

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2024
for
The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Corke Accountancy Services
2 Upton Road
Claughton
Wirral
CH41 0DF

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for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

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The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2024. 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 Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects of the Trust are for the promotion or furtherance of education in, and knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the arts of, opera, ballet, mime, drama, music and singing.

Significant activities

The Trust stages shows of a near-professional standard. A concert party performs for community groups and concerts are performed for other charities.

Members receive training in stagecraft and singing and children are introduced to theatre performance.

The hall is made available for music and theatre examinations.

Public benefit

The Trust is committed to enabling as many people as possible to participate in its activities either through involvement in its productions or as its audiences.

Since the Society was formed, they've produced over 200 shows and concerts which have been enjoyed by the local community. In maintaining high standards of production, the Society, its performing members and creative teams have won multiple awards, including those issued by the National Operatic and Dramatic Association.

Throughout this period, members of all ages have benefitted from expert training in stagecraft and singing. It is well documented that taking part in groups such as choirs and dramatic societies improves participants' physical and mental well-being.

The Society engages with both local and national creative talent to ensure that the members and audience benefit from the involvement of professional artistic directors, musical directors and technical crew. Wider benefits to the local community are achieved through the public deriving much pleasure from the Trust's performances - which they're able to attend at professional venues at a far more accessible cost compared to shows produced by commercial entities.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Productions within the financial year were The Sound of Music at the Liverpool Empire Theatre and The Sound of Christmas Movies at St George's Hall.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The financial transactions of the Trust continue to run satisfactorily and the position of the Trust is strong and well placed to meet its objectives. Throughout the year when planning its activities, the Trust takes into consideration the capital reserves required to fulfil its obligations and to mitigate risk from external factors. Some of the Society's larger productions can incur costs of over £180,000, many of which need to be met before ticket income is received.

We made a net loss this year of £30,616.

Total income from members' subscriptions was £12,84 - a much-needed contribution towards the ongoing running costs and improvement costs for our headquarters and facilities.

Our net current assets (being the total amount held in our current and savings accounts, taking into consideration any amounts due to us or owed by us) were £175,830 at 31st May this year,

Notable Expenditure

We've had another year of extensive refurbishment of our headquarters which has incurred some significant expenditure:

" Chilled water dispenser in the main hall

" Expenditure on second rehearsal space - including architect's fees and a proportion of the mezzanine cost which fell in to this financial year. Further costs will be included in the next financial year

" Installation of LED lighting in the main hall

" A full electrical inspection of the premises, with suggestions for remedial work which have since been completed

" A new fire detection system installed throughout the premises

" New portable staging to be used in the hall

" Significant amounts of set pieces to be used for upcoming shows

" A large projection screen, as used for The Sound of Music

" A new sewing machine and Cricut machine

" 3 Clearsonic acoustic drum screens

FUTURE PLANS

Our future planned productions of Annie and Let The People Sing: Les Misérables Anniversary Performance should prove to be successful financially and allow us to retain the cash buffer we require for producing large-scale Liverpool Empire shows.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Trust is governed by its General Council who are voted in by a majority at each AGM - generally consisting of 11 trustees and up to 4 co-opted members. These roles include a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Other aspects of the day-to-day running of the charity are delegated to sub-committees who report back to the General Council at their monthly meetings. These include Fundraising, Production, Building and a Social Committee. Each sub-committee includes at least one trustee.

The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

259306

Principal address

Trustees

K Blackwell
C Simmons
M Hoile
M Furness
L Furness
L Steventon
D McAllister
I Beattie
K Hoile
R Rose

Independent Examiner

Corke Accountancy Services
2 Upton Road
Claughton
Wirral
CH41 0DF

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 May 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the 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.

R Corke

Rachel Corke FCA

Corke Accountancy Services
2 Upton Road
Claughton
Wirral
CH41 0DF

27 March 2025

The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.5.24 Total funds £	31.5.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		-	-	-	11,334
Charitable activities					
Members subscriptions and donations		12,848	-	12,848	16,363
Other trading activities	2	233,855	-	233,855	418,922
Investment income	3	418	-	418	283
Total		<u>247,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>247,121</u>	<u>446,902</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		2,456	-	2,456	7,925
Charitable activities					
Theatre Production		<u>273,972</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>275,281</u>	<u>344,000</u>
Total		<u>276,428</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>277,737</u>	<u>351,925</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(29,307)	(1,309)	(30,616)	94,977
Transfers between funds	10	<u>1,260</u>	<u>(1,260)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(28,047)	(2,569)	(30,616)	94,977
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		205,343	10,000	215,343	120,366
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>177,296</u></u>	<u><u>7,431</u></u>	<u><u>184,727</u></u>	<u><u>215,343</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Balance Sheet

