

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland · Charity number 108133

Details

Status	Received
Company number	668395
Registered	2021-08-13
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	Belfast Operatic Company 22 Heron Road Belfast BT3 9le BT3 9LE
Phone	07742790466
Email	secretary@belfastoperatic.co.uk
Website	belfastoperatic.org

Activities

Purposes: The object of the Company is to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts.

What the charity does: The advancement of education

How the charity works: Arts,Cultural,Education/training,Youth development

Who the charity helps: General public,Men,Older people,Women,Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£113,042	£124,039	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Elizabeth		
Gary		
Jordan		
Kevin		
Megan		
Miss Anne Morrow		
Miss Ciara O'hagan		
Miss Clare O'hagan		
Mr Adam Callender		
Mr David Robinson		
Mr Jonathan Watts		
Mrs Shirley Adair		

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Accounts

Company registration number NI668395 (Northern Ireland)

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED
(CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

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BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors

Mr Colin Boyd
Mrs Elizabeth Boyd
Ms Jordan Rainey
Mr Gary Redpath
Mr Joseph Steele
Mr Taylor Clarke
Ms Jessica Clouting
Ms Megan Hamilton
Mr Kevin McIlhennon
Ms Sarah Kerr
Mr Donald Montgomery-Bugel
Mr Adam Callender (Appointed 16 January 2025)
Ms Carol Sykes (Appointed 30 June 2024)

Company number

NI668395

Registered office

22 Heron Road
Belfast
BT3 9AE

Independent accountants

Johnston Kennedy DFK
Chartered Accountants
10 Pilots View
Heron Road
Belfast
BT3 9LE

**BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED
(CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF BELFAST OPERATIC
COMPANY LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 3 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

As the charity's directors you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- (1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
- (2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directors of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



.....
**Duncan Graham FCA
Johnston Kennedy DFK
Chartered Accountants
10 Pilots View
Heron Road
Belfast
BT3 9LE**

Date 19-08-2025
:

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	37,880	75,148	113,028	-
Other income	14	-	14	-
	<u>37,894</u>	<u>75,148</u>	<u>113,042</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	(46,569)	(77,470)	(124,039)	-
	<u>(46,569)</u>	<u>(77,470)</u>	<u>(124,039)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(8,675)	(2,322)	(10,997)	-
Fund balances transferred:				
From unincorporated charity	69,287	57,501	126,788	-
	<u>69,287</u>	<u>57,501</u>	<u>126,788</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2024	<u>60,612</u>	<u>55,179</u>	<u>115,791</u>	<u>-</u>

Total recognised gains and losses

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Continuing operations

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

Companies Act 2006

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 5 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		-		-
Current assets					
Debtors	9	15,734		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		101,557		-	
		<u>117,291</u>		<u>-</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(1,500)		-	
Net current assets			<u>115,791</u>		<u>-</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>115,791</u>		<u>-</u>
Reserves					
Restricted funds	12		55,179		-
Unrestricted funds	13		60,612		-
Total equity			<u>115,791</u>		<u>-</u>

Belfast Operatic Company Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 22 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9AE.

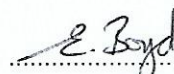
For the financial year ended 31 December 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to subsidiary companies.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 19/8/25 and are signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Elizabeth Boyd
Trustee

Company registration number NI668395 (Northern Ireland)

The notes on pages 5 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Principal accounting policies

Charity information

Belfast Operatic Company Limited is a private company limited by shares incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 22 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9AE.

1.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charitable company is Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used and specifically the conditions for cultural exemption from VAT.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charitable company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount.

Legacies are recognised on receipt.

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. The majority of costs are directly attributable to specific activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets have been treated as written down to nil value on transfer to the corporate entity.

Future policy on depreciation will be considered when other fixed assets are acquired.

