

WOOBURN FESTIVAL SOCIETY LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital)

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Company No: 1555038

Registered Charity No: 282538

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN 2023

The Festival Management Committee believe that WF2023, our 56th Anniversary, was, yet again a fine achievement. There was a large range of excellent events and the financial outcome was a surplus of £3,418, and after adjustments of £226 from previous years this led to a surplus of £3,192 and increased our General Fund from £37,537 to £40,729.

I was very pleased to receive grants from Wooburn Parish Council, Buckinghamshire C C (sadly depleted over recent years), the Louis Baylis Charitable Trust, the Shanly Foundation, and regular generous private supporters. The Festival could not survive without their generosity.

Many events had good audiences especially the Opera and the Jazz Supper. The 'Literary Week' was rather short this year, but we were lucky to have two talks, firstly, 'Mary does Marlow on Tour', celebrating Shelley and the history of our local area and secondly 'Gauguin and Myth – a Family Perspective' by Mette Gauguin about her Grandfather Paul Gauguin. We had two successful tours of Dorney Court.

The Heath String Quartet returned by popular request, to perform at our first Chamber Concert at St. Paul's church, to perform works by Bach, Haydn, Suk and Schubert. The second chamber concert was given by the London Tango Trio with an exuberant musical tour of the world of traditional Tango. The last concert was a piano recital given by Jeneba Kanneh-Mason who played works by Price, Prokofiev, Beethoven and Liszt.

The Opera this year was a Gala Evening of Opera favourites, which was fully costumed and 'staged' around the cafe tables by members of Barefoot Opera. The evening was a sell out!

The Visual Arts Exhibition was particularly well presented and managed, as ever, with the result that a high level of sales was maintained, which was particularly impressive as most other exhibitions have suffered significant falls in sales. The featured artist was Annet Stirling. I am very grateful to the members of the Visual Arts committee, for their hard work and imagination and I would like to thank Mary Perkins and the Committee for their efforts.

The Jazz Supper was as enjoyable as ever, with the appearance of Claire Martin and her Trio featuring Jim Mullen. My thanks go to John Payne who has organized the Jazz Suppers over many years, and who still, despite having retired, continues to help in many ways.

The Festival Film returned with the award winning 'Corsage', which was as usual introduced by Quentin Falk.

The Lunchtime Concerts were performed in All Saints Church, High Wycombe and as always provided high quality and free entertainment, and I am pleased to report that audiences were again much improved. These lunchtime recitals give young artists a platform at the beginning of their careers.

The Wooburn Singers once again arranged their 'Come and Sing Day' when a Choral work is rehearsed by enthusiastic choral singers under the direction of Tom Hammond-Davies. The Wooburn Singers, again under the direction of Tom Hammond-Davies, performed an Autumn Remembrance Concert at All Saints Church in Marlow entitled 'Abide with me : Choral Music for Love and Loss'

This year we were happy to include a Concert by Windsor and Maidenhead Symphony Orchestra and their annual Young Musician Concerto Competition.

Wooburn Festival could not exist without our patrons, friends and sponsors and we are extremely grateful for their continuing support. Robin & Patricia Saxby have, as usual, been particularly generous. Also, some individuals gave generous donations anonymously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN....continued

Again, I thank my Committee Members for their industry during the year, the organisers of the Visual Arts Exhibition, and the many other helpers who arrive at Festival time. I am also very grateful for the support and advice that various Council Members give. Our thanks go to Mr. P. J. Wheeler for examining the accounts for us.

Our purpose is to serve our audiences and the local community, and we thank them for their continuing and loyal support, and we shall look forward to seeing them in 2024!

Finally, I want to say that we will be happy to welcome new and enthusiastic members to the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Johnson', written in a cursive style.

Brian Johnson
CHAIRMAN

4th July 2024

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The Directors and Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report with the independently examined accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

ACTIVITIES

The Company is a registered charity and is engaged in advancing the education of the public in the arts.

RESULTS

The net incoming resources for the year amounted to £1,960 which were added to general reserves. There are no restricted funds.

RISK REVIEW

The directors regularly review all financial and operational risks, which may impact on the Charity. Procedures are adopted to mitigate perceived risks and these are subject to regular review to ensure that there are adequate safeguards in place.

RESERVES AND INVESTMENT POLICY

The directors consider from time to time as to whether the reserves are adequate to mount the Festival each year, and consider that adequate reserves are essential to enable the Festival to continue. The present reserves amount to approximately 97% of expenditure for the year 2023.

REVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

A review of the activities of the Charity is given in the Chairman's report attached to these financial statements.

COUNCIL

The following directors, who are also trustees, held office since 1 January 2023:

	Appointed
Catherine Booth	09/08/2021
John W Fellows	09/08/2021
Sandra Garey	19/08/2022
Brian Johnson	15/08/2023
David Lamb	19/08/2022
Gordon Nevill	15/08/2023
John Payne	19/08/2022

Under rules 37 and 38 annually one third of council members who have been longest in office since their last election or appointment shall retire. Hence Catherine Booth and John Fellows are due to retire from office by rotation, and being eligible Catherine Booth and John Fellows offer themselves for re-election.