31 May 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.5.24 Total funds £	31.5.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	8,897	-	8,897	1,865
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	7	30	-	30	30
Debtors	8	45,401	-	45,401	30,723
Cash at bank and in hand		161,019	7,431	168,450	218,041
		<u>206,450</u>	<u>7,431</u>	<u>213,881</u>	<u>248,794</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(38,051)	-	(38,051)	(35,316)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>168,399</u>	<u>7,431</u>	<u>175,830</u>	<u>213,478</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>177,296</u>	<u>7,431</u>	<u>184,727</u>	<u>215,343</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>177,296</u>	<u>7,431</u>	<u>184,727</u>	<u>215,343</u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				177,296	205,343
Restricted funds: Vocal Coaching				<u>7,431</u>	<u>10,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>184,727</u>	<u>215,343</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared 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' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.5.24	31.5.23
	£	£
Fundraising events	7,505	8,853
Theatre ticket sales	212,519	392,456
Programmes and merchandise	7,204	13,861
Bar sales	6,627	3,752
	<u>233,855</u>	<u>418,922</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.5.24	31.5.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>418</u>	<u>283</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 May 2024 nor for the year ended 31 May 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 May 2024 nor for the year ended 31 May 2023.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,334	10,000	11,334
Charitable activities			
Members subscriptions and donations	16,363	-	16,363
Other trading activities	418,922	-	418,922
Investment income	<u>283</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>283</u>
Total	<u>436,902</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>446,902</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	7,925	-	7,925

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Theatre Production	344,000	-	344,000
Total	351,925	-	351,925
NET INCOME	84,977	10,000	94,977
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	120,366	-	120,366
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	205,343	10,000	215,343

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 June 2023	34,136
Additions	7,498
At 31 May 2024	41,634
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 June 2023	32,271
Charge for year	466
At 31 May 2024	32,737
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 May 2024	8,897
At 31 May 2023	1,865

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

7. STOCKS

	31.5.24	31.5.23
	£	£
Stocks	30	30
	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.5.24	31.5.23
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	45,401	30,723
	<u>45,401</u>	<u>30,723</u>

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.5.24	31.5.23
	£	£
Other creditors	38,051	35,316
	<u>38,051</u>	<u>35,316</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.6.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.5.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	205,343	(29,307)	1,260	177,296
Restricted funds				
Vocal Coaching	10,000	(1,309)	(1,260)	7,431
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>215,343</u>	<u>(30,616)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>184,727</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	247,121	(276,428)	(29,307)
Restricted funds			
Vocal Coaching	-	(1,309)	(1,309)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>247,121</u>	<u>(277,737)</u>	<u>(30,616)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.6.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.5.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	120,366	84,977	205,343
Restricted funds			
Vocal Coaching	-	10,000	10,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>120,366</u>	<u>94,977</u>	<u>215,343</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	436,902	(351,925)	84,977
Restricted funds			
Vocal Coaching	10,000	-	10,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>446,902</u>	<u>(351,925)</u>	<u>94,977</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.6.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.5.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	120,366	55,670	1,260	177,296
Restricted funds				
Vocal Coaching	-	8,691	(1,260)	7,431
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>120,366</u>	<u>64,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>184,727</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	684,023	(628,353)	55,670
Restricted funds			
Vocal Coaching	10,000	(1,309)	8,691
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>694,023</u>	<u>(629,662)</u>	<u>64,361</u>

11. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

The building used by the charity is leased and 42 months notice is required to terminate the lease .

This equates to a financial obligation of £12,341.

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 May 2024.

The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	31.5.24 £	31.5.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	-	11,334
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	7,505	8,853
Theatre ticket sales	212,519	392,456
Programmes and merchandise	7,204	13,861
Bar sales	6,627	3,752
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	233,855	418,922
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	418	283
Charitable activities		
Members' subscriptions and show contributions	12,848	16,363
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources	247,121	446,902
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Fundraising costs	2,456	7,925
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	30	30
Closing stock	(30)	(30)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-
Charitable activities		
Insurance	1,351	1,205
Advertising	12,148	19,205
Theatre and production costs	201,750	295,687
Vocal coaching	1,309	1,260
Cost of bar sales	5,386	2,264
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	221,944	319,621
Support costs		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

The Birkenhead Operatic Society Trust

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	31.5.24 £	31.5.23 £
Support costs		
Management		
Other operating leases	3,526	3,526
Rates and water	1,845	2,447
Trustee's insurance	389	285
Light and heat	12,468	4,656
Telephone	745	792
Postage and stationery	356	374
Sundries	-	486
NODA subscription	-	286
Repairs and maintenance	31,929	9,758
Fixtures and fittings	466	384
	<hr/> 51,724	<hr/> 22,994
Finance		
Bank charges	605	355
Human resources		
Software licences	106	58
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	902	972
	<hr/> 277,737	<hr/> 351,925
Total resources expended		
Net (expenditure)/income	<hr/> (30,616) <hr/>	<hr/> 94,977 <hr/>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements