

CUMBRIA OPERA GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1183545

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-05-23

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

Contact

Address 7 Thorny Hills
Kendal
LA9 7AL

Phone 07860807183

Email cumbriaoperagroup@gmail.com

Website www.cumbriaoperagroup.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:THE PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE ART OF OPERA FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT THROUGH(1) THE PROMOTION AND PRESENTATION OF HIGH-QUALITY OPERA FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN CUMBRIA.(2) TO EDUCATE YOUNG INSTRUMENTALISTS, SINGERS, AND ACTORS BASED IN OR FROM CUMBRIA IN THE FIELD OF OPERA.

Activities: The objects of the CIO are:To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through(1) The promotion and presentation of high-quality opera for the benefit of the local communities in Cumbria.(2) To educate young instrumentalists, singers, and actors based in or from Cumbria in the field of opera.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-10-31	£86,468	£93,532	-	-
2024-10-31	£15,602	£13,546	-	-
2023-10-31	£55,791	£63,813	-	-
2022-10-31	£21,382	£10,127	-	-
2021-10-31	£25,366	£33,403	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Joe Davies	Chair	2019-01-01
Catherine Elizabeth Parry		2024-02-29
Dr Roger William Allen		2020-08-21
Giles William Holden		2020-08-21
Lucy Britton		2019-01-01
Marcia Elaine Reid Fotheringham		2020-08-21
Stuart Manger		2019-01-01
Sula Ross Cotterell		2020-08-21

CUMBRIA OPERA GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1183545

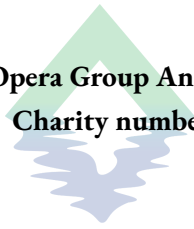
Accounts



Charity no. 1183545

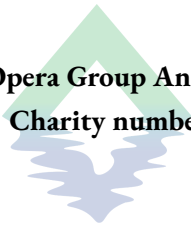
Annual Report and Accounts

1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025



Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts
1st November 2024 to 31st October 2025

Contents	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Receipts and Payments Account	7-10



Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2024-25

Charity number: 1183545

Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts

1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

Reference and Administration Details

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited Accounts of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the period 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

CIO Name Cumbria Opera Group

Charity Commission registration no. 1183545

Contact Address 7 Thorny Hills, Kendal, LA9 7AL

The Trustees

Joe Davies - Chair

Lucy Britton - Managing Director

Dr Roger William Allen

Sula Ross Cotterell

Marcia Elaine Reid Fotheringham JP DL

Giles William Holden

Stuart Manger

Catherine Elizabeth Parry

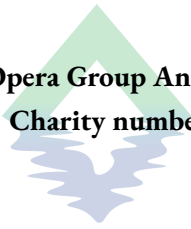
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren

7 Brow Crescent, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EY

Bankers

Virgin Money, 45 Penny St, Lancaster LA1 1UE



Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Cumbria Opera Group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered No.1183545, regulated by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. The Governing Document is the constitution dated 22nd May 2019.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Under the constitution, apart from the first CIO trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the CIO trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as CIO trustees, the CIO trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. Any person retiring as a CIO trustee is eligible for reappointment.

Induction and training of Trustees

Induction and training of a new trustee will be undertaken with the guidance of the existing trustees.

Risk Management

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the CIO is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the CIO, and are satisfied that adequate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities for Public Benefit

The objects of the CIO are:

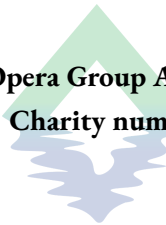
To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through:

- The promotion and presentation of high-quality opera for the benefit of the local communities in Cumbria.
- To educate young instrumentalists, singers, and actors based in or from Cumbria in the field of opera.

Achievement, Performance and Financial Review

Summary

The 2024-25 Season of the Cumbria Opera Group was built around the **Cumbria Opera Festival 2025** and its associated Education Project. The Cumbria Opera Festival 2025, only the third event of its kind, was a ten-day series of events that took place across Cumbria, from **21st - 30th August 2025**. Curated to be an accessible, wide-ranging, and locally-centred project, the Festival ranged from the *opera buffa* of *The Marriage of Figaro* to the psychological drama



Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2024-25

Charity number: 1183545

found in *The Turn of the Screw*, and from the jazz world of *Porgy and Bess* to the intimate, introductory land of *Opera by Candlelight*. From Barrow to the border, and from Kendal to Keswick, all sides of Cumbria were visited in this ambitious, ten-day series of events.

The Cumbria Opera Group's continued commitment to Education was acutely represented in this Festival. Our inaugural **Young Artists' Scheme** saw young Cumbrians 'cover' various roles and perform a *Young Artists' Showcase*, while our second **Young Composers' Competition** culminated in performances of the winning competitions at our *Opera by Candlelight* events.

We were delighted with the reviews and feedback the Festival received, including acclaim from national publications *OperaWire* and *Seen and Heard International*. In addition, the number of local and national previews the Festival witnessed, including a substantial feature from ITV Border, did wonders for our pan-county coverage.

