

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Registered charity no. 1175309

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

CHATSWOOD ASSOCIATES
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

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RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Charity Information

Trustees: Andrew Stuart
Linda Harland
John Case
David Angell Since 25-Feb-22

Registered Charity Number: 1175309

Registered address: Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Accountants: Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NT

Main Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the Charity for the above period.

The financial statements of the charity which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charitable incorporated organisation are to advance education for the public benefit by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts and in particular music, opera, dance, film, literature and the visual arts, through an annual arts festival in and around Rye, and other activities from time to time.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Rye Arts Festival CIO, formerly Rye Arts Festival, was constituted by the Constitution dated 16 October 2017. The CIO took over from the Rye Arts Festival charity no 270474 on 1 January 2018.

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of Trustees is eight. Trustees serve for a three-year period retiring by rotation and are decided by the members at Annual General Meeting. Vacancies between AGMs may be filled by the existing Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with information on structure, business plans and recent financial performance of the CIO and are encouraged to consult with the Officers to facilitate the understanding of their role.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the CIO. It regularly considers the operational risks that the Charity faces and is satisfied that it has adequate systems in place to minimise their impact. The Board has appointed, on an annual basis, a Festival Organising Committee and monitors its compliance with standing orders and terms of reference.

Health & Safety

In 2017 the Trustees established a Health and Safety subcommittee to advise on policy and implementation. All appropriate personnel undergo first aid training, and our Stage Manager has undergone specialist Safeguarding training. All venues used in the Festival are risk assessed. The subcommittee regularly review the insurance policy to ensure adequate cover.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

After the cancellation of the 2020 Festival due to Covid and the nervousness of audiences as we came out of lockdown before the 2021 Festival, the organisers and trustees were looking forward to 2022 as a fresh start. However, the sad passing of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on Thursday 8th September, the eve of the Festival brought a whole set of different problems. Our main venue St Mary's Church was closed to us immediately for the period of National Mourning through to and including Monday 19th September and, at short notice, no comparable venue in Rye was available, so several classical music concerts and some talks had to be cancelled, as rescheduling for almost all these events was impossible.

The Festival's insurance would have paid out should the venue have become available to us due to physical damage, but not due to closure following the death of the Sovereign. As a result, ticket refunds had to be

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Trustees report (continued)

made, whilst payments had to be made to contracted artists, although some ticketholders chose, very generously, to waive their refunds and some artistes also chose to waive their payments.

And our generous sponsors, including our headline sponsors NFU Mutual Ashford, Tenterden and Whitfield branch, and advertisers also fully supported the Festival through this unprecedented turn of events.

Classical Music bore the brunt of the cancellations, but in the second week of the Festival we were able to hold some concerts in conjunction with City Music foundation, with whom we had entered into an exciting partnership in 2022 to bring some of the finest young talent to Rye, with concerts from artistes at the start of their professional careers. Lunchtime audiences in St Mary's enjoyed one concert by flautist Sirius Chau with pianist Victor Lim and another by double bass soloist Toby Young accompanied on piano by Benjamin Powell. And an opera evening at St Mary's was a huge success with the audience. Soprano Laura Lolita Peresivana from Latvia, Welsh spinto soprano Sian Dicker and British-Ukrainian mezzo Rozanna Madylus sang beautifully, accompanied by Lithuanian pianist Rokas Valuntonis, as the audience was treated to a selection of operatic arias.

And the Festival closed with a wonderful Winchelsea and Rye Musical Pilgrimage, featuring, as in 2021, choral performances by Victoria Consort at St Thomas' Winchelsea and St Mary's Rye, with a walk between the two towns, although this year the direction of travel was reversed and the music was from the Spanish Royal Court.

The non-classical or 'traditional and contemporary' programme of music kicked off with a full audience at Rye Community Centre for Festival favourites the Mountain Firework Company who did not disappoint! However, the Fay Hield Trio had to cancel as a close friend of the band died the night before they were due to drive down from Sheffield. The small audience for the twin guitarists steeped in Americana, Brooks Williams and Aaron Catlow, enjoyed their artistry and musical skills. And the west African sounds of Kadialy Kouyate Sound Archive held a good-sized audience at times spell-bound and at others on its feet.

