Sydenham Arts Limited

Directors' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

Company information

DIRECTORS	Stephanie Wilson Colleen Batson Felicity Clark Vanessa Croan Jacques Launay Jemilla Olufeko Ioanna Papageorgiou Nitesh Patel Will Rathbone Rachel Scott Soraya Sereshki
REGISTERED OFFICE	The Sydenham Centre 44a Sydenham Road Sydenham London SE26 5QX
REGISTERED NUMBER	06835122 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY	1161590 (England and Wales)
BANKERS	Barclays Bank PLC

Sydenham Arts Limited

Year ended 31 March 2026

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Report of the Directors

The Directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The objects of the company as set out in its Memorandum of Association are to provide, promote, and advance the arts for the benefit of the public, in particular people who live, work and are educated in Sydenham and the surrounding areas.

DIRECTORS

The Directors during the year and at the date of this report are as follows:
Jemilla Olufeko (chair to 30 June 2025)
Stephanie Wilson (chair from 30 June 2025)
Colleen Batson
Felicity Clark
Vanessa Croan
Jacques Launay
Ioanna Papageorgiou
Nitesh Patel
Will Rathbone
Rachel Scott
Soraya Sereshki (appointed 23 March 2026)

Simon Betts resigned as a director on 8 May 2025 and Helen Manley resigned as a director on 12 September 2025..

New Directors are selected by consensus among the existing Directors with regard to the range of skills, experience and backgrounds that they can add to the Board.

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE
The Directors have considered the Charity Governance Principles Code for smaller charities issued 13 July 2017 and confirm that they have complied with the seven elements insofar as they are applicable to Sydenham Arts.
The company is led by an effective Board that is clear about the company's aims and provides leadership to ensure they are being delivered. The Board acts with integrity and leads the company in being transparent and open. The Board works as an effective team with an appropriate balance of skills and experience to ensure its decisions are informed and timely, with delegation, control and risk assessment set up and monitored. The company seeks diversity in the composition of its Board, and in its performers and audiences.

Sydenham Arts Limited

Year ended 31 March 2026

Report of the Directors (continued)

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The Directors have met at regular intervals during the period in order to conduct the business of the company.

Sydenham Arts Festival was incorporated on 3 March 2009 and produced a summer festival every year from 2009 to 2018. On 16 October 2014 the company shortened its name from "Sydenham Arts Festival Limited" and on 24 November 2014 became a registered charity, adopting new Articles. In 2019, Sydenham Arts moved to year-round programming reflecting and addressing a wider range of community interests through the arts, as well as bringing Sydenham Film Club under our umbrella to deliver monthly films.

In the year under review Sydenham Arts range of programming and activity was restricted by grant applications being unsuccessful and changes in personnel requiring time to build partner relationships and develop projects. The Artists Trail in September 2025 continued to impress in the range and quality of the exhibits. The monthly films provided an eclectic selection and the Winter Welcome again provided free warmth, refreshments and arts by local artists. The Moving with Parkinson's programme was able to continue throughout the year supported by generous individual donations and thanks are due to The Pavilion for its fundraising event in March 2026 allowing a full year to be planned to March 2027. Grants for the coming year have already been received for Craft Café, an extension of the Winter Welcome sessions to run from April to December, and for Our Sydenham Her Place, a follow-up project to Street Safe. A two year renewal of the Garfield Weston grant for core costs from September 2025 is also gratefully acknowledged.

The company is also appreciative of the continuing support it receives from its commercial sponsors, Property World, Sydenham Society, from its monthly individual donors and from the local community.

Directors' meetings are being held quarterly, with the directors also actively involved in running events.

Through the year the charity has increased its focus on monitoring and engaging with participants and measuring the impact of our programmes and adopted a new monitoring and evaluation framework to support this.

The Directors consider that the range of events meets the objects of the company as being for the general public benefit, with regard to the Charity Commission's guidance thereon. The enhanced wellbeing of those attending the Moving with Parkinson's sessions is evidenced by the numbers attending and the Winter Warmer sessions provide a benefit available to all local residents

The attached financial statements show total income £33,988 (2025: £40,800). Income is dependent upon the success of grant applications and the company is pleased to report that £19,350 grant income had already been secured by the end of the year for the year to 31 March 2027., including new grants from Beckenham Theatre Trust and The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust.

Fundraising continues to be directed towards both covering core costs that provide a stable platform for building an enriched arts programme in line with the objective of holding events throughout the year, and funding for a variety of programmes.

Donations in kind came from local residents who gave their professional expertise in design, marketing and promotion, accountancy and health and safety.

All events are reliant on volunteers. The directors do not charge for their management of the charity or their help in the smooth running of events. They are supported by other volunteers at events and in the administration of the Artists Trail.

The future programme is continually under review, maintaining consistently high standards for the quality, diversity and appreciation of events.

£17,527 (2025: £12,661) is carried forward which can be applied to any activity within our charitable objectives.

COMMUNICATION WITH SUPPORTERS

Previous redesign of our website has continued to improve communication with the local community, and the company recognises that social media provides a dynamic external platform. The staff team has been reshaped with an emphasis on audience development and marketing, supported by trustees and volunteers leveraging local networks and partnerships.