Outreach is at the heart of everything we do. As in previous years, the 2025 Festival was paired with a series of Education Workshops across Cumbria. Singers and Directors from the Cumbria Opera Group led Singing Workshops and 'Play in a Day' sessions at schools throughout the county. These workshops taught young people about singing and drama, and also used opera as a tool to teach languages, history, and - in view of *The Turn of the Screw* being in our diary - english literature.

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank all the artists who participated in Cumbria Opera Group events over the last year. There are simply too many people to name here, but all the many performers and creatives who made the Cumbria Opera Festival 2025 a success are to be commended for their talent and dedication.

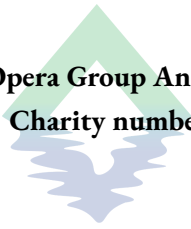
We would particularly like to thank everyone in the extended Cumbria Opera Group 'Family': the members of our Friends' Circles, our supporters and event attendees, and all the people involved in the organisation of the Cumbria Opera Festival 2025.

Financial Result

The period ended 31st October 2025 was our fifth as a CIO and we ended it financially sound. Total funds are £1,891.55. Ticket sales make up just over 30% of our income, which is slightly higher than other, similar Charitable Arts Organisations.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to all our funders and Friends for their ongoing financial support.



Fundraising

Our fundraising has so far been concentrated on applying for grants from charitable trusts and other grant providers. We also have a 'Friends' scheme which has generated a number of personal donations.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between pending and receiving of resources and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The Charity's ongoing costs outside Festivals and other large-scale projects are minimal, with a small number of subscriptions (e.g. MailChimp and Wix). Therefore, the trustees consider a sufficient level of reserves as of 1 November 2025 to be £1,500. The Cumbria Opera Group never commits any expenditure without funds being in place, with all our fundraising efforts being voluntary and therefore costing nothing.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees who served the CIO during the period are as set out on page 1. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account showing the assets of the CIO at the end of the period and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the period then ended.

In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The Trustees must also prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with charity law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

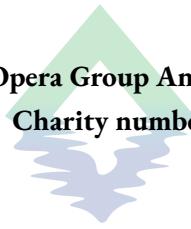
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren has expressed his willingness to continue as Independent Examiner.

Signed by order of the Trustees

Joe Davies (Chair of Trustees)

Approved by the Trustees on 11th December 2025



Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Cumbria Opera Group

I report on the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 October 2025 set out on pages 7-10.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the charity trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- -the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

11th December 2025

Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent
Windermere
LA23 2EY

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/24	To	31/10/25	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket Sales	27,187	-	-	27,187	3,006
Donations: Friends' Scheme	3,275	-	-	3,275	1,900
Grants: Local Authorities	6,500	-	-	6,500	2,500
Donations: other	4,525	-	-	4,525	695
Gift Aid	1,108	-	-	1,108	-
Easy Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	4	-	-	4	1
Grants: Trusts and Foundations	25,200	-	-	25,200	7,500
Theatre Tax Relief	18,614	-	-	18,614	-
Other receipts	54	-	-	54	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	86,468	-	-	86,468	15,602
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	86,468	-	-	86,468	15,602

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/24	To	31/10/25	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
A3 Payments					
Musicians & Artists Payments	60,277	-	-	60,277	11,548
Accommodation	9,500	-	-	9,500	-
Instrument Hire & Servicing	714	-	-	714	380
Venue Hire	6,024	-	-	6,024	690
Lighting, Sound & Film	5,402	-	-	5,402	200
Ticket Refunds	73	-	-	73	-
Printing & Publicity	3,573	-	-	3,573	652
Opera Set Payments	2,755	-	-	2,755	-
Props & Costumes	1,603	-	-	1,603	20
Music Hire & Licences	1,239	-	-	1,239	-
Other Logistical Payments	2,371	-	-	2,371	57
Sub total	93,532	-	-	93,532	13,547
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	93,532	-	-	93,532	13,547
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 7,064	-	-	- 7,064	2,055

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/24	To	31/10/25	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	8,955	-	-	8,955	6,900
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	1,891	-	-	1,891	8,955

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Bank	1,891	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,891	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group		1183545		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/24	To	31/10/25	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
			Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Details			-	-
				-	-
				-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details		-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Details		-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Joseph Davies	11th December 2025

CUMBRIA OPERA GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1183545

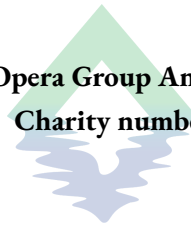
Accounts



Charity no. 1183545

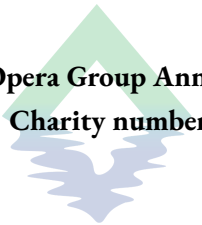
Annual Report and Accounts

1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024



Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts
1st November 2023 to 31st October 2024

Contents	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Receipts and Payments Account	7-10



Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2023-24

Charity number: 1183545

Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts

1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024

Reference and Administration Details

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited Accounts of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the period 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024