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Principal accounting policies

(Continued)

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to profit or loss.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Charitable activities - income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Members subscriptions	7,446	-
Fund raising	622	-
Event income	104,974	-
	<u>113,042</u>	<u>-</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	37,894	
Restricted funds	75,148	
	<u>113,042</u>	<u>-</u>

4 Charitable activities - expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Ground rent	11,637	-
Event costs	84,967	-
Repairs and maintenance	6,809	-
Bank charges	630	-
Insurance and professional fees	5,183	-
Subscriptions	408	-
Administration expenses	5,394	-
Promotions and advertising costs	776	-
Fund raising expenses	8,235	-
	<u>124,039</u>	<u>-</u>

5 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Employees

The average monthly number of persons (including directors) employed by the company during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	-	-
Total	-	-

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	-	-
Pension costs	-	-
	-	-

7 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Building £	Total £
Cost			
Transfer from unincorporated company on 1 January 2024	5,422	487,116	492,538
At 31 December 2024	5,422	487,116	492,538
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2024	5,422	487,116	492,538
At 31 December 2024	5,422	487,116	492,538
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Due from trade debtors	15,734	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,500	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

11 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity had no pension obligations at 31 December 2024.

12 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of the show account. These funds are subject to specific conditions by HMRC in respect of retaining the cultural exemption from Value Added Tax on show receipts.

	At 1 January 2024	(Outgoing)/ Incoming resources	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£
Show bank balances	57,501	(2,322)	55,179
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

13 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

Debtors less liabilities

	Reserves transferred 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	69,287	37,894	(46,569)	60,612
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Members Subscriptions - unrestricted		7,448		-
Miscellaneous - unrestricted		29,810		-
Fund Raising - unrestricted		622		-
Sales of services - restricted		75,148		-
		<u>113,028</u>		<u>-</u>
Expenses				
Royalties payable - restricted	8,678		-	
Event expenditure - restricted	4,007		-	
Advertising - restricted	776		-	
Costumes - restricted	7,438		-	
Orchestra - restricted	8,645		-	
Printing Programmes - restricted	1,135		-	
Lighting - restricted	8,160		-	
Sounds - restricted	6,378		-	
Props - restricted	17,930		-	
Various Directors of Production - restricted	5,600		-	
Future Show Expenses - restricted	8,449		-	
Bank Fees - restricted	274		-	
Rent re operating leases - unrestricted	11,637		-	
Cleaning - unrestricted	3,490		-	
Power, light and heat - unrestricted	3,356		-	
Property repairs and maintenance - unrestricted	6,810		-	
Premises insurance - unrestricted	2,883		-	
Fund Raising and Advertising Expenses - unrestricted	8,235		-	
Professional subscriptions - unrestricted	408		-	
Accountancy - unrestricted	1,830		-	
Bank charges - unrestricted	357		-	
Website costs - unrestricted	586		-	
Telecommunications - unrestricted	421		-	
Sundry expenses - unrestricted	6,556		-	
		<u>(124,039)</u>		<u>-</u>
		(11,011)		-
Interest receivable and similar income				
Bank Interest Receivable No 1 Account	14		-	
		<u>14</u>		<u>-</u>
Net expenditure for the year		<u>(10,997)</u>		<u>-</u>

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Accounts

Registered Number NI668395

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY

Dormant Accounts

31 December 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Belfast Operatic Company

I, the undersigned, wish to report on the accounts of Belfast Operatic Company for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on the following page.

The examination of the Company's accounts was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. This examination included a review of the accounts kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, however in connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:-

- To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act 2008 and to compare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2008

have not been met.

I am therefore content with the outcome of my independent examination of the accounts.

Signed

James Swandel FCA
Johnston Kennedy DFK
10 Pilots View
Belfast
BT3 9LE

Date: _____

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Net assets	----- 0 =====	----- 0 =====
Reserves	----- 0 =====	----- 0 =====

STATEMENTS

- a. For the year ending 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to dormant companies.
- b. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- c. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- d. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to . companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Board on 17/8/24

And signed on their behalf by:



Elizabeth Boyd

Director

Notes to the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

1. The company is limited by guarantee.
2. Employees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Average number of employees during the year	0	0
	===	===

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Annual report

TRUSTEES REPORT 2023

Belfast Operatic Company,
Unit B1, 22 Heron Rd,
Belfast, BT3 9LE

Website: <http://www.belfastoperatic.org>
Email: secretary@belfastoperatic.co.uk
NI Charity no. 102042

The aim of the Society over the years has been to provide an avenue for members and the general public to perform in quality concerts and musical productions through the province. The company aims to educate both its members and the public, through production of musical theatre works, often new to the province. Ordinarily the company performs one major musical show each year and various concerts for the general public. We are governed by constitution, which is reviewed at each AGM.

