

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2016 FOR RAMSGATE OPERATIC
SOCIETY**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1091538

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FOR
RAMSGATE OPERATIC SOCIETY

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1. CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES REPORT

The Society had rehearsed and staged two musicals and a series of concerts during the year: Honk!, Oklahoma! and Gilbert and Sullivan, a Pot Pourri.

The Society's aims are: to put on shows and enjoy doing so. In order to meet these objectives it needs funds to do and needs to be diligent with money. Its appointed Trustees are there to fulfil these objectives and to preserve the Society's abilities to continue with these activities

The Society will stage Blitz! and the Pirates of Penzance during 2017. The objective being to continue its broad approach to show choice and to involve the whole of the membership.

2. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

a) Trustees

At the beginning of the 2016 financial year and prior to the actual meeting for the 2015 AGM there were 6 Trustees:

- Mr Timothy Baker Chairman
- Mr Robert Drywood Secretary
- Mr Brian Booker Treasurer
- Mrs Patricia Bowling
- Mrs Carol Evans
- Mr Luc Humphries

Following the elections at the 54th AGM (2016) on February 9th 2016 there were 7 Trustees:

- Mr Timothy Baker Chairman
- Mr Robert Drywood Secretary
- Mr Brian Booker Treasurer
- Mrs Patricia Bowling
- Mrs Carol Evans
- Mr Luc Humphries
- Mr Kenneth Pickett

During the course of the first half of the year Mr Luc Humphries resigned as a Trustee due to pressure of other commitments.

The total number of meetings of the Trustees was 13, of which 12 is of the Trustees appointed at the 9th February 2016 AGM (up to the end of December 2016).

Attendance record of Trustees is shown below.

• Mr Timothy Baker Chairman	Possible 13	Actual 13
• Mr Robert Drywood Secretary	Possible 13	Actual 13
• Mr Brian Booker Treasurer	Possible 13	Actual 11
• Mrs Patricia Bowling	Possible 13	Actual 11
• Mr T Bunton	Possible 3	Actual 2
• Mrs Carol Evans	Possible 13	Actual 11
• Mr Luc Humphries	Possible 8	Actual 6
• Mr K. Pickett	Possible 13	Actual 7
• Mrs E Taylor-Gore	Possible 3	Actual 2

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Membership

The Charity has several types of membership and the numbers where known are shown below:

- Member, fully or partly paid 48
- Young member (16-21) 5
- Honorary member 16
- Friend 1
- Rozzers(Up to July) (After July) (15) (18) Averaged over the periods
- Invited guests* 4

*Invited guests are those persons recruited from outside the membership to fill vacancies in a specific production or other activity.

The total membership for 2016 was 92 (using the 18 figure for Rozzers)

b) Activities

During the year, the Charity rehearsed and performed two book musical productions and a series of concerts entitled Gilbert and Sullivan A Pot Pourri:

- **HONK!** a musical adaption of Hans Christian Anderson's Ugly Duckling Fairy Tale. These performances took place at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate during week 20 of 2016. The production did not make a profit (further details can be found in the "DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES" described later in this report). It was staged with a four part orchestra with the Musical Director Mr Edward Greenhalgh providing additional support to the other three players on keyboards. It was a fully costumed production. The direction was under Mrs Rachel Revell. The Trustees are grateful for the assistance of both members and friends for their support in providing backstage and front of house facilities. The houses were modest but the small orchestra helped to minimise the financial losses.
- **Gilbert and Sullivan, A Pot Pourri.** A series of concerts featuring the works of Gilbert and Sullivan were staged at the Sarah Thorne Theatre in Broadstairs and at St Nicholas at Wade church during early and late June. It provided both the performers and the audiences with the opportunity to explore and be entertained to both the popular and rarely performed works of the duo. The musical direction was under the baton of Mr Robert Drywood, ably assisted by Mr Stefan Catto as accompanist. Grateful thanks are also recorded for the support of Mr Ben Jones and Mr David Ruddock for their services as accompanists during rehearsals. The series of concerts resulted in a small profit for the Charity which partly offset the losses on Honk!
- **Oklahoma!** based on the book Green Grow the Rushes and set to music and words by the American duo of Rodgers and Hammerstein II was the charity's autumn production. It drew one of the charity's largest audience numbers of recent times as the theatre bookings were in the order of 80% +. The direction was placed with Mrs Erin Taylor-Gore. It was her first attempt at direction and she enjoyed the help of Mr Peter Barnett in producing a happy show well enjoyed by the audiences. Mr Tony Matthews was the Musical Director and a 10 piece orchestra gave good tone and quality to the production. In spite of the enhanced audience numbers the production had a serious loss overall.

