

THE SEWELL BARN THEATRE TRUST FUND

England & Wales · Charity number 277724

Details

Other names	FRIENDS OF THE SEWELL BARN THEATRE, SEWELL BARN THEATRE SOCIETY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	1979-07-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	c/o Sewell Barn Theatre Constitution Hill Norwich NR3 4BB
Phone	01603418803
Email	treasurer1.sewellbarn@outlook.com
Website	www.sewellbarn.org

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EDUCATION OF THE PUPILS OF THE BLYTH-JEX SCHOOL, CONSTITUTION HILL AND OF THE INHABITANTS OF NORWICH AND SURROUNDING AREA IN THE ARTS BY ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING A THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF PLAYS CINEMATOGRAPH FILMS AND FOR HOLDING CONCERTS MEETINGS AND LECTURES.

Activities: The provision of a local public venue for the arts of plays, music and the performance of productions by our own amateur groups.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NORWICH AND SURROUNDING AREA.
- Norfolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£57,914	£40,768	-	-
2024-08-31	£55,427	£28,998	-	-
2023-08-31	£47,938	£31,634	-	-
2022-08-31	£36,270	£30,269	-	-
2021-08-31	£24,958	£16,208	-	-
2020-08-31	£24,588	£22,893	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew James Howard		2019-01-01
JOHN ANTHONY HOLDEN		2015-09-30
June Gentle		2019-01-01
Major Joanathan Mark Redding		2016-01-20
ROBERT LITTLE		
STEPHEN JAMES GIDNEY		
Shelagh Maple		2019-01-01

THE SEWELL BARN THEATRE TRUST FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 277724

Accounts

Achievements and Performance - the 2024/25 season

Grand Guignol
Design for Living

After Electra
Foxfinder

Richard II
Charley's Aunt

The Clearing

The season began with *Grand Guignol* curated and directed by Richard Hand, followed by *After Electra* by April de Angelis. Shakespeare's *Richard II* came after Christmas, followed by *The Clearing* by Helen Edmundson), *Design for Living* by Noel Coward and then *Foxfinder* by Dawn King. The season finished with *Charley's Aunt* by Brando Thomas. We also included a short run of *The Lives of Bosie* by John Wolfson.

An total of 90 seats were available for each performance in the main 7-show season and average attendance was an excellent 69% varying between 96.9% for *Charley's Aunt* and 45% for *Foxfinder*, making the season a success both artistically and financially, and all shows on or exceeding the budgeted average of 45%.

Up-to-date information about the Theatre is available on the website (www.sewellbarn.org) and The Barn can be regularly followed on Facebook and Twitter.

Financial Review

We were delighted to note that attendances were back to pre-Covid levels for the second successive season and while costs continued to rise, we continued with the new contract for considerably lower cost for utilities for the costume store. The surplus of £18,600 for the year was achieved by a combination of above-budget income and below-budget costs. Ticket sales came in at £21,000 above-budget with a corresponding increase in bar sales, there was a significant increase in the amount of interest on savings, and below-budget costs on production expenses and lower maintenance costs for the costume store all contributed. We were also able to spend £7,700 on technical upgrades to the lighting equipment.

We are delighted to acknowledge continued sponsorship from Norfolk Gin.

Routine technical 2025/26, although we anticipate that costs will continue to rise, we have held seat prices at last year's level. Income may be unpredictable for the year as the cost of living continues to escalate. We will be closely monitoring all income and expenditure, but especially the ongoing costs of utilities for the costume store. We are budgeting to break even on the season.

