



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month 08	Year 2022		Day 31	Month 07	Year 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Oxford Operatic Society

Other names charity is known by

OXOPS

Registered charity number (if any)

1187711

Charity's principal address

Courtfield House

Milton

Oxfordshire

Postcode

OX14 4EU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Nicola Jones	Chair		
2	Marilyn Moore	Secretary		
3	Molly Grace	Treasurer		
4	Benjamin Ashton	Development Officer		
5	Bella Brown	Social Secretary		
6	Jessica Sexon	Marketing Officer		
7	Karen Mead	Membership Secretary		
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the membership

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objective of the Society is to educate the public in the musical and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Society produces two items of opera, operetta or musical theatre each year in Oxford.

This provides public benefit in a number of ways:

- It gives local performers the opportunity to participate in shows in a professional theatre.
- It gives audiences the chance to see Operas and Musicals of a high standard at a lower cost than would be possible with a professional cast.
- We are able to keep alive shows that would not be considered economically viable by professional companies and to give audiences a chance to see shows that they would not otherwise be able to see.

In order to help those who have difficulty traveling to the theatre we organise theatre packages, which include coach transport from many villages around Oxfordshire. This option is extremely popular, particularly with older audience members who find it difficult to travel into Oxford for the evening.

We maintain links with local youth theatre companies thus encouraging the participation of younger members in opera, operetta and musicals.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

On occasion we offer small grants to individual members for attending theatre skills summer schools or other training opportunities. The award of such grants is decided by the committee.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

**Summary of
the main
achievements
of the charity
during the year**

Treasurer's Report

In the 2022-2023 financial year, OXOPS transported audiences to Argentina with our winter production of *Evita* at the Oxford Playhouse, and to a kingdom far, far away in our summer concert at the Old Fire Station, *On the Steps of the Palace*. We also began planning our trip to London in *Oliver!* for the 2023-2024 season.

I am happy to say that theatregoers seemed to have an appetite for travelling along with us! Here is how our shows and other activities performed in 2022-2023:

Evita

Income: £ 82,891

Outgoing: £ 77,456

Profit/loss: £ 5,435 profit

On the Steps of the Palace (OFS Concert)

Income: £ 4,185

Outgoing: £ 6,368

Profit/loss: £ 2,309 loss

Oliver!

Outgoing: £ 2,025 (score hire/license, set hire)

Operations

Income: £25,808 (Membership, Patrons, Gift Aid, other donations, interest)

Outgoing: £2,502 (insurance, Zoom licence, NODA membership, setting up costume storage, account fees)

Profit/loss: £23,307 profit

Meaning the financial year ended **UP** £27,120. This incredibly strong performance offsets the losses we experienced last year, which ended **DOWN** £15,511 (the 2021-2022 FY was a year where audiences still appeared reluctant to come back to theatres).

Both 2022-2023 shows were wins for the society. *Evita* sold out nearly every performance; we sold 95% of available tickets. This is a huge accomplishment on the part of the creative team, the publicity team, and the cast. *On the Steps* was another triumph, selling out all shows. Given the small size of the venue, even a sellout run could not recoup all expenses associated with the production, but this was expected from the start. Huge thanks to the production teams of both *Evita* and *On the Steps* for working with the Committee to make sure we stayed within budget whilst putting on high-quality productions.

Membership fees continue to be vital for the financial stability of the Society (including giving us the financial cushion to provide unique opportunities like the OFS Concert). £20,380 was brought in by fees alone, with £5,000 on top from Gift Aid – for which a massive thank you has to go to Martyn Thomas for his hard work on this every year. A huge thank you to our generous patrons, who supported us to the tune of £2,185 this year. Thanks also to Chris Thiele for his independent examination of the accounts and to Guy Grimsley for help in the production and management of these accounts. Give As You Live and other charitable donations continue to be a source of free money (£710 this financial year).

2022-2023 stands in stark contrast to the year before. There was clearly a desire to return to the theatre, with audiences coming out in force and a large intake of new members to the society; this interest has helped replenish our coffers to a stronger position than we were pre-pandemic. We ended 2023-2023 with over £110k in the bank, and we are well-placed to produce *Oliver!* and to consider exciting programming opportunities beyond.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The society aims to keep the cost of 50-100% of a production in reserve. Some shows are naturally more expensive and financially risky than others and therefore we plan shows 1-2 years ahead to ensure we keep within these boundaries. Also, as settlement is made post show, and expenses incurred before, we need to ensure that we have the reserves in place to deal with cash flow.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our primary sources of funds are ticket sales, membership fees, gift aid and patrons contributions.

Section F Other optional information



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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Molly Grace	Marilyn Moore
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Treasurer	Secretary
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Date

28/06/2024	05/05/2024
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Oxford Operatic Society
Statement of Financial Position
 Year 2022/23



	2022 / 2023 Balance	2021 / 2022 Balance
FIXED ASSETS		
Re-usable set parts	0	0
	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS		
CAF Gold	94,096	65,315
CAF Cash	3,000	3,000
Barclays	1,102	1,062
PayPal	0	0
Shawbrook	10,172	10,107
Cash & Cash Equivalents	108,370	79,584
Prepayments	2,025	1,358
Debtors	40	1,091
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	110,435	82,033
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CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accruals	852	1,813
Deferred Revenue	7,418	5,175
Uncleared Cheques	0	0
	8,270	6,988
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,270	6,988
Reserves		
Opening Balance	75,044	90,456
Profit / (Loss) for the Year	27,120	-15,411
	102,165	75,044
TOTAL LIABILITIES & RESERVES	110,434	82,032



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Oxford Operatic Society

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1187711

Set out on pages

2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust'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
examiner's statement

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

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

Signed:

Date:

19/12/2023

Name:

Chris Thiele

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

38 Campion Way, Witney, OX28 1ES

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

As for all amateur theatre groups performing in professional theatres, it remains challenging to break even on a production. Without significant cash reserves the society remains a poor selling show or two away from financial difficulty.

A positive year financially saw a £27k profit generated boosting the bank balance.

As in prior years the committee will need to continue to monitor the cash reserves closely for the foreseeable future.