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The charity's loss on the overall productions was considerable. Overall the charity continues to operate at a loss.

For all of the productions referred to above, it important to record the work and dedication of the Production Co-ordination and Stage Management roles ably carried out by Mrs Carol Evans and Mr Tim Baker as Production Co-ordinators together with those of the Stage Managers, Mrs Rachel Revell for Honk! and Mr. Alan Cottage. In addition the work of the Front of House team led by Mrs O. Humphries and the props supplied by Mrs Betty Reid and others is recorded with grateful thanks. Social media plays a large part in our publicity together with the conventional means that we employ. For these functions we are indebted to Mrs Maggie Cannon, Mrs Rachel Revell, Mr David Mossman, Mr T Bunton and Mrs E Taylor-Gore and Mr Luc Humphries. Finally the costuming of the two book productions was mainly the work of the wardrobe co-ordinator Mrs Patti Bowling who was assisted by Mrs Pamela Hayfield. The Charity's gratitude to all is recorded here.

The Charity's thanks are particularly extended to our chaperones who have worked tirelessly to ensure that we meet the requirements of the relevant legislation when we choose productions, although we are basically an adult society, that need the addition of children.

The Charity was unable to fulfil its carol singing duties this year due to late booking of the venues. Efforts will be made in 2017 to remedy this position.

The Charity is an active Member Society of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) whose strapline is "Professional Help for Amateur Societies". During the year one member (Mrs P Drywood) received her 55 year NODA service pin for active membership of an amateur theatrical group.

d) Accomplishments

In the latter part of the year The Charity attained two awards in the Best of Thanet Theatre Awards organised by the Obelisk Award team

- Ms Megan Philpott gained the award of Best Female Singer
- Mr Toby Cordes gained the award of Best Male Singer

These two awards were for their performances as Laurey and Curly respectively in Oklahoma!

e) Other

The Charity has already set out its programme for the whole of 2017. Its Spring production will be Lionel Bart's Blitz! 10th –12th May, at the Granville Theatre Ramsgate and it's Autumn production will be The Pirates of Penzance 25th-29th November at the Sarah Thorne Theatre Broadstairs.

3. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

RAMSGATE OPERATIC SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31st DECEMBER 2016

2015	GENERAL FUND	2016
£11,468.94	Balance Brought Forward	£32,001.90
	Add	
£40,174.35	Income Account	£43,509.73
<u>£51,643.29</u>		<u>£75,511.63</u>
	Less	
-£19,535.33	Expenditure Account	-£34,059.26
-£106.06	Creditor (Treasurer)	£0.00
<u>-£19,641.39</u>		<u>-£34,059.26</u>
<u>£32,001.90</u>	Balance Carried Forward	<u>£41,452.37</u>
	<u>REPRESENTED BY:</u>	
£5,000.00	Reserve Account	£0.00
£27,001.90	Current Account	£40,372.50
£0.00	Rozzers Cash in Hand	£315.49
£0.00	Cash in Hand	£140.38
£0.00	Payments in Advance	£624.00
<u>£32,001.90</u>		<u>£41,452.37</u>

I have carried out an examination of the financial records of the Ramsgate Operatic Society in respect of the year ended 31st December 2016 and I certify that the financial statements are in accordance with the records.

I confirm that no matter came to my attention to give me cause to believe that the Income and Expenditure Accounts and the Balance Sheet did not represent a true statement of the Income and Expenditure of the Society for the above year and of its financial situation as at 31st December 2016.

Signed

[Redacted Signature]

3rd February 2017

Independant Examiner

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To be included after approval by the AGM

4. DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

To be included after approval by the AGM

5. BALANCE SHEET

To be included after approval by the AGM.

6. OTHER MATTERS

It was reported with sadness that a lifelong member of the Society who had been both active as a performer and also as a member of the Committee before it became a Charity had died in the late summer. Mrs Sylvia Blogg had also served as President of the Society for several years before her death.

Sylvia had also been a Regional Representative for the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) for the SE Area. She relinquished her position in 2015. Her funeral was attended by representatives of the many organisations with which she had been acquainted both actively and passively.