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Gentleman's Walk, Norwich

Independent Examiner

Crispin de Boos
The White House, Sandfield Lane, Eccles, Norwich NR16 2PB

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity Trustees

R Little (Chair)

Robert Little

date 23/10/25

Year ended 31 August 2025

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

2023/24 actual		2024/25				CURRENT BUDGET
		restricted	designated	unrestricted	total	
	INCOME					DRAFT
39,084	Production income			42,699	42,699	26,850
10,822	Bar/ices income			13,506	13,506	7,000
579	Subscriptions			100	100	250
530	Costume & venue hire			50	50	100
1,298	Interest gross			1,093	1,093	700
-	Miscellaneous income			0	0	100
-	Gift Aid			0	0	100
449	Grants sponsorship & donations	0	331		331	150
2,500	Lighting project & FOH legacies	0	0		0	0
-	income for last year			0	0	0
165	income for next year			135	135	0
55,427	TOTAL INCOME	0	331	57,583	57,914	35,250
	EXPENDITURE	restricted	designated	unrestricted	total	
3,260	Production expenses			3,930	3,930	5,460
2,464	Publicity			1,888	1,888	2,675
6,576	Bar costs			7,417	7,417	5,800
688	Royalties			0	0	0
6,914	Ropemaker's rent rates insurance L & H			6,819	6,819	9,000
933	Room hire			1,688	1,688	500
263	Post stationery copying			247	247	300
314	Telephone			408	408	400
405	Licences & memberships			559	559	450
60	Audit fee			60	60	60
2,845	Insurance - Sewell Barn			3,059	3,059	3,000
347	Repairs & maintenance			1,690	1,690	1,000
-	H&S & training			0	0	0
49	Sundry			84	84	100
1,163	Equipment			1,037	1,037	1,000
305	expenses for last year			0	0	0
2,390	expenses for next year, royalties			4,102	4,102	4,900
22	Wardrobe upgrade	0			0	0
-	Technical upgrades & FOH	2,500	5,275		7,775	0
28,998	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,500	5,275	32,989	40,763	34,645
26,429	net income(expenditure)	(2,500)	(4,943)	24,594	17,151	605
	transfers between funds		95,500	(95,500)		
		(2,500)	90,557	(70,906)	17,151	
	CASH RESOURCES	restricted	designated	unrestricted	total	
	cash at bank 1 September 2024	3,498	9,995	81,112	94,605	
	CASH FUNDS to date / at 31 August 2025 (1)					
19,178	Lloyds bank	998	100,552	-69,896	31,654	
-	to 21/8/25 Lloyds deposit at 2.8%			0	0	
75,427	Lloyds instant saver at 1.0%			80,102	80,102	
94,605	Total cash funds to date	998	100,552	10,206	111,755	
Notes (1)	Funds analysis	b/f	received	paid	transfers	c/f
Restricted	Technical purchases grant	2,500	0	2,500		0
	Wardrobe sale proceeds	998	0			998
	Restricted totals	3,498	0	2,500	0	998
Designated	Donations general	3,995	331			4,326
	Wardrobe new premises				35,000	35,000
	Buildings fund				25,000	25,000
	Reserves policy - 1 yr annual exp				35,000	35,000
	AD production support fund				500	500
	A Giles bequest	6,000		5,275		725
	Designated totals	9,995	331	5,275	95,500	100,552
unrestricted	general funds	81,112	57,583	32,989	(95,500)	10,206
	Overall totals	94,605	57,914	40,763	0	111,756

Independent Examiner's report

I report on the accounts of the Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund for the year ended 31 August 2025 which are set out on the preceding pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of the 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 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

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 charity 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 conjunction 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.

Independent Examiner



date 29 October 2025

The White House
Sandfield Lane
Eccles
Norwich NR16 2PB

THE SEWELL BARN THEATRE TRUST FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 277724

Accounts

Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund
Registered Charity number 277724
Year ended 31 August 2024



Charity name The Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund
other names the charity is known by Friends of the Sewell Barn Theatre (working name)
Sewell Barn Theatre Society (working name)

Charity's principal address Sewell Barn Theatre
Constitution Hill
Norwich NR3 4BB

Website www.sewellbarn.org

Charity Trustees Mrs June Gentle
Mr Stephen Gidney
Mr John Holden
Mr Andrew Howard
Mrs Waltraud Jarrold
Mr Robert Little
Ms Shelagh Maple
Major Jonathan Redding

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund is constituted as an arts and music trust with the Charity Commission. under Charity number 277724. It is governed by a Trust Deed dated 26 February 1979.

