

YORK OPERA

England & Wales · Charity number 700279

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1988-06-06

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 95 Main Street
Askham Bryan
York
YO23 3QT

Phone 07935746786

Email treasurer@yorkopera.co.uk

Website www.yorkopera.org

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF OPERA BY THE PRESENTATION OF OPERA PERFORMANCES IN NORTH YORKSHIRE AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.

Activities: York Opera stages two major productions each year and a number of small concerts and workshops mainly in York but also covering North and East Yorkshire in schools, churches, village halls etc.

Classification

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

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NORTH YORKSHIRE
- City Of York
- East Riding Of Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£28,150	£31,180	-	-
2024-12-31	£29,076	£21,922	-	-
2023-12-31	£27,373	£33,735	-	-
2022-12-31	£24,122	£20,973	-	-
2021-12-31	£8,269	£8,126	-	-
2020-12-31	£3,103	£5,810	-	-
2019-12-31	£32,797	£31,580	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alexandra-Grace Mather		2024-09-25
Dr David Charles Hartley		2024-03-25
HAMISH ARMOUR BROWN		2018-03-15
Hannah Elizabeth May Cahill		2022-03-15
Ian Thomson-smith		2024-03-25
Katherine Anne Cole		2026-03-12
MARGARET RUTH SOPER		
WENDY ANNE JACKSON		2015-03-26

YORK OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 700279

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2025 **To** 31 December 2025

Charity name: York Opera

Charity registration number: 700279

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The presentation of opera performances in York and North Yorkshire... and to promote and encourage the love of opera in North Yorkshire
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	During the year the company gave four performances of "The Tales of Hoffman" (Offenbach) with 23 piece orchestra at the York Theatre Royal. The company also gave three performances of The Beggars Opera with small string and wind band. We undertook a joint benefit concert with the York Railway Institute Brass band to raise money for St Leonards's Hospice York (in memory of a long standing member of both organisations) and we delivered three concerts of Christmas music.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have reviewed the guidance on public benefit issued (PB1) by the charity commission and is satisfied that it meets the requirements

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The company does not give grants, although on occasion it may waive or reduce membership fees – especially for young musicians. Our aim is that no-one who wishes to sing opera is prevented from doing so because of membership fees. This year we undertook a concert to raise money for St Leonard's hospice York.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Almost all the activities of York Opera are undertaken by volunteers. This includes our Musical and Stage Directors, all our principals and the members of the chorus. In addition, we have very active teams involved in the design and build of sets. and in the design and making of costumes. We have active social and fund- raising groups and volunteers and this year this included our regular bring and buy sale. A sponsored 10k run and the publication of two books about the Company by one of our members
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>As described above, the company gave a number of performances and concerts during the year</p> <p>The Tales of Hoffman was performed with full orchestra in a professional theatre with a substantial cast giving many members the opportunity to take solo roles..</p> <p>The Beggars Opera was performed "in the round" in a non traditional setting and including a gin tasting sponsored by and joint marketed with a local distillery! This innovative use of marketing resulted in a rather different and varied audience from that for our more traditional productions</p> <p>We have been aware of a demand amongst members for opportunities to improve their performance and singing skills. During the year we ran two master classes (on Gilbert and Sullivan and on early music) with professional musicians whose costs were met by generous donations. These were very fully booked – especially by our younger members and we will continue this innovation.</p> <p>We do not require our chorus to audition – and this long held policy is core to our purpose of bringing more people into opera.</p> <p>We do competitively audition for principal roles and require a high standard. We offer roles both to recent graduates wishing to develop careers in music, and those who</p>

