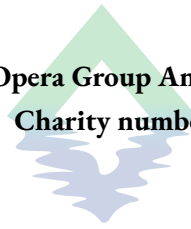




Charity no. 1183545

Annual Report and Accounts

1 November 2022 to 31 October 2023



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

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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

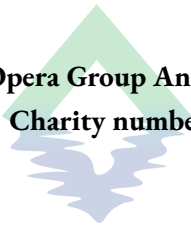
Independent Examiner

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:

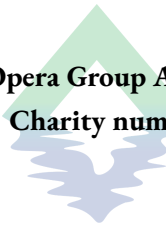
To promote the advancement of the art of opera for the public benefit through:

- 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.

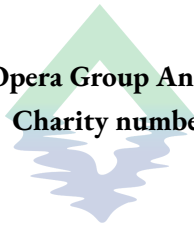
We would particularly like to thank the many people in the extended Cumbria Opera Group ‘Family’: the members of our Friends’ Circles, our supporters and event attendees, and the many people involved in the organisation of the Cumbria Opera Festival 2023.

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.

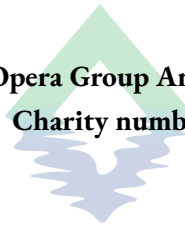
Independent Examiner

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
Cash funds this year end	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