

**THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Charity Number 266186**

# **THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

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**Registered charity name** The Society for Theatre Research

**Charity number** 266186

**Address** Saville House  
4 Mansfield Road  
Oxford  
OX1 3TA

**Trustees** Eileen Cottis  
Francesca Franchi  
Michael Ostler

**Accountants** Curlew Accounting Ltd  
Eastburn  
South Park  
Hexham  
Northumberland  
NE46 1BS

# **THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)***

**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2022.

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 3 of the financial statements.

### **THE TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Eileen Cottis  
Francesca Franchi  
Michael Ostler

The trustees named above and on page 3 are trustees for the purposes of charity law.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The Society serves those interested in the history and technique of British Theatre by arranging public lectures, by publishing books and a thrice-yearly journal ('Theatre Notebook') and by awarding research grants to individuals and institutions. It awards an annual theatre book prize and stages the Poel Event, an annual workshop promoting good stage speech, most recently seen at the National Theatre.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The Trustees considered the 74th Annual Report for the year ending 30 September 2022. This would be circulated to members before the AGM on 24 May 2023, together with the President's Address and the Financial Statements.

The Annual General Meeting for 2022 was held on Wednesday 25 May 2022, both virtually and in person at the Art Workers' Guild. It was followed by the Annual Address, also on Zoom, with the title "Memory Lanes: reflections on historical pageantry" given by Mick Wallis, Professor Emeritus of Performance and Culture at the University of Leeds.

The effects of the pandemic can still be felt in the Society's activities, but the programme had been carried out as thoroughly as possible, many events being held online.

Professor Michael Burden had been elected Chair of the Society in succession to Mr Simon Sladen on Wednesday 25 May 2022; the Vice Chair is Professor Trevor Griffiths, and the Vice-Presidents were Dr Neville Hunnings, Mr Barry Sheppard, Mrs Eileen Cottis, Mr Ian Herbert, and Dr Pieter van der Merwe.

The programme of lecture-meetings for 2021-22, arranged by Dr Valerie Kaneko-Lucas, had been wide-ranging and had included titles such as 'Moll Frith: in Search of Renaissance Drag Kings' and a 'Theatres at Risk Update'. The lecture for December had been 'Windrush and Beyond: Voices of Black Britain' Ensemble Performance Curated by Dr Valerie Kaneko-Lucas. Audiences, on Zoom, and at the AGM, had been consistently larger than at lectures held live.

# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

### YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

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The Wickham Lecture and had been postponed again as the pandemic continued. The Gordon Craig Memorial Lecture was planned for 16 June 2022, and would be a live event at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

The 2022 Society for Theatre Research Theatre Book Prize had been awarded on in June 2022 (by Zoom) to "Stirring Up Sheffield by Colin and Tedd George published by Wordville. Mr Howard Loxton had been thanked for his commitment to the continuing success of the Prize.

The Poel Workshops were able to resume in 2022; the workshops are seriously indebted to The Spotlight, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and the National Theatre for their generous support. Plans are now well advanced for the long awaited Poel Workshop at Leeds Playhouse.

The Society's Annual Publication for 2021-2022 had been Dr Kate Crehan's *But Will It Get a Laugh? A Biography of Doris Hare in Three Acts*. The Society is greatly indebted to Dr Marion O'Connor as General Editor. Three issues of 'Theatre Notebook' had been produced and sent to subscribers; many thanks to Professor Trevor Griffiths, who continued as co-ordinating editor together with Dr Gabriel Egan and Dr Anselm Heinrich.

Through its ongoing collaboration with Project Muse, the online database of academic journals, and other online providers, Theatre Notebook continued to generate income of around £10,000 each year for the Society.

The New Researchers Network had held no face-to-face activities because of Covid, but had encouraged members to write about their current research on the NRN blog.

The New Scholars Prize had not been offered this year due to the pandemic but was to be repositioned with a view to enhancing inclusivity.

The Research Awards Sub-Committee had met in April 2022 in person and by Zoom, and had recommended 13 awards, as opposed to 11 the previous year. The members of the Research Awards Sub-Committee are thanked for their input as are Professor Kate Newey, and Ms Kate Quartano Brown for their impeccable management of the awards.

The Society's website continued to be used by an average of fifty members per day. An appointment had been made to the role of Website Officer on an honorarium, and the effectiveness or otherwise of the post will be monitored during the year. The Committee was grateful to Kate Quartano Brown for her continued stewardship of the website.

The 75th working group was developing ideas for the celebration of the Society's 75th anniversary in 2023.

The Accounts for 2021-22 would be approved by the AGM. We are grateful to Ms Yona Lesger and the Chair for their work. The large expense on publication and 'Theatre Notebook' distribution for the year had been offset by the reduction of live activities, as a result of Covid-19 and the emergency fund in the Reserved Savings Account with Scottish Widows Bank remained intact. Care will still be needed in the future because of the general reduction of income from investment.

The Trustees concluded that the Society's affairs had been properly administered during the year ending 30 September 2022.

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# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

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### RESERVES POLICY

The Society's financial reserves are represented by the £30,000 held in the Reserve Savings Account with Scottish Widows Bank.

### FINANCIAL REVIEW

The total income for the year was £103,459 and expenditure was £31,891, resulting in a net surplus of £71,568. After accounting for the deficit of £128,317 on investments in the year, there were total funds of £648,455 carried forward to the following financial year.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

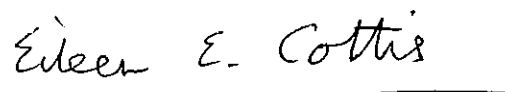
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

A resolution to re-appoint Curlew Accounting Ltd as Independent Examiners for the ensuing year will be proposed at the annual retirement meeting of the trustees.