Organisation Structure

The Charity Trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The Trustees have made provision for the day to day management of the Theatre and the control of finance to be carried out by a Committee, in conjunction with the Trustees. Substantial expenditure on the fabric, furniture or fittings of the Theatre is subject to prior written approval by the Trustees

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the risks the Charity faces and have implemented systems to mitigate these. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks that have been identified. In particular, insurance cover is in place and the finances are kept under regular review.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity aims to advance the education of the pupils of the Sewell Park Academy (formerly Blyth Jex School) and of the inhabitants of Norwich and surrounding area in the arts by maintaining a theatre for the exhibition of plays, cinematograph films, concerts, meetings and lectures.

The Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have complied with their duties as detailed in the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit. Careful consideration has been given to the accessibility of the Charity to as wide a community as possible. Reduced price admission to all plays in the regular season is offered for concessions and students are offered a further discount for one performance of each play.

Achievements and Performance - the 2023/24 season

1984

Bette and Joan

Immaculate

As You Like It

Comic Potential

The Memory of Water

Amy's View

The season began with *1984* by George Orwell, followed by *Immaculate* by Oliver Lansley. *Comic Potential* by Alan Ayckbourn came after Christmas, followed by *Amy's View* by David Hare, (replacing *The Clearing* by Helen Edmundson), *Bette and Joan* by Anton Burge and then Shakespeare's *A As You Like It*. The season finished with *The Memory of Water* by Shelagh Stephenson. We also included a short run of *Barbed Wire and Teddy Bears* by Karen Forbes.

An total of 90 seats were available for each performance in the main 7-show season and average attendance was an excellent 67% varying between 92.5% for *1984* and 46% for *Immaculate*, making the season a success both artistically and financially, and all shows exceeding the budgeted average of 45%.

Up-to-date information about the Theatre is available on the website (www.sewellbarn.org) and The Barn can be regularly followed on Facebook and Twitter.

Financial Review

We were delighted to note that attendances for the season were back to pre-Covid levels and while costs continued to rise, we were able to negotiate a new contract for considerably lower cost for utilities for the costume store. The surplus of £26,000 for the year was achieved by a combination of above-budget income and below-budget costs. Ticket sales came in at £21,000 above-budget with a corresponding increase in bar sales, there was a significant increase in the amount of interest on savings, and below-budget costs on production expenses and lower maintenance costs for the costume store all contributed.

We are delighted to acknowledge a grant of £2,500 towards lighting and technical improvements, together with continued sponsorship from Norfolk Gin.

Routine technical maintenance has been undertaken as the season progressed.

Looking ahead to 2024/25, we are expecting costs to continue to rise but we have not made any further increases to ticket prices. Income may be unpredictable for the year as the cost of living continues to fluctuate. We will be closely monitoring all income and expenditure, but especially the ongoing costs of utilities for the costume store. We are budgeting to break even on the season

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Gentleman's Walk, Norwich

Independent Examiner

Crispin de Boos

The White House, Sandfield Lane, Eccles, Norwich NR16 2PB

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity Trustees

Robert Little

R Little (Chair)

date 1 October 2024

Year ended 31 August 2024

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

2022/23 actual		2023/24				total	CURRENT BUDGET
		restricted	designated	unrestricted			
	INCOME						DRAFT
31,849	Production income			39,084	39,084		26,700
9,302	Bar/ices income			10,822	10,822		7,000
225	Subscriptions			579	579		250
15	Costume & venue hire			530	530		100
-	Interest gross			1,298	1,298		300
82	Miscellaneous income			0	0		100
-	Gift Aid			0	0		100
395	Grants sponsorship & donations		449	0	449		150
-	Lighting project & FOH	2,500			2,500		0
6,000	legacies		0		0		0
-	income for last year			0	0		0
70	income for next year			165	165		0
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47,938	TOTAL INCOME	2,500	449	52,478	55,427		34,700
	EXPENDITURE						
3,466	Production expenses			3,260	3,260		4,410
1,774	Publicity			2,464	2,464		2,675
5,115	Bar costs			6,576	6,576		5,700
72	Royalties			688	688		0
8,898	Ropemaker's rent rates insurance L & H			6,914	6,914		12,500
625	Room hire			933	933		300
191	Post stationery copying			263	263		300
327	Telephone			314	314		400
368	Licences & memberships			405	405		350
60	Audit fee			60	60		60
2,663	Insurance - Sewell Barn			2,845	2,845		2,400
2,104	Repairs & maintenance			347	347		1,000
-	H&S & training			0	0		0
331	Sundry			49	49		100
273	Equipment	0	0	1,163	1,163		0
123	expenses for last year			305	305		0
4,859	expenses for next year, royalties			2,390	2,390		4,500
385	Wardrobe upgrade	22			22		0
-	Technical upgrades & FOH			0	0		0
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31,634	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	22	0	28,975	28,998		34,695
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16,304	net income(expenditure)	2,478	449	23,503	26,429		5