		<p>wish to deepen their musical knowledge and experience. In the year we also provided opportunities to new directors – working under the mentorship of more experienced directors.</p> <p>We sing in English and our goal is to bring well designed, directed and performed opera to York audiences in an accessible way.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	We set ourselves a programme for the year that required substantial musical resources and complex staging and wardrobe – especially Tales of Hoffman. We also wished to be accessible to new audience members. The works were very well received and with reviewers commenting on the quality of music and the visually compelling sets.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	We have continued in our efforts in our budgeting and cost control efforts and this includes ensuring budget holders are involved in the budgeting process. Furthermore, we have been successful in tapping new forms of income – in particular that related to donations which increased by almost £1500 in the year. In addition we tapped new sources of income in the 10k sponsored run undertaken by our younger members.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>In the year, York Opera made a loss of £3,030.38 and finished the year with net assets of £24,910.</p> <p>The principal reasons for the loss was the poorer than expected performance of ticket sales for Tales of Hoffman and the need to invest in a new costume store as the previous arrangement by which we were able to occupy premises free of charge had come to an end.</p> <p>Nonetheless, the financial position of the company remains satisfactory as we continue to explore new funding opportunities</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>We hold sufficient funds to manage our very uneven cash flows comfortably. Our membership fees and various fundraising activities generally cover expenses such as rehearsal space and rent on our wardrobe and set stores. However, we do not typically receive ticket income from the theatre for our main production until after we have had to pay costs – especially those relating to orchestral expense and we keep reserves to manage this. Our reserves also allow us to manage unforeseen losses like that which we suffered in 2023.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£21,617.65
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	

A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not Applicable
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees including officers (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) are elected by members at the annual general meeting.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	York Opera
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	700279
Charity's principal address	2 St Roberts Gardens, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8EH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ian Thomson-Smith	Chair	n/a	n/a
2	David Hartley	Secretary	n/a	n/a
3	Adrian Cook	Treasurer	n/a	n/a
4	Hamish Brown		n/a	n/a
5	Hannah Cahill		n/a	n/a
6	Margaret Soper		n/a	n/a
7	Pauline Marshall		n/a	n/a
8	Wendy Jackson		n/a	n/a
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2025 To 31 December 2025

Charity name: York Opera

Charity registration number: 700279

Objectives and Activities

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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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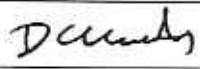

Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	DAVID CHARLES HARTLEY	ADRIAN STEELE COOK
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair SECRETARY	Treasurer
Date	30/4/2026	

Profit and Loss by Production and Category:

General Income:		
Gift aid	£	-
Interest	£	280.53
Subscriptions	£	3,806.63
Rehearsal refreshments	£	200.00
St Cruz	£	1,617.60
Sponsored Run	£	1,103.00
Book sales	£	80.00
Carol Singing	£	422.28
Total Income	£	7,660.13

General Expenditure		
Card and Processing Fees	£	128.49
Costume store	£	2,622.06
Insurance	£	602.00
Platform and IT costs	£	646.23
Rehearsal venues	£	3,975.00
Scenery store	£	4,374.55
Sundry Expenses	£	137.40
St Cruz	£	-
Total Expenditure	£	12,485.72
Profit (Loss)	£	(4,825.59)

Extraordinary Income		
General Donations	£	2,008.58
Donations re Hoffman	£	1,850.00
Donations re Masterclasses	£	754.00
Total	£	4,612.58

Christmas Concerts		
Income		
Sales (Tickets/Refreshments)	£	757.78
Total Income	£	757.78
Expenditure		
General Expenditure	£	333.75
Total Expenditure	£	333.75
Profit/(Loss)	£	424.03

Clive Marshall Memorial Concert (Opera Meets Brass)		
Income		
Sales (Tickets/Refreshments)	£	1,681.97
Expenditure		
General Expenditure	£	2,003.71
Profit/(Loss)	£	(321.74)

Masterclasses			
Income			
Jeremy Peaker	£	212.00	
Mhairi Lawson	£	345.07	
Total Income			£ 557.07
Expenditure			
Jeremy Peaker	£	250.00	
Mhairi Lawson	£	433.58	
Total Expenditure			£ 683.58
Profit/(Loss)	£	(126.51)	