Each season we seem to get busier and busier and this one has been no different. With no Opera House date, we set about taking to a different venue for the company with an upcoming show in Theatre At The Mill, in PHANTOM.

This season we welcomed back musical director Colin Scott, and started the year with a successful concert and social night away in the Marine Hotel in Ballycastle. Always a great night away, and once again entertained audiences in the town, and members in the bar afterwards - the hotel and the surrounding area makes for a great setting and they always provide a strong welcome.

Following this was a collaboration with Festival Brass in aid of Friends of the Cancer centre at Glenmachan, with Peter Corry and Gerry Kelly entertaining audiences and keeping things flowing - we were delighted to continue our charitable partnership with friends of the cancer centre to raise funds for them through the year.

The highlight of our festive season then - our Christmas concert, 2nd December, in the Ulster hall. We were delighted to welcome back the pops orchestra for this one for what turned out to be a sold out evening, with choir stalls going on sale and raising much needed finances to contribute to the running of the company - ably compered by Laura Kerr, again one of our own members, audiences were treated to a variety of Christmas music and song by both orchestra and choir.

Following this members enjoyed a bit of festive mingling in the Europa. This year was slightly different in that we decided to host a full company Christmas dinner at the Hilton, which was organised by Jordan and her team - a great meal and great craic for a Monday evening! Many members remarked this should be an annual feature.

Through all this, the casting process for our upcoming production began and the company set about producing one of the biggest musicals - PHANTOM. Once finally cast, and With a much quieter schedule, this allowed some social activity too, with Peter Scott organising a fundraising quiz on behalf of the company.

With a lot of emphasis on how "iconic" the show was, we set about employing a production team who would bring something different to the show. Kerry Rodgers agreed to direct the production, with a team of people made up from within the company including Kirsten, Donald, Liz and Gary all working on various elements of the show.

What resulted was another fantastic show, a first in another new Northern Ireland venue for Belfast Operatic and a great triumph for the company. Many wondered how we would present an opera house standard show in a smaller venue, and if the quality would suffer, and I'm happy to report the sold out audiences confirmed this was not a concern.

Shortly after the show we had a small break, before hosting our annual friends night at Heron Road, organised by new friends secretary Kevin. Always a great night which offers company members the opportunity to perform pieces of their own making and showcase the amount of talent within the company.

Quickly following this the company organised an open mic night "Miscast" organised by Sarah McLaughlin and featuring the team of Niall and Donal from Miscast Belfast. A great evening of songs from shows people wouldn't be able to perform.

At a previous AGM I recall an audible gasp of excitement as we announced our next show "The Phantom Of The Opera", and wondered where we'd go from here... as the titles get bigger and bigger, what would be next? Well... that question was quickly answered when our involvement in discussions began about a national project the likes of which we'd never seen - the opportunity for BoC to be involved in and spearhead a production of Les Miserables. A project which has huge legacy potential for the company, and for musical theatre in Northern Ireland.



Unfortunately the announcement of “Les Miserables” does mean we have to postpone our production of “Guys and Dolls” but this will now happen in May 2026.

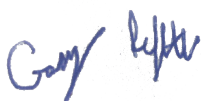
Financial review

In accordance with our accounts, this years show sold well and was budgeted accordingly, resulting in a small loss. The committee proceeded with caution in all financial decisions given the smaller potential for income in The Mill, and aimed to build on the financial success of previous years in other activities. As a rule of thumb, we aim to add funds in to an account as a rainy day fund. As always, the risk of putting on shows from a financial point of view is high, a sizable budget is required to maintain standards at the Grand Opera House or similar professional venues.

Trustees

As nominated at the AGM, the trustees are advised of the Commission’s public benefit requirement guidance, and the guidance on being a trustee. Decisions are taken by the committee with this guidance in mind. This includes management of any potential conflicts of interest, health and safety policies and issues, and risk assessments.

Signed by Secretary:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Rafter".

Date:

Wednesday 16th August 2023

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Annual return

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Belfast Operatic Company

I, the undersigned wish to report on the accounts of Belfast Operatic Company for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on the following page.

The examination of the Company's accounts was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. This examination included a review of the accounts kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, however in connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:-

- To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act 2008 and to compare accounts which accord with the accounting and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2008

have not been met.

I am therefore content with the outcome of my independent examination of the accounts.