transfers between funds

2,478	449	23,503	26,429
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CASH RESOURCES

	restricted	designated	unrestricted	total
cash at bank 1 September 2023	1,020	9,546	57,611	68,176

CASH FUNDS to date / at 31 August 2024 (1)

68,176	Lloyds bank	3,498	9,995	5,743	19,178
-	to 29/7/ Lloyds deposit at 3.6%				0
-	Lloyds instant saver at 1.3%			75,370	75,427
68,176					94,605

Notes (1)	Funds analysis	b/f	received	paid	transfers	c/f
Restricted	Technical purchases	0	2,500	0	0	2,500
	Wardrobe sale proceeds	1,020	0	22	0	998
Designated	donations general	3,546	449	0		3,995
	A Giles bequest	6,000	0	0	0	6,000
unrestricted	general funds	57,611	52,478	28,975		81,114
		68,176	55,427	28,998	0	94,606

Independent Examiner's report

I report on the accounts of the Sewell Barn Theatre Trust for the year ended 30 August 2024 which are set out on the preceding pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's report

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- (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 conjunction 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.

Independent Examiner



date 8 October 2024

Crispin de Boos
The White House
Sandfield Lane
Eccles
Norwich NR16 2PB

THE SEWELL BARN THEATRE TRUST FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 277724

Accounts

Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund
Registered Charity number 277724
Year ended 31 August 2023



Charity name The Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund
other names the charity is known by Friends of the Sewell Barn Theatre (working name)
Sewell Barn Theatre Society (working name)

Charity's principal address Sewell Barn Theatre
Constitution Hill
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Website www.sewellbarn.org

Charity Trustees Mrs June Gentle
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Mr Andrew Howard
Mrs Waltraud Jarrold
Mr Robert Little
Ms Shelagh Maple
Major Jonathan Redding

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

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Organisation Structure

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Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the risks the Charity faces and have implemented systems to mitigate these. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks that have been identified. In particular, insurance cover is in place and the finances are kept under regular review.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity aims to advance the education of the pupils of the Sewell Park Academy (formerly Blyth Jex School) and of the inhabitants of Norwich and surrounding area in the arts by maintaining a theatre for the exhibition of plays, cinematograph films, concerts, meetings and lectures.

The Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have complied with their duties as detailed in the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit. Careful consideration has been given to the accessibility of the Charity to as wide a community as possible. Reduced price admission to all plays in the regular season is offered for concessions and students are offered a further discount for one performance of each play.

Achievements and Performance - the 2022/23 season

The Welkin

Betrayal

Queers

Still Life and *Red Peppers*

Di, Viv and Rose

A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Cemetery Club

The season began with *The Welkin* by Lucy Kirkwood, followed by *Betrayal* by Harold Pinter. *Queers* curated by Mark Gatiss came after Christmas, followed by *Still Life and Red Peppers* by Noel Coward, *Di and Viv and Rose* by Amelia Bullmore and then Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The season finished with *The Cemetery Club* by Ivan Menchell.

An average of 70 seats were available for each performance in the 7-show season and average attendance was a very commendable 54% varying between 73% for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and 37% for *Betrayal*, making the season a success both artistically and financially.