Tales of Hoffman			
Income			
Ticket Sales	£	5,803.07	
Programme	£	1,134.40	
Programme Advertising	£	275.00	
Sale of Hoodies	£	210.00	
Total Income			£ 7,422.47
Expenditure			
Music hire	£	1,581.38	
Orchestra	£	7,428.00	
Production Team	£	602.00	
Programme	£	515.00	
Publicity	£	375.00	
Set	£	785.44	
Costumes	£	372.73	
Additional theatre charges	£	-	
Hoodie Costs	£	166.97	
Total Expenditure			£ 11,916.53
Profit/(Loss)	£	(4,494.06)	

Beggars Opera			
Income			
On-line ticket sales	£	4,051.00	
Bar/Programme/door sales	£	1,407.00	
Total Income			£ 5,458.00
Expenditure			
Bar Costs	£	225.48	
Hire of Music	£	132.26	
Orchestra	£	1,440.00	
Premises	£	1,400.00	
Programme	£	127.50	
Set, Costume, Props	£	313.89	
Publicity	£	137.96	
Total Expenditure			£ 3,757.09
Profit/Loss	£	1,700.91	

Summary Income & Expenditure a/c for year to 31st December 2025		
Income		
Subscriptions, Fundraising etc.	£	7,660.13
Christmas Concerts	£	757.78
Clive Marshall Memorial Concert (Opera Meets Brass)	£	1,681.97
Masterclasses	£	557.07
Tales of Hoffman	£	7,422.47
Beggars Opera	£	5,458.00
Donations	£	4,612.58
Other	£	-
Total Income	£	28,150.00
Expenditure		
Non-production expenditure	£	12,485.72
Christmas Concerts	£	333.75
Clive Marshall Memorial Concert (Opera Meets Brass)	£	2,003.71
Masterclasses	£	683.58
Tales of Hoffman	£	11,916.53
Beggars Opera	£	3,757.09
Total Expenditure	£	31,186.38
Profit (Loss) for Year	£	(3,036.38)

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025			
Assets			
Debtors	£	-	
Payments in advance	£	480.40	
Cash in Hand	£	33.00	
Business Premium Bank Account	£	21,617.65	
Current Account	£	4,578.35	
Total Assets			£ 26,709.40
Liabilities			
Creditors	£	1,799.00	
Receipts in Advance	£	-	
Net Assets			£ 24,910.40
Assets as of 1st January 2025	£	27,940.78	
Plus surplus/loss for the year	£	(3,030.38)	
Net Assets			£ 24,910.40

Handwritten signature and text:
 [Signature]
 Treasurer York Opera

59 Woodwarde Road,
London
SE22 8UN
29 April 2026

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of York Opera

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Opera for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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 2011 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.

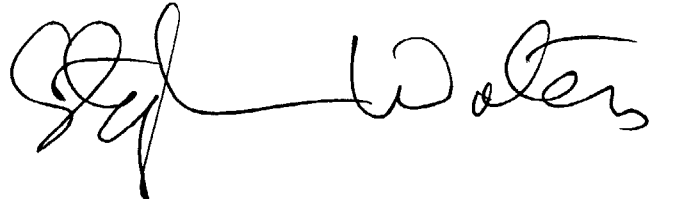
Independent examiner's statement

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.

Signed:



Name: Stephen Waters ACA
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.
Address: 59 Woodwarde Road, London SE22 8UN

YORK OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 700279

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2024 **To** 31 December 2024

Charity name: York Opera

Charity registration number: 700279

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Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	During the year the company gave three performances of "The Sorcerer" (Gilbert and Sullivan) with 23 piece orchestra at the the York Theatre Royal. The company also gave two concerts of G&S choruses and solos and a semi-staged performance of a number of Mozart scenes. We also undertook three concerts of Christmas music
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have reviewed the guidance on public issued (PB1) by the charity commission and is satisfied that it meets the requirements

Additional information (optional)

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Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Almost all the activities of York Opera are undertaken by volunteers. This includes our Musical and Stage Directors, all our principals and the members of the chorus. In addition, we have very active teams involved in the design and build of sets.

