

TRUSTEES REPORT for YIDDISH CAFÉ TRUST for the PERIOD 15th
August 2022 to 31st March 2023

Charity Number: 1200053.

INTRODUCTION:

This report marks the first period of the operation of the charity. However, this does not provide a simple picture of the Trust's financial operation, as the main activity is the Annual Sof-Vokh (week-end) which takes place in early summer. This reporting period therefore is a partial year only, and picks up some late expenditure from the 2022 Sof-Vokh, and the main part of ticket sales for the 2023 Sof-Vokh. At some stage we intend to move the reporting dates to better match the activity cycle.

AIM of the YIDDISH CAFÉ TRUST:

The Trust exists solely in the UK for the public benefit, to advance the education of the public in the subject of the Yiddish language and its associated history, culture and tradition in the fields of literature, poetry, theatre, art and music, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of opportunities for Yiddish speakers of all abilities and those who wish to learn Yiddish to practice and hone their skills, to creatively engage with the Yiddish language and to speak, listen and perform publicly in that language.

ACTIVITIES

It is currently a small organisation with 2 main activities:

The first is an Annual Yiddish Sof-Vokh – a residential weekend where only Yiddish is spoken. This accounts for almost all the income and expenditure of the organisation. We receive some money in donations mostly through the website and booking processes, and this is earmarked for the provision of bursaries to promote access, especially for under 25s. We are delighted to have been successful in obtaining some grant funding for the upcoming Sof-Vokh which will be spent on bursaries and gratuities to support access for children and young adults. The 2022 Sof-Vokh was sold out and hugely successful, and we look forward to an equal success in 2023.

The second is the YOMC (Yiddish Open Mic Café) which provides opportunities for people to practice their use of Yiddish before a supportive audience, through short performances of reading poems or prose in Yiddish, or enacting a brief drama, or singing Yiddish songs.

This started as an activity in various locations in London, but is now on-line mostly with significant international participation. Plans are developing for further collaborations with the charity JW3 in London to run hybrid in-person/on-line events about 3 times a year. Currently there is no income or expenditure involved in the YOMC other than using the website supported by the Sof-Vokh.

STRUCTURE:

The Trust is set up as a CIO, and has nine Trustees who are responsible for its management. At this point, we still have the original list of Trustees, and a named Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. They meet on-line exclusively, being located widely across the country, and are all actively involved in the discussions to manage the Trust. There are separate Committees managing the Sof-Vokh and the YOMC including most of the Trustees on a regular basis. We are open to further suggestions of Trustees.

FINANCE:

The Sof-Vokh Bookings process is managed each year by a Trustee working closely with the Treasurer. Ticket transactions are processed through Ticket Tailor, with payments going through PayPal and thence to the Charity's Bank Account. As a result, all financial transactions have a simple trail, and at the same time personal data is kept secure within these systems.

The Annual turnover is under £25,000 per year. We aim to operate at cost, except that we build in a contingency factor to either absorb any unexpected expenses or allow us to slowly grow our reserves. We aim to have sufficient reserves to prevent any financial risk – as we have no employees or physical assets, the main risk is of any cancellations or other booking problems that are not covered in our arrangements with the venue. Our current reserve target is a quarter of the Hotel costs for the Sof-Vokh.

Following the 2023 Sof-Vokh which we expect to sell out, we are on track for a small increase in reserves.

PUBLIC BENEFIT:

The YOMC continues to provide a real opportunity for participation whether as performer or audience. Attendance numbers are reasonable at around 30 people though are slightly down on the peak. The growth

during lock-down in international input has been fantastic, and our next challenge is to see how far we can rebuild some face-to face operation again in the UK. We have good links with Yiddish teachers in this country to encourage participation. We are also partnering a few times a year with the charity JW3 (the largest Jewish Community Centre in the UK) to reach a wider London Jewish audience. To date the direct engagement at JW3 has been a little disappointing, though its reach is greater due to people watching on line.

For the 2023 Sof- Vokh, we are delighted to have obtained good grants enabling us to encourage participation younger people and families, and hope to provide about 10 bursaries out of the approximately 60 places. We have planned a programme of sessions at the Sof-Vokh to support the attendance of families with children.

Through both activities we explore Yiddish language in the context of Jewish culture and history, and include music dance poetry and song where possible, thus building on and sharing cultural knowledge and awareness.

THE FUTURE

We hope to gradually increase the range of activities that come under our umbrella, but this is a slow, organic process. In particular, there are plans for the development of Yiddish Theatre events in 2023/24

CONCLUSION

2022/3 has been a successful year for the Trust. We grow in confidence and in financial stability. We look forward to 2023/4.

Steve Ogin (Chair)



Phil Tomlinson (Treasurer)





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	15th August 2022		31st March 2023

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		2,506	-	2,506	-
misc	50	-	-	50	-
ticket sales	17,918	-	-	17,918	-
donations		733	-	733	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,968	3,239	-	21,207	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,968	3,239	-	21,207	-
A3 Payments					
other payments	909	-	-	909	-
deposit for 2023	4,000	-	-	4,000	-
fees	587	-	-	587	-
refunds	1,069	-	-	1,069	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	6,565	-	-	6,565	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,565	-	-	6,565	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	11,403	3,239	-	14,642	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,563	1,093	-	5,656	-
Cash funds this year end	15,966	4,332	-	20,298	-

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	Bank and PayPal accounts	15,996	4,332	-
			-	-

	-	-	-
Total cash funds	15,966	4,332	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

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)
Personal Loans to be repaid		3593	01 August 2023
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Stephen Ogin</i>	Prof Stephen Ogin	8/1/24
<i>Mr Philip Tomlinson</i>	Mr Philip Tomlinson	14/1/24