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023 (Cont'd)**

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit and loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the directors and trustees are required to:

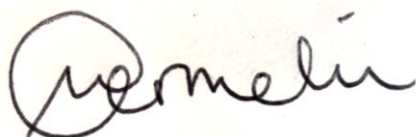
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors and trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

GENERAL

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies' Act 2006 relating to small companies.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. Hermelin', is written over a faint, circular yellow stamp.

CLAIRE HERMELIN

19th July 2024

Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are attached:

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts' you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination included 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 an unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



P J WHEELER

19th July 2024

Chartered Accountant
24 Dukes Wood Avenue
Gerrards Cross
Buckinghamshire

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Donations	933	3714
Other income – interest received	471	129
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,404	3843
Grants received	8,000	7,500
Incoming resources from Operating Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	21,355	14,933
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</i>	<i>30,759</i>	<i>26,276</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	18,042	16,533
Expenditure on the management and administration of the charity	9,299	6,423
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</i>	<i>27,341</i>	<i>22,956</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	3,418	3,320
Add: Fund Balances brought forward at 31 December 2022	37,537	32,456
Add: Prior year adjustment - re previous years' festivals	(226)	1,761
	<hr/>	<hr/>
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	<u>£40,729</u>	<u>£ 37,537</u>

The statement of financial activities and income and expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those passing through the statement of financial activities and income and expenditure account.

All the funds of the Society are unrestricted funds

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	3	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		40,879	38,091
		<u>40,879</u>	<u>38,091</u>
CREDITORS AND PROVISIONS	4	150	554
		<u>£ 40,729</u>	<u>£ 37,537</u>
GENERAL FUND		<u>£ 40,729</u>	<u>£ 37,537</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies' Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Council

- 1 Confirm that for the year ended 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to the exemption under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 Confirm that no members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476
- 3 Acknowledge their responsibility for:
 - (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386; and
 - (b) preparing the accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its results for the year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395, and otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts were approved on 19th August 2023



B Johnson
Chairman

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The company follows applicable UK Accounting Standards and practice. In particular, the following policies have been adopted:

- a) **Accounting convention** - the financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. and the Companies Act 2006
- b) **Income** - this represents amounts receivable in respect of ticket and programme sales, entrance fees, donations, guarantees against loss, grants and sponsorship.
- c) **Compliance with accounting standards** - the financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and follow the recommendations in Accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued in October 2000 by the Charity Commissioners.
- d) **Wooburn Festival Society Limited** is a registered charity, engaged in advancing the education of the public in the arts, incorporated under the Companies Act 2006, limited by guarantee and having no share capital.
- e) **Income from Grants** - Grants are treated on a receivable basis in accordance with the Charities SORP.

2 TAXATION

No taxation arises on the result for the year or the previous year because the company is a registered charity, and is exempt from taxation on income applied in the course of its objectives.

3 DEBTORS

	2023	2022
Sundry debtor	---	---
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4 CREDITORS AND PROVISIONS

Event costs	150	150
Other		404
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>£ 150</u>	<u>£554</u>

5 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The grants gratefully received were used to support the Wooburn Festival, normally covering approximately twenty separate arts events ranging from classical music to jazz, and from drama to one-man shows. The grants are an essential part of the Festival. The main purpose of the Festival is to present a series of events of a high standard which are not generally available locally throughout the year, based on professional artists.

6 MEMBERS GUARANTEES

Each member has guaranteed to contribute to the assets in the event of any unpaid debts should the company be wound up. The guarantee is limited to £10 per member.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Donations	933	3,714
Interest	471	129
	<u>1,404</u>	<u>3,843</u>
Grants received		
Wycombe District Council	-	-
Wooburn Parish Council	-	1,500
Anonymous	4,000	2,500
Louis Baylis Trust	1,000	1,000
Shanly Foundation	1,500	1,500
Simon Elvin	-	-
Sir Robin Saxby	1,500	1,000
	<u>8,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>
Incoming resources from Operating Activities in furtherance of the charity's activities		
Box office income and other		
income from events, including Art Exhibition sales	21,055	14,783
Programme sales and advertisements	300	150
	<u>21,355</u>	<u>14,933</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>30,759</u>	<u>26,276</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Cost of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives		
Direct event costs	18,042	16,533
Expenditure on the management and administration of the charity		
Administrative expenses including stationery and post	263	300
Box Office costs	538	864
Insurance	1,024	1,024
Press, publicity, and programme brochure	4,628	4,135
Charity	-	100
Website	2,846	-
	<u>9,299</u>	<u>6,423</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>27,341</u>	<u>22,956</u>
NET INCOMING RESOURCES / (RESOURCES EXPENDED)	<u>£3,418</u>	<u>£ 3,320</u>