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Achievements and Performance

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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	We have been much more successful in our budgeting and cost control efforts and this includes ensuring budget holders are involved in the budgeting process. Furthermore, we have been successful in tapping new forms of income – in particular that related to donations.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	In the year, York Opera made a profit of £7,154.24 and finished the year with net assets of £27,940.78. The profit was augmented by a legacy of £4815 – the second and final instalment of a legacy first received in the previous year. The Trustees and very pleased with the financial outcome for the year
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We hold sufficient funds to manage our very uneven cash flows comfortably. Our membership fees and various fundraising activities generally cover expenses such as rehearsal space and rent on our wardrobe and set stores. However, we do not typically receive ticket income from the theatre for our main production until after we have had to pay costs – especially those relating to orchestral expense and we keep reserves to manage this. Our reserves also allow us to manage unforeseen losses like that which we suffered in 2023.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£24,574.87
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not Applicable
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees including officers (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) are elected by members at the annual general meeting.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	York Opera
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	700279
Charity's principal address	2 St Roberts Gardens, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8EH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ian Thomson-Smith	Chair	n/a	n/a
2	David Hartley	Secretary	n/a	n/a
3	Adrian Cook	Treasurer	n/a	n/a
4	Hamish Brown		n/a	n/a
5	Hannah Cahill		n/a	n/a
6	Margaret Soper		n/a	n/a
7	Pauline Marshall		n/a	n/a
8	Wendy Jackson		n/a	n/a
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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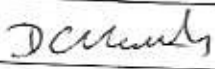
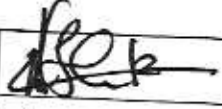
Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	DAVID CHARLES HARTLEY	ADRIAN STEELE COOK
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
	SECRETARY	
Date	30/4/2026	

ORK OPERA ACCOUNTS 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Profit and Loss by Production:

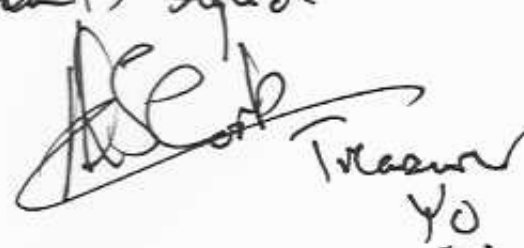
General Income		G and S Concert	
Gift aid (2023)	£ 765.82	Income	Ticket and Programme Sales £ 1,649.41
Interest	£ 322.22		Total Income £ 1,649.41
Subscriptions	£ 3,200.00	Expenditure	General Expenditure £ 241.05
Rehearsal refreshments	£ 586.37		Total Expenditure £ 241.05
St Cruz	£ 1,836.48		Profit/(Loss) £ 1,408.36
Carol Singing	£ 629.27		
Total Income	£ 7,340.16		
General Expenditure		Sorcerer	
Sundry processing fees	£ 4.25	Income	Programme £ 1,035.00
Costume store	£ 357.33		Ticket Sales £ 7,004.63
Insurance	£ 298.00		Total Income £ 8,039.63
Internet and IT	£ 355.20	Expenditure	Music hire £ 273.47
Rehearsal venues	£ 3,790.00		Orchestra £ 7,015.00
Scenery store	£ 3,231.60		Production Team £ 1,409.83
St Cruz	£ 46.49		Programme £ 480.00
Total Expenditure	£ 8,082.87		Publicity £ 561.00
Profit (Loss)	£ (742.71)		Set and Costumes £ 816.03
Extraordinary Income			Transport £ 420.00
General Donations	£ 633.23		Theatre charges £ 349.00
Sorcerer Orchestra donations	£ 2,500.00		Sundry £ 180.00
Legacy from M Turnecliffe	£ 4,815.51		Total Expenditure £ 11,504.33
Total	£ 7,948.74		Profit/(Loss) £ (3,464.70)
Christmas Concerts		Mozart Masterpieces	
Income	Sales (Tickets/Refreshments) £ 1,417.73	Income	Ticket Sales (Tickets/Refreshments etc) £ 2,681.14
	Total Income £ 1,417.73		Total Income £ 2,681.14
Expenditure	General Expenditure £ 220.45	Expenditure	Hire of Venue £ 1,400.00
	Heslington Revenue share £ 237.75		Other expenses £ 236.12
	Total Expenditure £ 458.20		Total Expenditure £ 1,636.12
	Profit/(Loss) £ 959.53		Profit/Loss £ 1,045.02