CIO Name Cumbria Opera Group

Charity Commission registration no. 1183545

Contact Address 7 Thorny Hills, Kendal, LA9 7AL

The Trustees

Joe Davies - Chair

Lucy Britton - Managing Director

Dr Roger William Allen

Sula Ross Cotterell

Marcia Elaine Reid Fotheringham JP DL

Giles William Holden

Stuart Manger

Catherine Elizabeth Parry - **appointed 29th February 2024**

Former Trustees

Edward Peter Davies - **retired 28th February 2024**

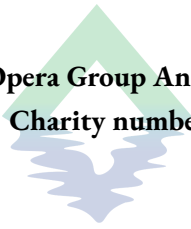
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren

7 Brow Crescent, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EY

Bankers

Virgin Money, 45 Penny St, Lancaster LA1 1UE



Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Cumbria Opera Group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered No.1183545, regulated by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. The Governing Document is the constitution dated 22nd May 2019.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Under the constitution, apart from the first CIO trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the CIO trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as CIO trustees, the CIO trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. Any person retiring as a CIO trustee is eligible for reappointment.

Induction and training of Trustees

Induction and training of a new trustee will be undertaken with the guidance of the existing trustees.

Risk Management

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the CIO is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the CIO, and are satisfied that adequate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities for Public Benefit

The objects of the CIO are:

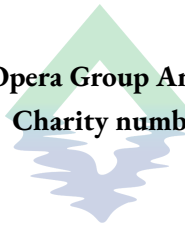
To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through:

- The promotion and presentation of high-quality opera for the benefit of the local communities in Cumbria.
- To educate young instrumentalists, singers, and actors based in or from Cumbria in the field of opera.

Achievement, Performance and Financial Review

Summary

The 2023-24 Season of the Cumbria Opera Group was built around our production of *Kings, Witches, Lovers, and Souls: A Compass of Cumbria Legends*. Taking place at the Penrith Playhouse at the end of August 2024, this was a new opera from local composer Jen Hartley, a weaving-together of Cumbrian folk stories. *Kings, Witches, Lovers, and Souls* took audiences anticlockwise around old Cumbria from west to north, pausing to uncover old tales of battles, spirits,



loyalty, love, betrayal, and superstition. From ruined abbeys to enchanted stone circles, watery secrets to ghostly cairns, the Opera was a folkloric tour of the magic of Eden, the Lakes, and the Dales. *Kings, Witches, Lovers, and Souls* featured the debut of the Cumbria Opera Youth Chorus, bringing together alumni of the Education Workshops we have produced since 2016. The Opera's Premiere received considerable media interest, with ITV Border producing a three-minute feature of the production on its 6pm news, while the show received acclaim from publications such as *Seen and Heard International* and *Classical Source*.

In the lead-up to *Kings, Witches, Lovers, and Souls*, we ran Education Workshops at Levens Primary, Heron Hill Primary, Brunswick Primary, Ghyllside Primary, Stramongate Primary, and Beaconside Primary. These workshops revolved around singing: singing songs in parts, singing techniques, and singing cohesively as a group. In addition, the workshops involved elements of music theory, music history, and - in view of the multi-lingual nature of opera - elements of language-learning.

Feedback from the Education Workshops included this note from Stramongate Primary: 'The children absolutely loved their visit from the Cumbria Opera Group. The session was really interactive with a great pace so that every child was 100% engaged. There was a great range of song styles which the children picked up easily without any need to be reading song words so all ability levels were catered for. It was a fun experience and we'd very much recommend the Cumbria Opera Group.'

Since 2021, the Cumbria Opera Group has produced an Opera Festival every other year. The next one will take place from 21st - 30th August 2025.

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank all the artists who participated in Cumbria Opera Group events over the last year. There are simply too many people to name here, but all the many performers and creatives who made *Kings, Witches, Lovers, and Souls* a success are to be commended for their talent and dedication.

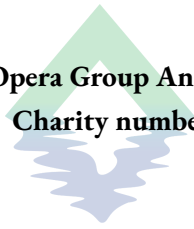
We would particularly like to thank everyone in the extended Cumbria Opera Group 'Family': the members of our Friends' Circles, our supporters and event attendees, and all the people involved in the organisation of *Kings, Witches, Lovers, and Souls: A Compass of Cumbrian Legends*.

Financial Result

The period ended 31st October 2024 was our fifth as a CIO and we ended it financially sound. Total funds are £8,955.47.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to all our funders and Friends for their ongoing financial support.



Fundraising

Our fundraising has so far been concentrated on applying for grants from charitable trusts and other grant providers. We also have a 'Friends' scheme which has generated a number of personal donations, as we begin to raise the funds for the Cumbria Opera Festival 2025.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between pending and receiving of resources and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees consider a sufficient level of reserves as of 1 November 2024 to be £8,500.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees who served the CIO during the period are as set out on page 1. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account showing the assets of the CIO at the end of the period and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the period then ended.

