



The Lancastrian Theatre Organ Trust

Charity Number; 261487

Annual Report and Accounts For the year ending July 31st 2023

and

Notice of the Annual General Meeting
To take place on Saturday 21st October at
13.00 hrs at the
Theatre Organ Heritage Centre.
Alexandra Road, Peel Green,
Salford. M30 7HJ

There will be a concert after the AGM starting at 14.30 played by Declan Poole.

Timetable for the day.

Set up and rehearsal	09.30 ~12.00
Annual General Meeting	
Doors open <u>for Members</u>	12.00
Members who need concert tickets	£8.00
AGM	13.00 ~ 13.30
Opportunity for general discussion	13.30 ~ 13.40
Post meeting Intermission	
Doors open <u>for the public</u>	13.45
Persons joining for the concert tickets	£8.00
Tea / coffee / hot and cold light refreshments	13.30 ~ 14.30
Afternoon concert by Declan Poole	14.30
Intermission (approximately)	15.15 ~ 15.30
Second half (approximately)	15.30 ~ 16.15
Theatre closes	16.45

Agenda

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Confirmation of the minutes of the 2022 AGM
All Members have received a copy of these by post with VOX .
- 3 Annual Report for the year ending 31st July 2023
- 3.1 Trustees Report

The most significant event during the year was the death of our President, Frank Read. He died one day after his 100th birthday. He had a “good innings” which was well deserved by a real gentleman. Fortunately a group of Trustees were able to meet him on his birthday and make a presentation to him.

Frank was associated with the Trust from its beginnings and he and his late wife, Marion, played an enormous part in the development and progress of the Trust both as Chairman and then as President. They were a lovely couple who did so much to promote the Trust as a very professional but welcoming organisation to experts and novices alike.

Last year we reported the water damage caused to the Stockport Wurlitzer by a severe roof leak. After much effort the organ was restored to playing standard but it continues to suffer from the occasional cipher despite the extensive rebuild of one of the chests.

Disappointingly, the audience levels in the subsequent concerts have not recovered to pre-Covid level. It is clear from market trends that Sunday is now a shopping day and also public transport is not good on a Sunday. The decision to move some of the Sunday concerts to Saturday afternoons started with our first one timed to accommodate the Northern District Convention of The Cinema Organ Society in August 2022 with Richard Hills who presented a superb programme on the Stockport Wurlitzer. We had the famous Mark Herman in the audience but unfortunately time didn't allow him to sample our organ.

The next concert was on November 5th when most people were organising bonfire night events so it was a less than useful date. Unfortunately it is Stockport who set which dates are available. The viability of these concerts is of some concern and we appeal to all of our Members to support and publicise these. It really is a "use it or lose it" situation.

At our Heritage Centre and Museum in Peel Green, the weekly concerts in our theatre have continued with steady audience numbers but also disappointingly these are not back to pre-covid levels. We have, like all of you, been hit very hard by the rising cost of utilities and some of the projected costs of gas and electricity have given us many grey hairs! Even the technical team have reduced the number of days they spend at the theatre in order to keep the power costs down, the two organ blowers consume around 10kW of energy all the time that they are running.

We are fortunate that we have "secondary spend" activities in the shop and buffet and the Trustees would like to thank the volunteers who work so hard to keep these extra sources of revenue operating.

The monthly coffee mornings have continued, sometimes with only half a dozen visitors, sometimes with a few more but these extra uses of the Theatre are important to keep the daily overhead down but they must be supported to achieve this.

During the year, the Trustees appealed to the membership by letter to see if we have any retired marketing or other like persons to help share our load and to develop our business. Unfortunately the result was a big and very disappointing zero.

We are still seeking to expand the number of active Trustees but the Charity Commission Regulations define that we have to carry out a "gap analysis" and find and fill the gaps in our expertise.

Although there have been no applications to become a Trustee this year we do have the power to co-opt persons who can offer the necessary expertise to plug our gaps, so we don't have to wait for an AGM to do this. One vital attribute these days is that any trustee must be able to communicate electronically because most of our meetings and business is carried out electronically, meetings being held using Skype or similar media. Also most marketing is web or social media based.

Succession management is, therefore, of great concern to us as we age. The increase in pension age has not helped in this respect. We have other initiatives under discussion at the moment as we must start passing on our skills to younger people and by that I mean people even in their 60's.

Thank you all for your continued support, please bring a friend (or three) !!!.

3.2 Trustees

The Trustees serving at the beginning of this report period were ;

Chairman	Mr. W. Baker
Secretary & Stage manager	Mr. R. H. Whalley
Treasurer	Mr. D. Alldred
P.G Technical	Mr. C. Brown
S.T.H.Technical	Mr. J. Loud
Quartermaster	Mr. V. Mathews
Marketing	Mr. G. Trinder

3.3 Risk Management statement

The trustees maintain a continual overview of the potential risks which could affect the Trust in future years and are satisfied that there are sufficient reserve funds for the immediate circumstances.

3.4 Statement of Financial activities for the year ended July 31st 2023

The statement below shows that the Trust has benefited for some most welcome donations over the past year and we must thank the donors. As you can see these represent a large part of our income for the year. Also on many of the donations and bequests we are able to collect "Gift Aid" from HMRC .

Please consider us when considering donations or bequests.

Our membership numbers have unfortunately also fallen, but the extent is not completely known because despite trying to contact members, not all reply.

The next table shows the Trusts income and expenditure for the past year and the following one illustrates the specific information for the Heritage Centre.