Income & Expenditure a/c for year to 31st December 2024

Income	Subscriptions, Fundraising etc.	£ 7,340.16
	Christmas Concerts	£ 1,417.73
	G and S Concert	£ 1,649.41
	Sorcerer	£ 8,039.63
	Mozart Masterpieces	£ 2,681.14
	Donations	£ 3,133.23
	Legacy	£ 4,815.51
	Total Income	£ 29,076.81
Expenditure	Non-production expenditure	£ 8,082.87
	Christmas Concerts	£ 458.20
	G and S Concert	£ 241.05
	Sorcerer	£ 11,504.33
	Mozart Masterpieces	£ 1,636.12
	Total Expenditure	£ 21,922.57
	Profit (Loss) for Year	£ 7,154.24

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024

Assets	Debtors	£ -
	Payments in advance	£ 885.00
	Cash in Hand	£ 1,439.34
	Business Premium Bank Account	£ 24,574.87
	Current Account	£ 5,133.32
Total Assets		£ 32,032.53
Liabilities	Creditors	£ 4,091.75
	Receipts in Advance	£ -
Net Assets		£ 27,940.78
Net Assets	Assets as of 1st January 2024	£ 20,786.54
	Plus surplus for 2024	£ 7,154.24
Net Assets		£ 27,940.78

restated Accounts signed

 Treasurer
 Y.O.

59 Woodwarde Road,
London
SE22 8UN
27 April 2026

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of York Opera

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Opera for the year ended 31 December 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 2011 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.

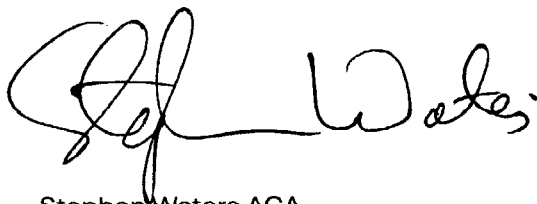
Independent examiner's statement

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.

Signed:



Name: Stephen Waters ACA
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.
Address: 59 Woodwarde Road, London SE22 8UN

YORK OPERA

England & Wales - Charity number 700279

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2023 To 31 December 2023

Charity name: York Opera

Charity registration number: 700279

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The presentation of opera performances in North Yorkshire... and to promote and encourage the love of opera in North Yorkshire
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	During the year the company gave three performances of "The Elixir of Love" (Donizetti) at the Joseph Rowntree Theatre, York and three performances of Macbeth (Verdi) at the York Theatre Royal. The company also gave two Christmas concerts including William Lloyd Webber's cantata "Born a King".
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have reviewed the guidance on public issued (PB1) by the charity commission and is satisfied that it meets the requirements

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The company does not give grants, although on occasion it may waive or reduce membership fees – especially for young musicians. Our aim is that no-one who wishes to sing opera is prevented from doing so because of membership fees.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Almost all the activities of York Opera are undertaken by volunteers. This includes our Musical and Stage Directors, all our principals, and members of the chorus. In addition, we have very active teams involved in the design and build of sets. and in the design and making of costumes.