In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The Trustees must also prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with charity law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

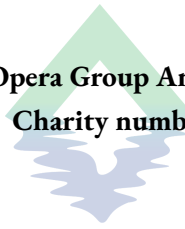
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren has expressed his willingness to continue as Independent Examiner.

Signed by order of the Trustees

Joe Davies (Chair of Trustees)

Approved by the Trustees on 16th December 2024



Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Cumbria Opera Group

I report on the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 October 2024 set out on pages 7-10.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the charity trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

16th December 2024

Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent
Windermere
LA23 2EY

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/23	To	31/10/24	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket Sales	3,006	-	-	3,006	17,697
Donations: Friends' Scheme	1,900	-	-	1,900	1,570
Grants: Local Authorities	2,500	-	-	2,500	7,750
Donations: other	695	-	-	695	959
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	369
Easy Fundraising	-	-	-	-	17
Interest	1	-	-	1	4
Grants: Trusts and Foundations	7,500	-	-	7,500	25,500
Theatre Tax Relief	-	-	-	-	1,925
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	15,602	-	-	15,602	55,791
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,602	-	-	15,602	55,791

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/23	To	31/10/24	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
A3 Payments					
Musicians & Artists Payments	11,548	-	-	11,548	37,356
Accommodation		-	-	-	8,000
Instrument Hire & Servicing	380	-	-	380	1,365
Venue Hire	690	-	-	690	5,708
Lighting, Sound & Film	200	-	-	200	2,982
Ticket Refunds	-	-	-	-	12
Printing & Publicity	652	-	-	652	1,652
Opera Set Payments	-	-	-	-	4,195
Props & Costumes	20	-	-	20	802
Other Logistical Payments	57	-	-	57	1,741
Sub total	13,546	-	-	13,546	63,813
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	13,546	-	-	13,546	63,813
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,055	-	-	2,055	- 8,022
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,900	-	-	6,900	14,922

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group		1183545		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/23	To	31/10/24	

Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
Cash funds this year end	8,955	-	-	8,955	6,900

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period					
Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Bank	8,955	-	-	
		-	-	-	
	Total cash funds	8,955	-	-	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	
		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group		1183545		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/23	To	31/10/24	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
B3 Investment assets				-	-
				-	-
				-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Joseph Davies	16th December 2024

CUMBRIA OPERA GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1183545

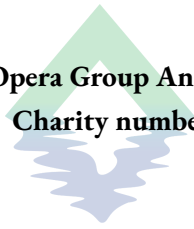
Accounts



Charity no. 1183545

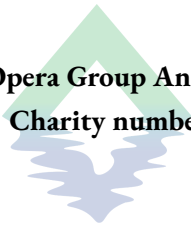
Annual Report and Accounts

1 November 2022 to 31 October 2023



Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts
1st November 2022 to 31st October 2023

Contents	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Receipts and Payments Account	7-10



Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2022-23

Charity number: 1183545

Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts

1 November 2022 to 31 October 2023

Reference and Administration Details

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited Accounts of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the period 1 November 2022 to 31 October 2023

CIO Name Cumbria Opera Group

Charity Commission registration no. 1183545

Contact Address 7 Thorny Hills, Kendal, LA9 7AL

The Trustees

Joe Davies - Chair

Lucy Britton - Managing Director

Dr Roger William Allen

Sula Ross Cotterell

Edward Peter Davies

Marcia Elaine Reid Fotheringham JP DL

Giles William Holden

Stuart Manger

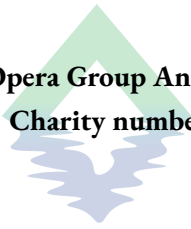
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren

7 Brow Crescent, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EY

Bankers

Virgin Money, 7 Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4NB



Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Cumbria Opera Group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered No.1183545, regulated by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. The Governing Document is the constitution dated 22nd May 2019.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Under the constitution, apart from the first CIO trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the CIO trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as CIO trustees, the CIO trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. Any person retiring as a CIO trustee is eligible for reappointment.

Induction and training of Trustees

Induction and training of a new trustee will be undertaken with the guidance of the existing trustees.

Risk Management

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the CIO is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the CIO, and are satisfied that adequate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities for Public Benefit

The objects of the CIO are:

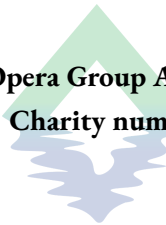
To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through:

- The promotion and presentation of high-quality opera for the benefit of the local communities in Cumbria.
- To educate young instrumentalists, singers, and actors based in or from Cumbria in the field of opera.