Signed



James Swandel
Johnston Kennedy DFK
10 Pilots View
Belfast
BT3 9LE

Date: 27/01/2024

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Accounts

Company registration number NI668395 (Northern Ireland)

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

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BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	Mr Colin Boyd Mrs Elizabeth Boyd Ms Jordan Rainey Mr Gary Redpath Mr Joseph Steele Mr Daniel Clarke Mr Taylor Clarke Ms Jessica Clouting Ms Megan Hamilton Ms Carole McClure Mr Kevin McIlhennon Ms Sarah McLaughlin Mr Donald Montgomery-Bugle	(Appointed 26 June 2023) (Appointed 26 June 2023) (Appointed 24 October 2022) (Appointed 26 June 2023) (Appointed 26 June 2023) (Appointed 24 October 2022) (Appointed 26 June 2023) (Appointed 26 June 2023)
Company number	NI668395	
Registered office	22 Heron Road Belfast BT3 9AE	
Independent accountants	Johnston Kennedy DFK Chartered Accountants 10 Pilots View Heron Road Belfast BT3 9LE	

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF BELFAST OPERATIC
COMPANY LIMITED**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on page 3.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

As the charity's directors you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directors of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



.....
Duncan Graham FCA
Johnston Kennedy DFK
Chartered Accountants
10 Pilots View
Heron Road
Belfast
BT3 9LE

Date: 20-11-2023
.....

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	£	2021	£
Assets		-		-
		==		==
Reserves		-		-
		==		==

Notes to the financial statements

1 Employees

The average number of persons, including directors, employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Employees	-	-
	==	==

Belfast Operatic Company Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 22 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9AE.

For the year ended 31 December 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions and in accordance with FRS 105 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the Micro-entities Regime' and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 30/11/23 and are signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs Elizabeth Boyd
Director

Company registration number NI668395 (Northern Ireland)

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Annual report

TRUSTEES REPORT 2022

Belfast Operatic Company,
Unit B1, 22 Heron Rd,
Belfast, BT3 9LE

Website: <http://www.belfastoperatic.org>
Email: secretary@belfastoperatic.co.uk

The aim of the Society over the years has been to provide an avenue for members and the general public to perform in quality concerts and musical productions through the province. The company aims to educate both its members and the public, through production of musical theatre works, often new to the province. Ordinarily the company performs one major musical show each year and various concerts for the general public.

I am delighted to report that, whilst the AGM this year had been delayed until this month, this was due to much happier circumstances than the previous year - that we had a very busy season and a full events calendar!

We began the year with an invitation for the company to perform an outdoor concert in Magheramorne Estate, to an audience who for most would not have experienced live music in close to two years. For many of our members, the rehearsals leading up to this, and the event itself, would've been the first time singing in a room together with others. A glorious day in a stunning estate in an outdoor setting, the sun shone and the atmosphere was electric, and the sell-out event was a success for both company and venue - a real memory for the BOC history books, and Janes Kitchen kindly supplied the company with food afterwards.

The committee also made the decision to continue with planning for our production of 'A Christmas Carol', despite uncertainties and lack of clarity on part of the NI Executive office in relation to theatre. The show was cast and rehearsals began with a team of Wilfie Pyper, Timothy Bell and Adam Darcy at the helm. While the road to the Opera House was no easy task, the uncertainty continued with a new fire to fight each week with regards to Covid, however much to our relief, we eventually got the news that the theatre would be opening and the show could go ahead. Sales continued at a steady rate with a dedicated marketing team putting the work in behind the scenes. With a strict set of Covid protocols, rehearsals continued through the winter months with an ambitious sized cast, resulting in a successful production both financially and artistically. Finally BOC were back on the Opera House stage!

In the midst of this, plans for our annual Christmas concert 'A Night of Christmas Music and Song' were put in place, and the company welcomed the return of 1st Old Boys for the evening. Adam Darcy took the baton, with Stephen Cairns taking the reigns of the band. We also held a bucket collection for our charity partner, raising almost £5000.

That would bring us on to the next project, the committee agreed to take on another outside the box idea in 'A Night At Gatsby's'. This would see the company take to the "stage" of the Hilton Hotel in an immersive production, inviting audiences to join one of Gatsbys infamous parties. With a script written and directed by Secretary Gary Redpath, an immense amount of choreography and movement led by Kirsten Magee, and musical direction from Adam Darcy, the production set out to broaden BOCs horizons in terms of a different performance style, the show was in the round - also in a new venue - and a foray into dinner theatre.