Signed by order of the Trustees  
Eileen Cottis

  
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**THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE**  
**SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**  
**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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I report on the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2022.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities 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 procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

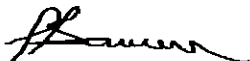
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison, of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of 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 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 come across no 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.



**Paul Barron, FMAAT ICPA (Fellow)**

Independent Certified Practising Accountant



**THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(Incorporating an income and expenditure account)**  
**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

	Note	Total Funds Year to 30 Sept 22 £	Total Funds Year to 30 Sept 21 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>			
Incoming resources from generated funds	2	103,459	34,805
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>103,459</b>	<b>34,805</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>			
Charitable activities	3	27,205	32,854
Governance costs	4	4,686	2,153
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>31,891</b>	<b>35,007</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR YEAR</b>		<b>71,568</b>	<b>(202)</b>
<b>Unrealised Gains/(Losses)</b>		<b>(128,317)</b>	<b>59,487</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		705,204	645,919
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>648,455</b>	<b>705,204</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these financial statements.



# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## BALANCE SHEET

30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Publications		50	50
Tangible Assets	5	100	133
Investments		522,697	651,014
		<u>522,847</u>	<u>651,197</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Investments		30,000	30,000
Cash at bank and in hand		95,608	24,007
		<u>125,608</u>	<u>54,007</u>
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	-	-
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>125,608</u>	<u>54,007</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>648,455</u>	<u>705,204</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>648,455</u>	<u>705,204</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Restricted income funds	7	311,815	376,828
Unrestricted income funds	8	291,122	282,858
Designated funds	9	45,518	45,518
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>648,455</u>	<u>705,204</u>

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

Eileen Cottis  
Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 (SORP 2005).

#### **Cash flow statement**

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

#### **Reserves**

The Society's financial reserves are represented by the Reserve Savings Account with Scottish Widows Bank.

#### **Investments**

These are shown at market value with associated gains and losses.

#### **Fixed assets**

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	- 25% reducing balance
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#### **Taxation Status**

The Society for Theatre Research is a Registered Charity and accordingly is not liable to pay Income Tax, Corporation Tax or Capital Gains Tax. The Society receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax.

#### **Incoming resources**

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered.

# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects 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.

## 2. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Voluntary Sources	-	84,406	-	84,406	15,658
Trading Activities	-	1,398	-	1,398	2,662
Income from Assets	-	17,655	-	17,655	16,485
	-	103,459	-	103,459	34,805

## 3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Charitable activities	3,421	23,784	-	27,205	32,854
	3,421	23,784	-	27,205	32,854

## 4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Administration***	-	4,653	-	4,653	2,109
Depreciation	-	33	-	33	44
	-	4,686	-	4,686	2,153

# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

### 5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office and other equipment £
<b>COST</b>	
Brought forward	6,672
Additions	-
Disposals	-
<b>At 30 September 2022</b>	<b>6,672</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
Brought forward	6,539
Charge for the year	33
On disposals	-
<b>At 30 September 2022</b>	<b>6,572</b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
<b>At 30 September 2022</b>	<b>100</b>
At 30 September 2021	133

### 6. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	-	-
	-	-

### 7. RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

	Balance at 30 Sept 2021 £	Net incoming / (outgoing) resources £	Fund Transfers £	Unrealised Gains/(losses) £	Balance at 30 Sept 2022 £
General Funds	376,828	(3,421)	-	(61,592)	311,815

### 8. UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

	Balance at 30 Sept 2021 £	Net incoming / (outgoing) resources £	Fund Transfers £	Unrealised Gains/(losses) £	Balance at 30 Sept 2022 £
General Funds	282,858	74,989	-	(66,725)	291,122

# THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

### 9. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance at 30 Sept 2021	Net incoming / (outgoing) resources	Fund Transfers	Unrealised Gains/(losses)	Balance at 30 Sept 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds	45,518	-	-	-	45,518

**THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**  
**MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**  
**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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**The following pages do not form part of the statutory financial statements.**

**THE SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS</b>		
<b>Voluntary sources</b>		
Membership Subscriptions	12,275	11,008
Subscriptions to TNB	1,490	2,170
Donations received	70,641	2,480
	<u>84,406</u>	<u>15,658</u>
<b>Trading Activities</b>		
Publication sales	733	1,804
Theatre Notebook sales	196	243
Project Muse	469	419
Miscellaneous income	-	196
	<u>1,398</u>	<u>2,662</u>
<b>Income from Assets</b>		
Interest & Dividends received	17,655	16,485
	<u>17,655</u>	<u>16,485</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<u>103,459</u>	<u>34,805</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
<b>DIRECT CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>		
Awards – Research	3,451	8,740
Book Prize	500	600
Annual Programme	1,420	633
Graves Fund	-	500
“Theatre Notebook”	4,970	4,913
Publications & TN distribution	9,660	10,299
Website development	1,430	474
Subscriptions paid	207	195
Honorariums	5,167	6,500
Covid-19 Grants Paid	400	-
	<u>27,205</u>	<u>32,854</u>
<b>GOVERNANCE COSTS</b>		
Administration	4,653	2,109
Depreciation	33	44
	<u>4,686</u>	<u>2,153</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u>31,891</u>	<u>35,007</u>