Up-to-date information about the Theatre is available on the website (www.sewellbarn.org) and The Barn can be regularly followed on Facebook and Twitter.

Financial Review

In view of the continuing and uncertain nature of the post-Covid audience attendance, and a large increase in the cost of utilities for the costume store, a net surplus of £10,200 above budget. is very pleasing. This was achieved by a surplus of £7,000 in income, and costs for the year being £3,000 less than budgeted.

We are delighted to acknowledge a generous legacy of £6,000, together with continued sponsorship from Norfolk Gin.

Routine technical maintenance has been undertaken as the season progressed.

Looking ahead to 2023/24, we are expecting costs to continue to rise significantly and so we have increased seat prices by a further £1. Income may be unpredictable for the year as the cost of living continues to escalate. We will be closely monitoring all income and expenditure, but especially the ongoing costs of utilities for the costume store. We are budgeting to break even on the season

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Gentleman's Walk, Norwich

Independent Examiner

Crispin de Boos

The White House, Sandfield Lane, Eccles, Norwich NR16 2PB

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity Trustees

Robert Little

R Little (Chair) date 2 October 2023

Year ended 31 August 2023

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

2021/22 actual		2022/23				CURRENT BUDGET
		restricted	designated	unrestricted	total	
	INCOME					DRAFT
22,733	Production income			31,849	31,849	22,500
7,440	Bar/ices income			9,302	9,302	7,000
265	Subscriptions			225	225	250
793	Costume & venue hire			15	15	200
-	Interest gross			0	0	20
125	Miscellaneous income			82	82	100
-	Gift Aid			0	0	60
4,775	Grants sponsorship & donations		396	0	396	4,500
-	Lighting project & FOH	0			0	0
-	legacies		6,000		6,000	6,000
-	income for last year			0	0	0
140	income for next year			70	70	0
36,270	TOTAL INCOME	0	6,396	41,542	47,938	40,630
	EXPENDITURE					
2,713	Production expenses			3,466	3,466	4,410
2,343	Publicity			1,774	1,774	2,500
3,913	Bar costs			5,115	5,115	5,500
-	Royalties			72	72	0
8,778	Ropemaker's rent rates insurance L & H			8,898	8,898	12,200
385	Room hire			625	625	400
651	Post stationery copying			191	191	550
297	Telephone			327	327	400
348	Licences & memberships			368	368	250
-	Audit fee			60	60	60
2,197	Insurance - Sewell Barn			2,663	2,663	2,300
1,993	Repairs & maintenance			2,104	2,104	1,000
-	H&S & training			0	0	0
96	Sundry			331	331	100
600	Equipment	0	0	273	273	300
10	expenses for last year			123	123	10
4,946	expenses for next year,royalties			4,859	4,859	4,400
1,000	Wardrobe upgrade	385			385	150
-	Technical upgrades & FOH			0	0	0
30,269	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	385	0	31,249	31,634	34,530
6,991	net income(expenditure)	(385)	6,396	10,293	16,304	6,100

transfers between funds

(385)	6,396	10,293	16,304
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CASH RESOURCES

restricted	designated	unrestricted	total
cash at bank 1 September 2022	1,405	3,150	47,318
			51,873

CASH FUNDS to date / at 31 August 2023 (1)

51,873	Lloyds bank	1,020	9,546	57,611	68,176
-	Lloyds deposit				0
-	cash in hand				0
51,873					68,176

Notes (1)	Funds analysis	b/f	received	paid	transfers	c/f
Restricted	Technical purchases	0	0	0	0	-
	Wardrobe sale proceeds	1,405	0	385	0	1,020
Designated	donations general	3,150	396	0		3,546
	A Giles bequest		6,000	0	0	6,000
unrestricted	general funds	47,318	41,542	31,249		57,611
		51,873	47,938	31,634	0	68,177

Independent Examiner's report

I report on the accounts of the Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund for the year ended 31 August 2019 which are set out on the preceding pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of the 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 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

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 charity 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 conjunction 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.