		Finally, we have active social and fund-raising groups and volunteers are also involved in the business side of the company.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>As described above, the company gave three performances of "The Elixir of Love" (Donizetti) at the Joseph Rowntree Theatre, York and three performances of Macbeth (Verdi) at the York Theatre Royal. The company also gave a Christmas concert including William Lloyd Webber's seldom performed cantata "Born a King".</p> <p>Both Elixir and Macbeth were performed with full orchestra in a professional theatre. We do not require our chorus to audition – and this long held policy is core to our purpose of bringing people into opera.</p> <p>We do competitively audition for principal roles and require a high standard. We offer roles both to recent graduates wishing to develop careers in music, and those who wish to deepen their musical knowledge and experience. In the year we also provided opportunities to new directors – working under the mentorship of more experienced directors.</p> <p>We sing in English and our goal is to bring well designed, directed and performed opera to York audiences in an accessible way.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>We set ourselves a very challenging programme for the year, requiring substantial musical resources and complex staging and wardrobe. This was all achieved from our resources. The works were very well received and with reviewers commenting on the quality of music and the visually compelling sets.</p> <p>We are now also exploring outreach opportunities to schools and ways in which we can further encourage the musical life of York.</p>
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<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>The substantial loss experienced during the year has led us to undertake a review of budgeting procedures, and we are exploring opportunities to change both timing and venues of our performances, without reducing our commitment to musical quality.</p> <p>We are actively reorientating our sales and marketing approach towards social media and seeking opportunities to raise further revenue from grants and sponsorship.</p>
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>Other</p>		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	In the year, York Opera made a loss of £6,362 and finished the year with net assets of £20,786. The loss would have been significantly higher but for a timely and unbudgeted legacy. The Trustees have taken steps to ensure that this loss is not repeated in 2024.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We hold sufficient funds to manage our very uneven cash flows comfortably. Our membership fees are set to pay for everyday expenses such as rehearsal space and rent on our wardrobe and set stores. However, we do not typically receive ticket income from the theatres until after we have had to pay costs – especially those relating to orchestral expense and we keep reserves to manage this. Our reserves also allow us to manage unforeseen losses like that which we suffered this year.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£20,786
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not Applicable
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
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Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees including officers (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) are elected by members at the annual general meeting.

Additional information (optional)

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Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	York Opera
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	700279
Charity's principal address	2 St Roberts Gardens, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8EH

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--



Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ian Thomson-Smith	ADRIAN COOK
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	29 OCT 2024	

YORK OPERA

General Income and Expenditure (outside of productions)

Income	Donations	615.00
	Gift aid	0.00
	Interest	210.21
	Subscriptions	4,445.00
	Rehearsal refreshments	508.30
	St Crux	0.00
	Legacy from M Turncliffe	6000
	Total Income	<u>11,778.51</u>

Expenditure	Card and processing fees	8.09
	Costume store	135.65
	Insurance	190.00
	Internet	244.80
	Other sundry expenses	140.00
	Rehearsal venues	3,655.00
	Rehearsal refreshments	45.00
	Scenery store	3,100.41
	St Crux	0.00
	Total Expenditure	<u>7,518.95</u>
	Profit	<u>4,259.56</u>

Christmas Concerts

Income	Ticket sales	946.70
	Refreshments	68.00
	Total Income	<u>1,014.70</u>

Expenditure	Music hire	65.50
	Refreshments	31.50
	Venue hire	65.00
	Licence	21.00
	PRS allowance	15.71
	Total Expenditure	<u>198.71</u>
	Profit	<u>815.99</u>

Elixir of Love

Income	Ticket Sales	6,422.80
	Programme sales	133.50
	Total Income	<u>6,556.30</u>

Expenditure	Music hire	688.12
	Hire of JRT	3,659.15
	Orchestra	3,600.00
	Publicity	409.60
	Set and Costumes	588.59
	Transport	780.00
	Total Expenditure	<u>9,725.46</u>
	Loss	<u>-3,169.16</u>

Macbeth

Income	Programme	286.00
	Ticket Sales	7,737.41
	Total Income	<u>8,023.41</u>

Expenditure	Licence and rights	1,432.20
	Music hire	316.27
	Orchestra	7,610.00
	Production Team	1,185.00
	Programme	592.00
	Publicity	468.20
	Transport	780.00
	Set and Costumes	2,027.55
	Theatre charges	1,880.52
	Total Expenditure	<u>16,291.74</u>
	Loss	<u>-8,268.33</u>

59 Woodwarde Road,
London
SE22 8UN
7 July 2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of York Opera

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Opera for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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 2011 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.

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;
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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.

Signed:



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