Achievement, Performance and Financial Review

Summary

The 2022-23 Season of the Cumbria Opera Group featured a touring 'Three Tenors' Concert in February, a staged production of Bach's *St John Passion* in April, the Launch Night for the Cumbria Opera Festival in June, and the Cumbria Opera Festival 2023 in August and September. The Festival's accompanying Education Project took place in schools from January to July 2023. The Festival ran as follows:



Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2022-23

Charity number: 1183545

- Open Festival Workshop, 26th August, Penrith Playhouse
- Double Bill of *Frauenliebe und -leben* and *La Voix Humaine*, 26th & 27th August, Penrith Playhouse
- *Opera Highlights* (Touring), 27th-29th August: Dalton-in-Furness, Appleby, & Carlisle
- *Don Giovanni*, 30th, 31st August & 2nd September, Victoria Hall, Grange-over-Sands
- Masterclass with Joan Rodgers CBE, 1st September, St Bees Priory
- Cumbrian Opera & Song, 2nd September, Kendal Town Hall

The Festival has made a palpable difference to people in Cumbria, particularly to young Cumbrians interested in the arts. At the Masterclass with Joan Rodgers CBE, four young Cumbrians were able to learn with one of the best singers of her generation (with many more watching the event): participant Hannah Weakley (17) described this as ‘an incredible and inspiring experience’. Our Young Composers’ Competition winner, Robert Anson, received three free mentoring sessions with our Associate Composer, Jen Hartley, and had a work premiered by Georgia Mae Ellis and George Needham, an experience Robert described as ‘fantastic’, and ‘one I’ll be forever grateful for’.

The workshops we ran in schools across Cumbria were very positively received from the hosting schools, with praise including: ‘Cumbria Opera Group’s workshops at Appleby Primary School have been amazing! The children really enjoy getting involved and it’s amazing to see those who are sometimes less confident come out of their shell when they are performing! We love having the Opera Group with us, the children are always engaged and enjoy the freedom of creating their own actions and joining in with the singing.’ (*Holly Andrews, Teacher at Appleby Primary School*)

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank all the artists who participated in Cumbria Opera Group events over the last year. There are simply too many to name here, but all the many performers and creatives who made the Cumbria Opera Festival a success are to be commended.

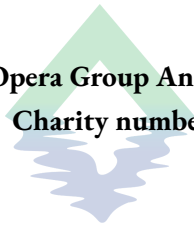
We would particularly like to thank the many people in the extended Cumbria Opera Group ‘Family’: the members of our Friends’ Circles, our supporters and event attendees, and the many people involved in the organisation of the Cumbria Opera Festival 2023.

Financial Result

The period ended 31st October 2023 was our fourth as a CIO and we ended it financially sound. Total funds are £6,900.21.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to all our funders for their ongoing financial support. We are also grateful for all other support given from all donors, ‘Friends’ and audiences, and from all those, both on and off the committee, for all the assistance given.



Fundraising

Our fundraising has so far been concentrated on applying for grants from charitable trusts and other grant providers. We also have a 'Friends' scheme which has generated a number of personal donations, and contributed considerably towards the funds for the Festival.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between pending and receiving of resources and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees consider a sufficient level of reserves as of 1 November 2023 to be £6,500.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees who served the CIO during the period are as set out on page 1. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account showing the assets of the CIO at the end of the period and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the period then ended.

In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The Trustees must also prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with charity law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

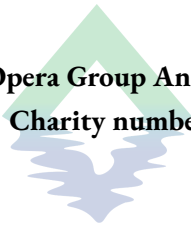
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren has expressed his willingness to continue as Independent Examiner.

Signed by order of the Trustees

Joe Davies (Chair of Trustees)

Approved by the Trustees on 7th December 2023



Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Cumbria Opera Group

I report on the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 October 2023 set out on pages 7-10.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the charity trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

7th December 2023

Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent
Windermere
LA23 2EY

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/22	To	31/10/23	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket Sales	17,697	-	-	17,697	5,268
Donations: Friends' Scheme	1,570	-	-	1,570	1,950
Grants: Local Authorities	7,750	-	-	7,750	5,500
Donations: other	959	-	-	959	4,802
Gift Aid	369	-	-	369	401
Easy Fundraising	17	-	-	17	48
Interest	4	-	-	4	5
Grants: Trusts and Foundations	25,500	-	-	25,500	-
Theatre Tax Relief	1,925	-	-	1,925	2,408
Other receipts		-	-	-	1,000
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	55,791	-	-	55,791	21,382
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	55,791	-	-	55,791	21,382

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group			1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/22	To	31/10/23	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
A3 Payments					
Musicians & Artists Payments	37,356	-	-	37,356	7,144
Accommodation	8,000	-	-	8,000	-
Instrument Hire & Servicing	1,365	-	-	1,365	45
Venue Hire	5,708	-	-	5,708	50
Lighting, Sound & Film	2,982	-	-	2,982	1,565
Ticket Refunds	12	-	-	12	-
Printing & Publicity	1,652	-	-	1,652	556
Opera Set Payments	4,195	-	-	4,195	-
Props & Costumes	802	-	-	802	-
Other Logistical Payments	1,741	-	-	1,741	767
Sub total	63,813	-	-	63,813	10,127
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	63,813	-	-	63,813	10,127
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 8,022	-	-	- 8,022	11,255
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	14,922	-	-	14,922	3,667

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group		1183545		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/22	To	31/10/23	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	6,900	-	-	6,900	14,922

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Bank	6,900	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	6,900	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Details			

