available to spend at short notice to cushion us against any financial problems. This represents the approximate cost of having to cancel a major production for uninsurable reasons. Each year our annual budget will allocate up to £250 to go into the reserve fund until the £2,000 target is reached.
Amount of reserves held	£1500 is allocated to reserves as at 31/8/24.
Additional information (optional) You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:	
The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	• Earned income: 55% • Corp & Personal donations: 17% • Subscriptions: 18% • Grants: 11%
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Sudden unavailability of key volunteer performers, requiring professional replacement (extra expenditure) or abandoning a planned performance (reduced income).
Structure, Governance and Management	
Description of charity's trusts:	
Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	CIO Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees or members. Trustees are subject to re-election by members in rotation every three years (after the CIO's first year).

Reference and Administrative details			
Charity name		Opera Viva Merseyside	
Other names the charity uses		Opera Viva	
Registered charity number		1177385	
Charity's principal address		c/o 18, Esplen Avenue, Crosby, Merseyside L23 2SS	
Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity			
Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Doreen Whitlow			
Peter McColgan	Chair		
Douglas Ligertwood			

OPERA VIVA
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2024

INCOME

Masterclass	357.46	
Ticket sales	3615.90	
Raffles	378.10	
Programmes	75.50	
Bar profits	175.00	
Refreshments	<u>86.01</u>	4687.97
Subscriptions		1588.40
Donations		1500.00
Bonus ball		285.00
P H Holt grant		<u>1000.00</u>
		£9061.37

EXPENDITURE

Singing coach expenses	90.00
Singers	600.00
Pianists	2850.00
Singing master/mistress	2649.00
Costumes, props etc	487.87
Hall rent	470.00
Caretaker St Marys	300.00
Subscriptions	88.00
Insurance	522.97
Sundries	55.00
Storage	480.00
Licences	42.00
Printing	510.00
Catering	90.00
Web hosting	<u>180.00</u>
	£9414.84

EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME

£(353.47)