Independent Examiner



date 2 October 2023

Crispin de Boos
The White House
Sandfield Lane
Eccles
Norwich NR16 2PB

THE SEWELL BARN THEATRE TRUST FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 277724

Accounts

Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund
Registered Charity number 277724
Year ended 31 August 2022



Charity name The Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund
other names the charity is known by Friends of the Sewell Barn Theatre (working name)
Sewell Barn Theatre Society (working name)

Charity's principal address Sewell Barn Theatre
Constitution Hill
Norwich NR3 4BB

Website www.sewellbarn.org

Charity Trustees Mrs June Gentle
Mr Stephen Gidney
Ms Anne Giles (death June 2022)
Mr John Holden
Mr Andrew Howard
Mrs Waltraud Jarrold
Mr Robert Little
Ms Shelagh Maple
Major Jonathan Redding

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Sewell Barn Theatre Trust Fund is constituted as an arts and music trust with the Charity Commission. under Charity number 277724. It is governed by a Trust Deed dated 26 February 1979.

Organisation Structure

The Charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The Trustees have made provision for the day to day management of the Theatre and the control of finance to be carried out by a Committee, in conjunction with the Trustees. Substantial expenditure on the fabric, furniture or fittings of the Theatre is subject to prior written approval by the Trustees

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the risks the Charity faces and have implemented systems to mitigate these. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks that have been identified. In particular, insurance cover is in place and the finances are kept under regular review.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity aims to advance the education of the pupils of the Sewell Park Academy (formerly Blyth Jex School) and of the inhabitants of Norwich and surrounding area in the arts by maintaining a theatre for the exhibition of plays, cinematograph films, concerts, meetings and lectures.

The Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have complied with their duties as detailed in the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit. Careful consideration has been given to the accessibility of the Charity to as wide a community as possible. Reduced price admission to all plays in the regular season is offered for concessions and students are offered a further discount for one performance of each play.

Achievements and Performance - the 2021/22 season

Love, Love, Love
Edith

Three Russian Encounters
Orca

Woman in Mind
Under Milk Wood

The Father

The season began with *Love, Love, Love* by Mike Bartlett, followed by *Three Russian Encounters* (*The Yalta Game* and *Afterplay* by Brian Friel and *Swansong* by Anton Chekhov). *Woman in Mind* by Alan Ayckbourn came after \Christmas, followed by *The Father* translated by Christopher Hampton from Florian Zeller. *Edith* by Karen Forbes and then *Orca* by Matt Grinter. The season finished with a much-enjoyed run of *Under Milk Wood* by Dylan Thomas.

Overall the seating for the season was restricted to 80 per performance instead of the usual 100 and the season was 7 plays rather than the usual 8 (Covid restrictions). Attendance was an average of 53.62% of available seating with a notable 63% for *Woman in Mind* and 74% for *Under Milk Wood* making the season a success both artistically and financially.

A series of rehearsed readings of *The War that Still Goes On* raised £750 for the Ukraine relief fund.

Up-to-date information about the Theatre can be found on the website (www.sewellbarn.org) and The Barn can be regularly followed on Facebook and Twitter.

Financial Review

Income and expenditure for the year were unpredictable given the continuing and uncertain nature of the Covid pandemic so overall income of £36,270 is very pleasing. In addition costs were kept admirably low by a concerted effort from all concerned.

We are delighted to acknowledge continued sponsorship from Spire Solicitors and Norfolk Gin. In addition, as business rate-payers we received a further government grant to support reopening.

We have thus been able to repay the final instalment of our generous interest free loan. Routine technical maintenance has been undertaken as the season progressed.

Looking ahead to 2022/23 costs are expected to rise considerably and so we have increased seat prices by £1. We will be closely monitoring all costs, but especially the costs of utilities for the costume store. We will be seeking local business sponsorship again and are hoping to break even on the season

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Gentleman's Walk, Norwich

Independent Examiner

Income was less than £25,000 for the year and so, in line with the Charity Commission's guidelines, no Independent Examination or full accounts are required to be submitted. The Annual Return will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity Trustees

R Little

R Little (Chair) date 24 October 2022