The ensemble in particular bought in to the sheer amount of movement asked of them, and rose to the challenges presented. Bespoke productions such as this allow a wide scope of creativity, whilst incorporating something for everyone through the writing and development process ticking a lot of boxes in terms of company satisfaction. Though the process was still fraught with Covid protocols, concerns and cases, we staged a completely original idea in a new venue, and entertained two audiences who very much bought into the idea of immersive theatre, mostly coming dressed up, singing and dancing along to music from Lady Gaga, Billie Eilish and Meatloaf, all in a 1920's setting.

Following Gatsby, the company jumped straight in to rehearsals for 'Masquerade', our much anticipated 60th Anniversary concert. The idea of this was that it would be a celebratory concert in a unique venue, Stormonts Parliament Buildings. The event was kindly supported by Naomi Long. Adam pulled together a programme of music from 60 years of shows and music featuring everything from Gilbert and Sullivan right up to our next foray, 'Disney's Hunchback Of Notre Dame' to provide audiences with nostalgia and enjoyment, as well as allowing the company to perform styles which they may not get to do so often these days with moving trends in music. A thoroughly entertaining evening for those in the audience, and a great sing for those participating - this brought our performance year to an end.

Shortly after this, HUNCHBACK auditions were scheduled, and the new production team of Kerry Rodgers, Adam Darcy and Timothy Bell got to work with casting our next Opera House show, which will take to the stage in March 2023. The team were delighted with the sheer number of members who put themselves forward for audition. Rehearsals began in



September with a mix of music and floor, and the show promises to be something unique and challenging for the company. The company also held a family fun day at Crawfordsburn Scout Centre, providing BBQ and activities for all in attendance.

Throughout the year the company held various fundraisers and events - Carol Sykes organised a collection for Ukraine which produced several car loads of much needed supplies, Naomi Smyth abseiled for our charity partner Friends of the Cancer centre. The summer also saw some happy occasions, with a number of marriages amongst the ranks, and we wish those members all the best as they proceed to navigate married life.

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the loss of member Marion Taylor, only a few weeks after the loss of her husband. Marion was always heavily featured in the life of the company, only ever missing one show in her time with us, and her absence will be strongly felt. Our thoughts rest with the family, and with any others who have lost loved ones over the past few years.

Looking ahead to the future of BOC, we are of course planning one of our most ambitious projects yet in 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame', which promises a new style for the company in terms of the acting, but also one of the largest choral and ensemble pieces we will ever tackle.

However, not to rest on our laurels, we have secured the rights to another very exciting show for 2024, a title which I am confident will be both enjoyable for company members to perform, challenging both musically and physically, and continue to push the boundaries of what BOC do, as well as ticking the important box of being 'sellable'. More on this at a later stage.

In closing I would like to thank the outgoing committee for their hard work and support this year - and in particular extend my thanks to Carole McClure and the production teams for their stellar work throughout Covid-19, ensuring members were kept as safe as possible through all of the above. What a delight it was to return to a newly refurbished Grand Opera House, and to return to performing to sold out houses. Long may it continue!

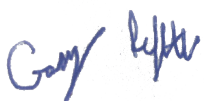
Financial review

In accordance with our accounts, this years show sold well and was budgeted accordingly, resulting in a profit. The committee proceeded with caution in all financial decisions given losses from previous years, and aimed to build on the financial success of last year. As a rule of thumb, we aim to add funds in to an account as a rainy day fund. As always, the risk of putting on shows from a financial point of view is high, a sizable budget is required to maintain standards at the Grand Opera House or similar professional venues.

Trustees

As nominated at the AGM, the trustees are advised of the Commission's public benefit requirement guidance, and the guidance on being a trustee. Decisions are taken by the committee with this guidance in mind. This includes management of any potential conflicts of interest, health and safety policies and issues, and risk assessments.

Signed by Secretary:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Rafter". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the left of a faint, rectangular stamp or watermark.

Belfast Operatic Company

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108133

Annual return

BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF BELFAST OPERATIC COMPANY LIMITED

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on page 3.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

As the charity's directors you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

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Date: 20-11-2023