

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Registered charity no. 1175309

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

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 2021

Contents

	Page
Charity information	1
Trustees' Report	2-4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8-12

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Charity Information

Trustees: John Phillips (Until 30-Sep-21)
Michael Sweeney (Until 30-Sep-21)
Andrew Stuart
Linda Harland
John Case

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 2021

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

It was an achievement to put on a full programme of events despite the uncertainty and restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic. We decided early that because of these restrictions we would reduce the number of seats on sale but even so we were able to present varied and high quality events in all areas. There is no denying that ticket sales overall were disappointing, especially for the classical events and films.

The Festival kicked off on Friday evening with Gyles Brandreth entertaining an audience of over 200 in St Mary's Church with tales of his very varied life, celebrating the publication of his autobiography, *Odd Boy Out*, and over the course of an hour he regaled us all with tales of his very varied life.

This was followed on Saturday by free events around the town during the day which were very popular and a bespoke app-based murder mystery game which participants played in their own time using mobile phones. The day concluded with classical and electric blues concerts in the evening.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

A novel and highly successful event was the Rye and Winchelsea Musical Pilgrimage, featuring choral performances from the Victoria Consort at St Mary's Rye and St Thomas' Winchelsea with a walk between the two towns, and was a great success with many of the audience enthusiastically joining the walk. To tie in with this event, Peter Stanford, author of *Pilgrimage: Journeys of Meaning*, gave a wonderfully interesting and entertaining talk about pilgrimage in St Mary's.

Highlights of the classical music programme were Martin Roscoe's memorable recital of Beethoven Piano Sonatas, (originally planned for 2020, Beethoven's 250th Anniversary) and the rising star of the chamber music firmament, Hill Quartet's recital. Iain Burnside contributed two wonderful performances: *View From The Villa*, a Wagner biopic, was both musically fulfilling and dramatically compelling; and the Trio Balthasar's public debut performance. There were also recitals from Felix Kemp (baritone) and Simon Lepper (piano), from piano duo Artur Pizarro and Stephen Coombs and *Diva Opera* as well as *Russian Soul*, an insight into the internal world of Sergei Rachmaninov by pianist Sholto Kynoch, and singer Ilona Domnich.

The Contemporary music programme began with a wonderful electric blues concert from Errol Linton's Blues Vibe which received a justly deserved standing ovation at the end. Vic Smith presented a fascinating portrait of the late Rye Harbour folk singer, Johnny Doughty, which combined 1980s radio interviews with many photographs of Johnny's life. Concerts from Crooked Weather, Vera van Heerington Trio and Ben Bedford were all well received.

Impropera gave us a lot of fun with their fast-paced, witty improvised operatic performance. Other drama was confined to local performers. Rye Shakespeare performed "Canterbury Tales" to three sell out audiences. "Where Did It All Go Wrong" was a show case for Martin Wimbush's acting talents and Sally Bayly's vocals. The cabaret show sold out two performances.

The walks, Rye Harbour Nature Reserve conducted by Barry Yates & town walks by Paul Goring, the Rye Town Crier, were a huge success and sold out six walks.

A huge disappointment was the free fringe event, of Scintillas (three woman and one man). It was one of the best talks but extremely poorly attended. Perhaps it would have attracted more interest if tickets had been sold.

As well as the events mentioned above the Books & Talks programme offered an eclectic and wide-ranging number of events. Also at St Mary's was another sell out event with the Reverend Richard Cole who spoke movingly about his personal struggles following the death of his partner of 12 years. We were also delighted to present our second Rye Crime Day, which was a celebration of crime writing featuring bestselling writers Elly Griffiths, Nicola Upson, Andrew Wilson and Martin Edwards. Our second themed day in 2021 was Rye Spy - a celebration of spy's, espionage, codebreakers and secret agents, with Dermot Turing, nephew of Alan, Tania Szabo, daughter of SOE agent Violette, and the writer David Burke.

The festival held a number of author events at the newly opened Rye Harbour Discovery Centre including a fascinating and entertaining talk by Charlie Corbett, whose book *Twelve Birds to Save Your Life*, told the inspiring story of how nature, and birdwatching in particular, can help overcome anxiety and depression. Adam Nicolson, no stranger to the Festival, explored the natural wonders of the intertidal and our long relationship with it, and ecological garden designer Matt Rees-Warren shared his ideas about the best ways to make your garden more eco-friendly.

One of the themes of the Books & Talks programme in 2021 was a celebration of local writers and Pat Argar celebrated the life and work of Sussex author Sheila Kaye-Smith; Richard Ormrod shone a light on the public and private lives of Radclyffe Hall in Rye, and also the War Poets of Kent & Sussex. Acclaimed Children's author Linda Newberry gave a fascinating talk on Monica Edwards, whose children's book set in Rye Harbour in the 1950s were once extremely popular. We were also delighted to present two very entertaining poetry events, the first with the Rye Harbour Poet Jane Lovell and the second with iconic poet George Szirtes. We hope to run more poetry events in 2022.

