

BML Annual Report

8 August 2024

On 17 July, we finished our 2023-24 programme of four workshops, each meeting for 34 sessions, with 88 writers in the four groups. This was our fifteenth year. Once again, sessions were held in rented space at the Central YMCA at 111 Great Russell Street, WC1. We have already auditioned for next year's new cohort (following two 'Taster' sessions in the spring) that should be a bit larger; and that will begin sessions in mid-September, running through July 2025.

We also scheduled special events and services to enhance the programme. We have an extensive reference library, which is housed in a local lockup as we have no permanent office space. This we opened to the participants on 11 May to borrow books, and again on 20 July and then again once more at the end of September (the space has no electricity and no heating, so is impractical during the winter months). We held an industry showcase for work from the Advanced group on 24/25 October at the prestigious Crazy Coqs cabaret in Piccadilly (with the space donated by their management); and internal showcases for work by the Second Year group during July to share their work with the other members of the programme at the same venue. As a windup to the year, on 18 July, we held an online Zoom Q&A with LA songwriters Amanda McBroom (who is one of our Patrons) and Michele Brourman, a rare female team of successful writers who have been working together for fifty years, and this was especially valuable and motivating for our female members. We also held mixer social events for all the members to mix with each other (and, hopefully, plant the seeds for future collaborations) before sessions began last summer, and at Christmas with another planned for the coming September before we begin our autumn term.

The Board has spent the year recruiting for a new chair, and this will come to fruition before the next board meeting in October.

The programme produces impressive results while run on our very modest resources. *Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)* by Jim Barne and Kit Buchan played to capacity audiences at the Kiln and has now transferred to the Criterion Theatre: our first West End transfer! *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* by Darren Clark will also come into the West End this autumn after a repeat successful run at Southwark Playhouse. Lyricist Richy Hughes is in the midst of his third collaboration for West End producer Kenny Wax. And *In Clay*, with book and lyrics by Rebecca Simmonds, has been selected for the prestigious NAMT Festival in New York this autumn. Other members have individually applied for and received small ACE grants to further develop their work, as well as scheduling Edinburgh Festival slots to begin next week.

It has been a challenging year, as it has been for most charities. We try to support the diversity of all the groups, some of whom also have various neurodiversity. Many of them are thriving, but the after the effects of COVID are still stark, and we had 3-4 dropouts last year citing mental health challenges. We do our best to support all.



30 September 2024

Signed by Wendy E Gill on behalf of the Board of Trustees



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
BooksMusicLyrics

No (if any)
1197930

Receipts and payments accounts

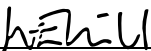
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For the period from	Period start date 01/08/2023	To	Period end date 31/07/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
Grants and Donations	25,750	6,485	-	32,235	53,727
Fees	32,470	-	-	32,470	28,989
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	58,220	6,485	-	64,705	82,716
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	58,220	6,485	-	64,705	82,716
A3 Payments					
Course payments	25,836	3,500	-	29,336	35,253
Workshops/auditions, etc.	6,268	-	-	6,268	1,550
Administration and other	27,258	-	-	27,258	24,013
Arts Council England Program	-	4,084	-	4,084	25,770
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	59,362	7,584	-	66,946	86,586
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	59,362	7,584	-	66,946	86,586
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,142	- 1,099	-	- 2,241	- 3,870
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	30,802	1,099	-	31,901	35,771
Cash funds this year end	29,660	-	-	29,660	31,901

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Metrobank	29,660		-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	29,660	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Deferred income - fees 2024-2025	General	1,050	01 August 2024
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Wendy E Gill	30.09.2024	

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Independent Examiners Report on the Accounts

Report to the Trustees of Book Music & Lyric (Charity no. 1197930)
On the account for the year ended 31 July 2024

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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 accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

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: 17 September 2024

Name: Jarka Ronchetti ACCA