

Charity number: 1185087

New Sussex Opera

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 28 February 2023

New Sussex Opera
Contents Page
For the year ended 28 February 2023

Report of the Trustees	1 to 2
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 to 9

**New Sussex Opera
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 28 February 2023**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 28 February 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the CIO are to encourage, advance, develop and maintain public education in, appreciation of and involvement in operatic arts and the performing arts by promoting a series of public performances, exhibitions and other cultural events.

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Volunteers

In addition to the Trustees listed below, a number of volunteers assist with such activities as scenery painting and repair, transporting of scenery, props and other equipment to performance venues and stage management issues. In addition the chorus in each production consists entirely of volunteers.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Significant activities

The CIO presented tours of two operas and also a series of concerts.

The first was Handel's *Acis and Galatea* - NSO's first Handel and also the first to use an orchestra with period instruments. During May and June 2022 there were staged performances in Eastbourne, Lewes and Hove.

The second was a comic opera by Jacques Offenbach not performed in the UK for over 140 years - *Belle Lurette*, written at the same time as *The Tales of Hoffmann*, just before Offenbach died. This was enthusiastically received by audiences and critics alike. Musically, *Belle Lurette* is superb NSO's production more than does Offenbach justice - and it is great fun - Operetta Research Center. Sadly audiences were considerably smaller than in recent years, partly because numbers have not fully recovered post Covid, but also because of the cost of living crisis including soaring fuel costs. Consequently income did not match expenditure, and after the run ended there was a fund raising appeal to members and supporters which made it possible to pay all outstanding invoices.

The concerts, with the title *Passion at the Opera*, were held in Lewes, Petworth and Pevensey. They were held in comparatively small venues, but produced a small financial surplus.

Plans were made for another in-house production in June 2023 - a reduced scale version of Gounod's *Faust*, with performances in Eastbourne, Lewes, Hove and a new venue for NSO in Chichester. Further ahead, a production is planned for Spring 2024, a tour visiting Eastbourne, Lewes, Hove, London and, for the first time, Winchester. The work is likely to be *The Dragon of Wantley* by Lampe, a send-up of opera seria and Handel.

Once again it was not possible to continue the Outreach programme of workshops, but it is hoped to resume these in the future when it becomes easier to take such workshops into local schools.

New Sussex Opera is a member of Brighton and Hove Arts Council and also a founder member of Opera UK.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed every year through election at the AGM. During the period covered by this report they met 3 times, with a sub-group convening on another occasion specifically to discuss production matters.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity	New Sussex Opera
Charity registration number	1185087
Principal address	5 De Warrenne Road Lewes East Sussex BN7 1BP

**New Sussex Opera
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 28 February 2023**

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Timothy Locke
David James
Ruth Loughton
Frances Mortimer
Richard Pulham

Independent examiners

Caroline Clarke ACA
99 Western Road
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1RS

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by

.....
David James

New Sussex Opera
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 28 February 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 28 February 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiners statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

.....
Caroline Clarke ACA
99 Western Road
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1RS

New Sussex Opera
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 28 February 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2022 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2	26,768	19,545
Charitable activities	3	26,595	28,390
Other income		21,457	-
Total		74,820	47,935
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4/5	(67,497)	(60,532)
Total		(67,497)	(60,532)
Net income/expenditure		7,323	(12,597)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,818	15,415
Total funds carried forward		10,141	2,818

New Sussex Opera
Statement of Financial Position
As at 28 February 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	16,375	896
Cash at bank and in hand		1,766	4,352
		18,141	5,248
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(8,000)	(2,430)
Net current assets		10,141	2,818
Total assets less current liabilities		10,141	2,818
Net assets		10,141	2,818
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income funds	11	10,141	2,818
Total funds		10,141	2,818

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

David James
Trustee

New Sussex Opera
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 28 February 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

New Sussex Opera meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in SORP FRS 102 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

Funds

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the board of trustees to carefully monitor the application of those funds in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them.

There is no formal policy of transfer between funds or on the allocation of funds to designated funds, other than that described above

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the company, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

New Sussex Opera
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 28 February 2023

2. Income from donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Donations received	26,768	18,695
Subscriptions received	-	850
	26,768	19,545

3. Income from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
<i>Operatic performances</i>		
Tickets and performances	24,612	22,217
Sundry sales	1,983	6,173
	26,595	28,390
	26,595	28,390

4. Costs of charitable activities by fund type

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Operatic performances	64,869	58,513
Support costs	2,628	2,019
	67,497	60,532

5. Costs of charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Operatic performances	64,869	2,628	67,497	60,532

New Sussex Opera
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 28 February 2023

6. Analysis of support costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Operatic performances		
Management	2,268	1,419
Governance costs	360	600
	2,628	2,019

7. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accountancy fees	360	600

9. Comparative for the Statement of Financial Activities

The comparative year values on the Statement of Financial Activities are for unrestricted funds.

10. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	16,375	896
	16,375	896

11. Movement in funds

Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 01/03/2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 28/02/2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General	2,818	74,820	(67,497)	10,141
	2,818	74,820	(67,497)	10,141

New Sussex Opera
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 28 February 2023

Unrestricted Funds - Previous year

	Balance at 01/03/2021 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Balance at 28/02/2022 £
<i>General</i>				
General	15,415	47,935	(60,532)	2,818
	15,415	47,935	(60,532)	2,818

Purpose of unrestricted Funds

General

General funds are held for the general purposes of the charity.

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Net current assets / (liabilities) £	Net Assets £
Unrestricted funds		
<i>General</i>		
General	10,141	10,141
	10,141	10,141

Previous year

	Net current assets / (liabilities) £	Net Assets £
Unrestricted funds		
<i>General</i>		
General	2,818	2,818
	2,818	2,818