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group		1183545		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1/11/22	To	31/10/23	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
B3 Investment assets				-	-
				-	-
				-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Joseph Davies	7th December 2023

CUMBRIA OPERA GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1183545

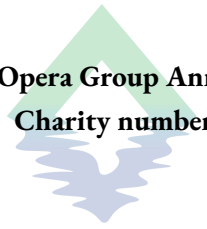
Accounts



Charity no. 1183545

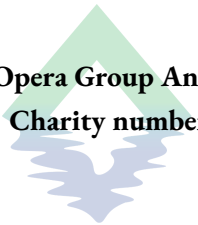
Annual Report and Accounts

1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022



Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts
1st November 2021 to 31st October 2022

Contents	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Receipts and Payments Account	7-9



Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2021-2

Charity number: 1183545

Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts

1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022

Reference and Administration Details

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited Accounts of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the period 1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022

CIO Name Cumbria Opera Group

Charity Commission registration no. 1183545

Contact Address 7 Thorny Hills, Kendal, LA9 7AL

The Trustees

Joe Davies - Chair

Lucy Britton - Managing Director

Dr Roger William Allen

Sula Ross Cotterell

Edward Peter Davies

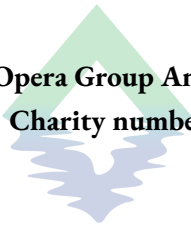
Marcia Elaine Reid Fotheringham JP DL

Giles William Holden

Stuart Manger

Independent Examiner Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EY

Bankers Virgin Money, 7 Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4NB



Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Cumbria Opera Group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered No.1183545, regulated by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. The Governing Document is the constitution dated 22nd May 2019.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Under the constitution, apart from the first CIO trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the CIO trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as CIO trustees, the CIO trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. Any person retiring as a CIO trustee is eligible for reappointment.

Induction and training of Trustees

Induction and training of a new trustee will be undertaken with the guidance of the existing trustees.

Risk Management

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the CIO is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the CIO, and are satisfied that adequate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities for Public Benefit

The objects of the CIO are:

To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through:

- The promotion and presentation of high-quality opera for the benefit of the local communities in Cumbria.
- To educate young instrumentalists, singers, and actors based in or from Cumbria in the field of opera.



Achievement, Performance and Financial Review

Summary

Following on from the inaugural Cumbria Opera Festival in September 2021, Cumbria Opera Group's 2021/22 season was filled with a variety of events that culminated in our Outdoor Opera Weekend in July 2022. We also looked forward to our next Opera Festival, set to take place in August-September 2023.

Two *Night at the Opera* events took place in June 2022, featuring three soloists taking audiences through highlights of the opera repertory. Following a performance in Penrith, we were delighted to be invited to the Sedbergh Festival to perform the programme again.

The Weekend of Outdoor Opera in July 2022 featured three shows taking place over two afternoons in Appleby. Karen Babayan's *Swallows and Armenians* - a reimagining of Arthur Ransome's *Swallows and Amazons* - was paired with Jonathan Danciger's *Ariel*, while we also had hour-long *Opera Highlights* performances. The audiences for the weekend were large and appreciative, and it was hugely enjoyable to bring opera into the great Cumbrian outdoors.

We also led several Education Workshops through Cumbria during the 21/22 season, which included whole-school workshops at Kirkby Thore School and Appleby Primary School. We were delighted to continue our Education and Outreach works, which remains at the heart of everything we do.

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank all the artists who participated in Cumbria Opera Group events over the last year. There are simply too many to name here, but all the many performers and creatives who made the Cumbria Opera Festival a success are to be commended.

We would particularly like to thank the many people in the extended Cumbria Opera Group 'Family': the members of our Friends' Circles, our supporters and event attendees, and the many people involved in the organisation of the Outdoor Opera Weekend 2022.

Financial Result

The period ended 31st October 2022 was our second as a CIO and we ended it financially sound. Total funds are £14,921.75.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to all our funders for their ongoing financial support. We are also grateful for all other support



given from all donors, 'Friends' and audiences, and from all those, both on and off the committee, for all the assistance given.

Fundraising

Our fundraising has so far been concentrated on applying for grants from charitable trusts and other grant providers. We also have a 'Friends' scheme which has generated a number of personal donations, and contributed considerably towards the funds for the Festival.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between pending and receiving of resources and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees consider a sufficient level of reserves as of 1 November 2022 to be £5,000. We currently have well in excess of this, but this is because a lot of our recent income is funding for the 2023 Festival in August-September 2023; the extra money we have will be spent then.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees who served the CIO during the period are as set out on page 1. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account showing the assets of the CIO at the end of the period and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the period then ended.

In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The Trustees must also prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with charity law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

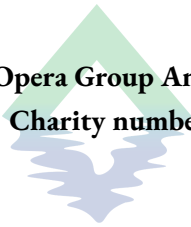
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren has expressed his willingness to continue as Independent Examiner.