The last table, the balance sheet, shows our assets and how they are distributed.

Income		Expenditure	
Heritage Centre Theatre	23,418	Heritage Centre Theatre	25,755
Membership Subscriptions	2,255	Membership Expenses	33
Gift Aid	529	VOX	1,559
Concert income	1,192	Concert costs	820
SMBC concert income	875	SMBC concert expenditure	700
Sales stall income	249	Sales stall purchases	57
Internet sales	74	Internet sales postage	5
Sale of equipment	0	AGM costs	317
Insurance claim	0	General admin	0
Salford business support	0	Postage	255
Donations	6,825	Printing / stationary	94
		Advertising	605
		STH Organ maintenance	1,871
		PRS Stockport	36
		Sundry expenses	231
		Website	216
		Data Reg	35
		HLF expenditure balance	2,954
Total income	35,417	Total Expenditure	35,543
		Surplus / loss	-126
			35,417

Heritage Centre Theatre income and expenditure ;

Income		Expenditure	
Volunteer admission	709	Organists fees	7,800
General admission	12,614	Video organist	0
Raffle sales	1,889	Raffle purchases	278
Refreshments sales	5,346	Christmas party costs	479
Room hire (election)	550	Building maintenance	3,808
Group visit	150	Electrical repairs	786
Private practice	210	Advertising	35
Wurlitzer club	0	Catering purchases	764
Vintage sales	117	Cleaners	784
General sales	382	Consumables	43
Donation pipe	321	Electricity	2,813
Gift aid	70	Gas	1,844
Christmas party tickets	600	Insurance	3,744
Christmas party raffle	137	Organ tuning / repairs	300
Coffee mornings	323	Stationary / postage	9
		PRS/ PPL	318
		Rates to Salford	271
		Operating Licenses	70
		Water	1,097
		BT broadband	459
		Christmas hamper	53
Total income	23,418	Total expenditure	25,755
		Surplus / loss	-2,337
			23,418

3.5 Balance sheet as at July 31st 2023

Fixed Assets	£	£	Note
Wurlitzer organ Stockport Town Hall	258,449		
Vintage record and book collection	100		
LTOT Heritage centre, brought forward	152,720		
Refurbishment costs this year	1,596		1
Wurlitzer organ	15,550		
Compton organ	42,471		
AV equipment at cost	7,760		
CCTV at cost	720		
Provision for depreciation	0		
		479,366	
Current Assets			
Business current accounts	33,523		
Cash floats	370		
Debtor ~ Stockport MBC	0		
Sundry debtors	0		
Prepaid PRS licence	0		
Sales stall stock	2,365		
		36,258	
Current liabilities			
Sundry creditors	-114	-114	
Total assets		515,510	
Represented by			
Funds brought forward	516,026		
Disposal of equipment	0		
Loss on re-valuation of asset	-390		
Income current year	-126		
		515,510	

Note 1	<p>Refurbishment includes; Kitchen (2015/16) estimated at £16,000 recovered over 10 years. This years contribution £1596 Boiler (2017) £1950 recovered over 5 years ~ now written down</p>
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The income / expenditure and balance sheet have been independently examined by Peter A. Ratcliffe AMRSPH, Independent Examiner.

3.6 Approval

This report has been approved by the Trustees, minuted, and signed on their behalf by :

Ronald H. Whalley C.Eng., FIET., MIRSE
Trustee and Secretary.

On 27th September 2023



4 Appointment of Trustees

Under article 17.7 Trustees retire after 2 years service but are eligible for re-election. The number of Trustees must be between 5 and 9.

We have recently had retirements from David Alldred and Gary Trinder and the Trustees thank these gentlemen for the hard work and time which they have given to the Trust over the past years.

The Trustee elected 2 years ago was Mr. C. Brown who, therefore, retires by rotation together with Mr. J. Loud. Both are eligible, and are willing to stand, for re-election.

There have been no expressions of interest from other Members (persons who have been Members for 3 years are eligible) in becoming Trustees and therefore the proposition to the meeting from the Trustees is that Mr. C. Brown be re-appointed as a Trustee.

5 Appointment of President, Vice, President, Patron and Independent examiner of accounts.

5.1 President, Vice presidents and Patron

At the moment there are no names in the frame for the post of President or Patron so the Trustees propose that the existing Vice – Presidents be re-elected.

In recognition of his long term work for the Trust in all aspects of our activities from organising the several very successful “weekends”, to general Management, Marketing, Musical and Technical expertise, the Trustees would like to propose that Mr. D. Alldred is appointed as a Vice-President.

5.2 Independent examiner

Mr. Peter Ratcliffe has expressed his willingness to act in this capacity and the Trustees propose that he be appointed.

Important NOTE: That brings the formal business of the meeting to a close. The Trustees would like to advise you that in future we would like, where possible, to send the VOX out by e mail in order to reduce the cost of printing and postage. If we have your e mail address, you will receive it by e mail unless you specifically request a printed version. Those of you who have e mail but who have not advised us please do so.

Overleaf is the list of concerts for Stockport Town Hall for 2024

Stockport Town Hall Concert Diary for 2024

LTOT concerts

Saturday February 18th

Sunday June 4th

Saturday September 23rd

Saturday November 4th

Stockport MBC lunchtime concerts

Monday February 13th

Monday June 5th

Monday August 7th

Monday October 2nd

Monday December 4th

Full details will be available in the winter edition of VOX and also on the Trusts website ; www.:tot.org.uk

Please come along and bring a friend to hear one of the Worlds finest WurlitZers.