Other authors included Vanessa Nicolson on the floods in Florence in 1966; Hester Grant speaking about

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Trustees report (continued)

her acclaimed biography of the 18th Century Sharp family, and Rachel Tretheway speaking about Winston Churchill's daughters.

Sadly the films shown were poorly attended but enjoyed by those who went, in line with the UK wide trend during the pandemic, probably due to reluctance to be in a confined indoor space. A highlight was the documentary film of local legend Roger Hubbard made by Rye film director Joe Snelling.

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 their generous headline sponsorship of the 2021 Festival.

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 are attached to this report. These show a deficit of £7,236 (2020 £1,766). The continuing restrictions and difficulties due to Covid meant that audiences were smaller than for previous festivals and this was the major contributing factor to the deficit. This leaves the CIO with reserves of £26,133. The Trustees recognise that deficits are not sustainable in the long term and are seeking ways to eliminate deficits in future.

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.

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
16 February 2022

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 2021 set out on pages 5 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

16 February 2022

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2021	2020
		£	£
Income:			
Donations	2	27,613	8,071
Charitable activities	3	47,012	-
Investment income		2	14
Membership		6,055	6,339
Other income		-	-
Total income		80,682	14,424
Expenditure:			
Charitable Activities	4	87,918	16,190
Total expenditure		87,918	16,190
Net income/ (expenditure)		(7,236)	(1,766)
being net movement of funds for the period			
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward at 1 January		33,369	35,135
Total funds carried forward at 31 December		26,133	33,369

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10		112		222
Current assets					
Debtors	11	1,295		7,175	
Cash at bank and in hand	14	<u>47,436</u>		<u>47,279</u>	
		<u>48,731</u>		<u>54,454</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	12	<u>22,710</u>		<u>21,307</u>	
		<u>22,710</u>		<u>21,307</u>	
Net current assets			26,021		33,147
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>26,133</u>		<u>33,369</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>26,133</u>		<u>33,369</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 16th February 2022 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 2021

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

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 2021

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	2021	2020
	£	£
Sponsorship	24,030	5,175
Donations	685	445
Gift aid claimed	2,898	2,451
	<u>27,613</u>	<u>8,071</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
3 Charitable activities				
Income				
Ticket and programme sales	41,962		-	
Bars (net)	-		-	
Advertising revenue	5,050		-	
Other income (non-festival)	-		-	
Total income	<u>-</u>	47,012	<u>-</u>	-
Less expenditure				
Direct cost of events	53,903		3,084	
Other Festival expenses	1,096		-	
Printing and design	6,252		-	
Publicity expenses	12,293		1,503	
Other costs (non-festival)	-		-	
Total expenditure	<u>-</u>	73,544	<u>-</u>	4,551
Net income/(costs)		(26,532)		(4,551)
Festival sponsorship (note 2)		24,030		5,175
Festival surplus/ (deficit)		<u>(2,502)</u>		<u>624</u>
4 Expenditure				
Direct costs		73,544		4,551
Governance costs (note 6)		170		707
Support costs (note 5)		14,204		10,932
		<u>87,918</u>		<u>16,190</u>
5 Membership and support costs				
Advisors		5,000		5,000
Stationery and postage		450		46
Website costs		4,308		1,759
Subscriptions and sundry expenses		391		60
Insurance		2,110		1,370
Legal fees		-		-
Accountancy		750		400
Telephone		94		714
Bank charges		991		221
Depreciation		110		1,362
		<u>14,204</u>		<u>10,932</u>

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

6	Governance costs	2021	2020
		£	£
	Committee expenses	170	270
	AGM costs	-	437
		170	707
		170	707
7	Staff costs		
	No remuneration was paid to Trustees 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
		£	£
		£	£
	Fixed Assets		
	At 1 January 2021	-	552
	Additions	-	-
	Disposals	-	-
	At 31 December 2021	-	552
		-	552
	Depreciation		
	At 1 January 2021	-	332
	Charge for year	-	110
	At		
	31 December 2021	-	440
		-	440
	Net book value	-	112
		-	112
		2021	2020
		£	£
11	Debtors		
	Trade debtors	-	-
	Prepayments	-	604
	Gift Aid	1,295	6,571
		1,295	7,175
		1,295	7,175
12	Current liabilities		
	Sundry creditors	22,710	21,307
		22,710	21,307
		22,710	21,307

RYE ARTS FESTIVAL CIO

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
CAF Bank	21,996	36,692
Lloyds Bank	25,077	10,127
PayPal	363	460
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>47,436</u>	<u>47,279</u>

15 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Funds at 01-Jan-21	Income	Expenditure	Funds at 31-Dec-21
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>33,369</u>	80,682	(87,918)	<u>26,133</u>

16 Taxation

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