Signed by order of the Trustees

Joe Davies (Chair of Trustees)

Approved by the Trustees on 8th December 2022



Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Cumbria Opera Group

I report on the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 October 2022 set out on pages 7-9.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the charity trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- -the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

8th December 2022

Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent
Windermere
LA23 2EY

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Cumbria Opera Group		1183545	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts			
	For the period from	1/11/21	To	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket Sales	5,268	-	-	5,268	10,739
Donations: Friends' Scheme	1,950	-	-	1,950	9,098
Grants: Local Authorities	5,500	-	-	5,500	2,000
Donations: other	4,802	-	-	4,802	1,750
Gift Aid	401	-	-	401	911
Refunds	-	-	-	-	840
Easy Fundraising	48	-	-	48	17
Interest	5	-	-	5	11
Grants: Trusts and Foundations	-	-	-	-	-
Theatre Tax Relief	2,408	-	-	2,408	-
Other receipts	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	21,382	-	-	21,382	25,366
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	21,382	-	-	21,382	25,366

A3 Payments

Musicians & Artists Payments	7,144	-	-	7,144	19,031
Accommodation	-	-	-	-	5,366
Logistical Payments	2,933	-	-	2,933	4,211
Venue Hire	50	-	-	50	4,016
Music Hire and Licences	-	-	-	-	710
Ticket Refunds	-	-	-	-	68
Accommodation Deposits	-	-	-	-	-
Opera Set Payment	-	-	-	-	-
Light & Sound Deposits	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Correction	0	-	-	0	-
Sub total	10,127	-	-	10,127	33,403

A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	

Total payments	10,127	-	-	10,127	33,403
-----------------------	---------------	----------	----------	---------------	---------------

Net of receipts/(payments)	11,255	-	-	11,255	- 8,036
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,667	-	-	3,667	11,703
Cash funds this year end	14,922	-	-	14,922	3,667

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Bank	14,922	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	14,922	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Details			
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details			
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Details			
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

CUMBRIA OPERA GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1183545

Accounts



Charity no. 1183545

Annual Report and Accounts

1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021

Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2020-21

Charity number: 1183545

**Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts
1st November 2020 to 31st October 2021**

Contents	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	2-6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Receipts and Payments Account	8-11

Cumbria Opera Group Annual Accounts 2020-21

Charity number: 1183545

Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts

1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021

Reference and Administration Details

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited Accounts of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the period 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021

CIO Name Cumbria Opera Group

Charity Commission registration no. 1183545

Contact Address 7 Thorny Hills, Kendal, LA9 7AL

The Trustees

Joe Davies - Chair

Lucy Britton - Managing Director

Dr Roger William Allen

Sula Ross Cotterell

Edward Peter Davies

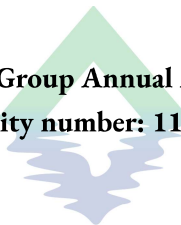
Marcia Elaine Reid Fotheringham JP DL

Giles William Holden

Stuart Manger

Independent Examiner Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EY

Bankers Yorkshire Bank, 7 Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4NB



Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Cumbria Opera Group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered No.1183545, regulated by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. The Governing Document is the constitution dated 22nd May 2019.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Under the constitution, apart from the first CIO trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the CIO trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as CIO trustees, the CIO trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. Any person retiring as a CIO trustee is eligible for reappointment.

Induction and training of Trustees

Induction and training of a new trustee will be undertaken with the guidance of the existing trustees.

Risk Management

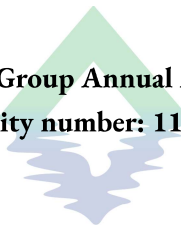
The directors have assessed the major risks to which the CIO is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the CIO, and are satisfied that adequate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities for Public Benefit

The objects of the CIO are:

To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through:

- The promotion and presentation of high-quality opera for the benefit of the local communities in Cumbria.
- To educate young instrumentalists, singers, and actors based in or from Cumbria in the field of opera.



Achievement, Performance and Financial Review

Summary

The 2020-21 Season of the Cumbria Opera Group was defined by the Cumbria Opera Festival, which took place from the 4th-11th September 2021. In preparation for the Festival, The Consort of the Cumbria Opera Group performed a small and COVID-friendly Christmas Concert in December 2020. This was done to raise funds for the upcoming Festival, but more generally to raise awareness of who we are and to give the residents of Kendal something to smile about after a difficult year.

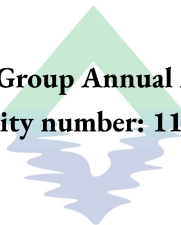
The Festival Launch Night took place in June 2021, featuring three soloists from the upcoming Festival. Each event of the Festival was introduced between singers' performances, with a large and enthusiastic crowd in attendance.

The inaugural Cumbria Opera Festival was a huge success, bringing together the best Cumbrian operatic talent and the best global operatic talent. Six of the eight events sold out (albeit with reduced audience numbers due to COVID-19), and there were overwhelmingly positive reviews from local papers (*The Cumberland and Westmorland Herald*), and National and International review sites (*Seen and heard International*, *The Classical Source*).