The planned Books and Talks programme was the biggest in the Festival's 51 year history. But the closure of St Mary's meant the talk by best-selling novelist Robert Harris had to be cancelled and as he was on a national tour could not be re-scheduled. And the author Patrick Gale had to cancel due to national train strikes – he could get to Rye but couldn't get home. Similarly, Miranda Seymour and James Runcie had to cancel due to rail closures! When it rains it pours!

But a strong, varied and extensive programme did go ahead. Rev Richard Coles came back to talk about his new novel and attracted a sell-out audience to St Mary's Church. Good-sized audiences came to talks at the recently reopened George Inn ballroom by Chris O'Donoghue, who was one of the original Rye Potters, and TV journalist Gavin Esler.

With 2022 being the centenary of the publication of Miss Mapp there was a fascinating E.F. Benson Morning at Rye Community Centre. And Lamb House hosted a selection of his stories read by actors Richard Crowest and Rosalyn Landor, which were sell-outs and well-received by the audiences.

Local authors figured prominently. Elaine Luke focused on Malcolm Saville's life and writing, and Dr Pat Agar did two separate and fascinating talks about writers who lived and were influenced by Rye and the neighbouring land. Most famously, Henry James but also Joseph Conrad and Ford Maddox Ford were featured in one talk while Sheila Kaye-Smith, Radclyffe Hall, Russell Thorndike and others features in another.

In a welcome addition to the programme and to celebrate diversity, there were two fabulous queer literary events held at a new venue for the Festival, The Old Brewery Yard. Awards-winning poets Joelle Taylor and

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Trustees report (continued)

Keith Jarrett enjoyed standing ovations, and Neil Bartlett, Sam Kenyon and host Nathan Evans held the audiences in rapt attention. The audiences were small and didn't cover the costs, but those who attended enjoyed stand-out performances that will live long in their memories! A true highlight!

Drama featured spoken word performances at the Brewery Yard Club for the first time, with stand-out shows by Molly Naylor and Bernadette Russell. And Timberlina's Bingo Night brought both a new audience to the Festival and also to the legendary bingo caller with a heightened sense of drama.

The Rye Players put on a series of sell-out performances at the Mermaid Inn of Spinach, a ghost story by EF Benson, which were hugely enjoyed by the audiences. And Gerald Logan's single-hander about Oscar Wilde, was truly mesmerising – a dramatic tour-de-force, which attracted a good-sized audience.

The truncated film programme was well-received with audiences who enjoyed 50th anniversary screenings of Cabaret, starring Liza Minelli and Michael York, and The Harder They Come – a Jamaican movie with an amazing reggae soundtrack.

Walks once again proved very popular, with sell outs for Barry Yates around Rye Harbour Nature Reserve, and day and night walks round the streets of Rye lead by the wonderful Rye Town Crier Paul Goring. And Simon Parsons from Rye Heritage Centre lead a new walk for 2022 – Rye at War – which attracted a very large and appreciative crowd. Also new for 2022, the town's Timberlina, introduced a Salacious Tour of Rye, with an enthusiastic audience visiting private homes and gardens around town which had been scenes of naughty shenanigans in yesteryear.

In November, the Festival was able to hold two events postponed from the Festival proper. Jeremy Howe (who has been the editor of the The Archers on Radio 4 since 2018 and a Rye resident for much longer) and Felicity Finch (who has played Ruth Archer since 1987) were in conversation about what makes the show so enduringly successful.

And novelist Alex Preston, who lives in the Rye hinterland, was in conversation with Adam Nicolson to discuss his acclaimed and best-selling new novel, Winchelsea, which is an electrifying story of smuggling, vengeance and transformation set in the town and on the High Seas!

Volunteers Members and Sponsors

The Festival depends for its existence on its volunteers, its members and its personal and business sponsors. In combination they allow us to bring world class acts to Rye and charge very reasonable ticket prices, thereby meeting our charitable objective of promoting the arts and providing experiences which will encourage people to participate. The Trustees would also like to thank all the members of the Organising Committee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Thanks to the NFU Mutual Ashford, Tenterden & Whitfield agency for continuing their generous headline sponsorship of the 2022 Festival.