The events of the Cumbria Opera Festival 2021 were:

- A performance by Roderick Williams OBE and Christopher Glynn at Penrith Methodist Church (4th September)
- A fully-staged performance of Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti* and Barber's *A Hand of Bridge* at Kendal Town Hall (5th September)
- A performance by Caroline Taylor and George Needham at St Mary's Church in Ambleside (6th September), featuring the premiere of a Cumbrian Song Cycle by our Associate Composer Jen Hartley and local poet Kerry Darbishire.
- Two performances of 'An Evening of Opera', a 90-minute set of opera highlights, in both the Tithe Barn in Carlisle (7th September) and Appleby Public Hall (8th September).
- Two fully-staged performances of Mozart's *Così fan tutte* in both Victoria Hall in Grange-over-Sands (9th September) and St Andrew's Church in Penrith (11th September).
- An 'In Conversation' Event and Young Artists' Masterclass with our Artistic Patron Joan Rodgers CBE (10th September).

We feel the Cumbria Opera Festival achieved its aims of bringing high-quality opera to Cumbria, both in terms of welcoming world-class opera singers to the region (Roderick Williams OBE, Joan Rodgers CBE) and in presenting fully-staged performances of three operas. We were particularly delighted that the Festival



attracted many young spectators, with the last night of *Così fan tutte* seeing twenty Young Persons' Tickets sold.

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank all the artists who participated in Cumbria Opera Group events over the last year. There are simply too many to name here, but all the many performers and creatives who made the Cumbria Opera Festival a success are to be commended.

We would particularly like to thank the many people in the extended Cumbria Opera Group 'Family': the members of our Friends' Circles, our supporters and event attendees, and the many people involved in the organisation of the Cumbria Opera Festival 2021.

Financial Result

The period ended 31st October 2021 was our second as a CIO and we ended it financially sound. Total funds are £3,667.32.

Acknowledgements

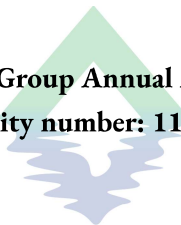
We are extremely grateful to all our funders for their ongoing financial support. We are also grateful for all other support given from all donors, 'Friends' and audiences, and from all those, both on and off the committee, for all the assistance given.

Fundraising

Our fundraising has so far been concentrated on applying for grants from charitable trusts and other grant providers. We also have a 'Friends' scheme which has generated a number of personal donations, and contributed considerably towards the funds for the Festival.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between pending and receiving of resources and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees consider the ideal level of reserves as at 1 November 2021 would be £3,000.



Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees who served the CIO during the period are as set out on page 1. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account showing the assets of the CIO at the end of the period and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the period then ended.

In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The Trustees must also prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with charity law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

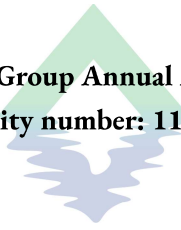
Independent Examiner

Anthony Farren has expressed his willingness to continue as Independent Examiner.

Signed by order of the Trustees

Joe Davies (Chair of Trustees)

Approved by the Trustees on 20th December 2021



Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Cumbria Opera Group

I report on the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 October 2021 set out on pages 8-11.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the charity trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

20th December 2021

Anthony Farren
7 Brow Crescent
Windermere
LA23 2EY

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		Cumbria Opera Group		1183545	CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts					
For the period from		1/11/20	To	31/10/21	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket Sales	10,739	-	-	10,739	-
Donations: Friends' Scheme	9,098	-	-	9,098	845
Grants: Local Authorities	2,000	-	-	2,000	750
Donations: other	1,750	-	-	1,750	100
Gift Aid	911	-	-	911	50
Refunds	840	-	-	840	-
Easy Fundraising	17	-	-	17	-
Interest	11	-	-	11	-
Grants: Trusts and Foundations	-	-	-	-	11,500
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	100
Sub total(Gross income for	25,366	-	-	25,366	13,345

A2 Asset and investment sales,	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,366	-	-	25,366	13,345

A3 Payments

Musicians & Artists Payments	19,031	-	-	19,031	-
Accommodation	5,366	-	-	5,366	-
Logistical Payments	4,211	-	-	4,211	-
Venue Hire	4,016	-	-	4,016	-
Music Hire and Licences	710	-	-	710	-
Ticket Refunds	68	-	-	68	-
Accommodation Deposits	-	-	-	-	965
Opera Set Payment	-	-	-	-	577
Light & Sound Deposits	-	-	-	-	100
Sub total	33,403	-	-	33,403	1,641

A4 Asset and investment

	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	

Total payments

33,403	-	-	33,403	1,641
---------------	----------	----------	---------------	--------------

Net of receipts/(payments)

A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	11,704
A6 Cash funds last year end	11,704	-	-	11,704	-
Cash funds this year end	3,667	-	-	3,667	11,704

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Bank	3,667	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Total cash funds			
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		3,667	-
		OK	OK
	Unrestricted funds		
	Restricted funds		
	Endowment funds		

Details		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Joseph Davies	20.12.21