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 are attached to this report. These show a surplus of £5,806 (2020 £7,236 deficit). This surplus was achieved despite a number of events in St. Mary's Church being cancelled due to the death of Queen Elizabeth. This surplus has allowed the CIO's reserves to increase to £31,939, which is still too low and so are aware of the need for the 2023 festival to show a surplus.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain sufficient reserves, which in the opinion of the Trustees, allow them to cover management and administration costs and plan for future years' Festivals.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

Investment powers and policy

The Trust Deed authorised the Trustees to make and hold investments using the General Funds of the CIO. The Trustees having regard to the cash flow requirements of the Charity keep available funds in interest bearing accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with Charity Commission guidance and for maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FUTURE PLANS

The Trustees continue to seek a permanent Chairperson to lead the festival. The Board will be seeking to broaden audience base and introduce new forms of event which will help achieve an increase in revenue. The Trustees are keen to develop the membership base and to increase involvement by them in the Festival.

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Dr Linda Harland, Trustee
24th January 2023

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters is set out in the statement below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



David Andrews ACIB, MCICM, FCT
Chatswood Associates
Abingworth
New England Lane
Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7NT

20th January 2023

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	21,690	27,613
Charitable activities	3	46,913	47,012
Investment income		26	2
Membership		6,445	6,055
Other income		-	-
Total income		75,074	80,682
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	69,268	87,918
Total expenditure		69,268	87,918
Net income/ (expenditure)		5,806	(7,236)
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		26,133	33,369
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		31,939	26,133

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Balance Sheet as at

31 December 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10		-		112
Current assets					
Debtors	11	8,504		1,295	
Cash at bank and in hand	14	50,689		47,436	
		<u>59,193</u>		<u>48,731</u>	
Creditors	12	27,254		22,710	
		<u>27,254</u>		<u>22,710</u>	
Net current assets			31,939		26,021
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>31,939</u>		<u>26,133</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>31,939</u>		<u>26,133</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 24th January 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Dr Linda Harland, Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing at least £500 for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the expected useful lives on the following basis:

Equipment and software	- 20% pa straight line basis
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1.3 Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be measured reliably.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

1.6 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of events and educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1.7 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programmes and activities.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of one year or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.12 Volunteers

The Festival is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers and their input continues to be a key element in the Festival's ability to control expenditure.

2 Donations	2022	2021
	£	£
Sponsorship	17,980	24,030
Donations	611	685
Gift aid claimed	3,099	2,898
	<u>21,690</u>	<u>27,613</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	39,968		41,962	
Bars (net)	40		-	
Advertising revenue	6,905		5,050	
Other income (non-festival)	-		-	
Total income		46,913		47,012
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	43,243		53,903	
Other Festival expenses	180		1,096	
Printing and design	6,646		6,252	
Publicity expenses	9,148		12,293	
Other costs (non-festival)	-		-	
Total expenditure		59,217		73,544
Net income/(costs)		(12,304)		(26,532)
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		17,980		24,030
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		5,676		(2,502)
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		59,217		73,544
Governance costs (note 6)		560		170
Support costs (note 5)		9,491		14,204
		69,268		87,918
5 Membership and support costs				
Advisors		-		5,000
Stationery and postage		97		450
Website costs		5,133		4,308
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		-		391
Insurance		2,131		2,110
Travel costs		25		-
Accountancy		750		750
Telephone		95		94
Bank charges		1,148		991
Depreciation		112		110
		9,491		14,204

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

6 Governance costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Committee expenses	363	170
AGM costs	197	-
	<u>560</u>	<u>170</u>

7 Staff costs

No remuneration was paid to staff costs in the year

8 Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the period.

9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

10 Fixed assets for use by the Charity

	Equipment	Software	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets			
At 1 January 2022	-	552	552
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>552</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	440	440
Charge for year	-	112	112
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>552</u>
Net book value	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

	2022	2021
	£	£
11 Debtors		
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments	8,500	-
Gift Aid	4	1,295
	<u>8,504</u>	<u>1,295</u>
12 Current liabilities		
Sundry creditors	<u>27,254</u>	<u>22,710</u>
	<u>27,254</u>	<u>22,710</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

13 Investment Income

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2022	2021
	£	£
CAF Bank	14,516	21,996
Lloyds Bank	32,971	25,077
PayPal	3,202	363
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>50,689</u>	<u>47,436</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-22	Income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-22
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	26,133	75,074	(69,268)	31,939

16 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Festival is exempt from tax on charitable activity.