RISK

A risk assessment is undertaken before each new physical event. The Board continues to review and update the company's policies and procedures to ensure that they remain fit for the purpose of identifying and reducing the company's exposure to operating, financial and other risks.

CONSTITUTION

Sydenham Arts Limited is a company limited by guarantee and has no shareholders. It is registered in England and Wales, company number 06835122. The governing document of the company is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is also a registered charity in England and Wales, number 1161590.

Stephanie Wilson

Chair

7 October 2026

Sydenham Arts Limited

Year ended 31 March 2026

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees/Directors of Sydenham Arts Limited, a charitable company number 1161590

I report on the accounts of the company for the year to 31 March 2026, which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner
The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility:

- To examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To 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 the matters set out in the next statement.

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have 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.

M Brooks FCA
12 Princethorpe Road
London SE26 4PF
7 October 2026

Sydenham Arts Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Income from					
Grants		1,800	4,630	6,430	4,450
Donations		2,899	9,477	12,376	18,256
Total grants and donations		4,699	14,107	18,806	22,706
Charitable activities		14,243	700	14,943	17,849
Investment income – bank interest		-	239	239	245
Total income		18,942	15,046	33,988	40,800
Direct cost of charitable activities		17,293	-	17,293	16,467
Administrative expenses		1,649	10,180	11,829	28,706
Total cost of charitable activities		18,942	10,180	29,122	45,173
Net excess / (deficit) of income over expenses	2	-	4,866	**4,866**	**(**4,373)
Tax	4			**-**	-
Net excess / (deficit) of income over expenses after tax	**7**			**4,866**	**(4,373)**

All amounts above are derived from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

Sydenham Arts Limited

Balance Sheet
31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2025 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	5	526	534
Cash at bank and in hand		38,500	18,299
		39,026	18,833
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	21,499	6,172
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		17,527	12,661
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds	7	17,527	12,661

For the year ended 31 March 2026, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller companies.

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

The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 7 October 2026
and were signed on its behalf by

Stephanie Wilson
Chair

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

Sydenham Arts Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102), applicable accounting standards and company law.

Going Concern
The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis on the premise that grants continue to be awarded to allow it to carry out its objectives.

Public Benefit
The company is a public benefit entity to promote, maintain and advance education, by the encouragement of the arts and to develop new and existing opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area in order that they may experience the arts through active and passive participation.

Turnover
Turnover represents grant funding received, together with localised sponsorship and donations. Other income is also received from box office and ticket sales generated from various events. Further income is generated from the sale of publicity and marketing space within flyers and brochures.

Grant funding received can be in the form of general funding and restricted funding. Any restricted funding which has not been spent at the year-end will be recorded in the balance sheet and carried forward to later periods.

Donations are treated as income at the time of receipt, unless they are specifically to cover a future expense.

Reserves
The Directors consider it prudent that unrestricted reserves are kept at a level sufficient to cover core costs for six months.

2. OPERATING PROFIT

The operating profit is stated after charging:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Directors' remuneration and benefits	-	-
Fee for independent examination of the accounts	-	-

3. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2026	2025
	£	£
Gross pay	14,584	29,393
Employer's NI contributions	-	-
Employer's pension contributions	130	452
	14,714	29,845

During the year there were 2 core staff (2025: 3) each engaged on contracts for periods of at least six months. Other staff are engaged for specific events. The number of staff paid in excess of £60,000 was none (2025: none).

4. TAXATION

The company is a registered charity. None of its sources of income is taxable.

5. DEBTORS

	2026	2025
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	526	534

6. CREDITORS : AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2026	2025
	£	£
Grants received for future activities	19,350	-
Income received in advance	75	-
Accrued expenses	2,074	6,172
	21,499	6,172

Grants received for future activities include restricted income grant funding not spent at the balance sheet date £13,980 (2025: £ nil), comprising £5,000 from London Catalyst, £3,500 from Beckenham Theatre Trust and £5,480 from The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust.

7. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	1 Apr 25	Income	Expenses	31 Mar 26
	£	£	£	£
Restricted income funds	-	18,942	18,942	-
Unrestricted funds	12,661	15,046	10,180	17,527
Total	12,661	33,988	29,122	17,527

The restricted income funds are not considered material enough to be shown individually. The restricted income funds not spent at the balance sheet date are recorded as creditors in note 6 to be spent in later periods. The unrestricted funds of the charity are retained to meet the costs of future activities and are not distributable to members.

8. COMPANY STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee without having a share capital. The number of members is not limited. At 31 March 2026 there were eleven members (2025: twelve members).

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

N Patel exhibited in the Artists Trail, paying the standard entry fee £60.
Otherwise, none of the current Directors received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year. There were no other transactions required to be reported with the Directors or with parties related to them.

10. GOING CONCERN

The income that the Company needs to continue its operations for 12 months had been fully secured at the balance sheet date, but long-term funding is still to be secured, as is common in smaller charities. The values of assets and liabilities in the balance sheet would not be affected were an alternative method of valuation to be required.

11. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The rental agreement for the company's office at the Sydenham Centre has a six month notice period. At the current rent this would amount to £1,210. The company also has a contract to August 2027 with BT, early termination of which would incur a charge of £900 at the balance sheet date.

Sydenham Arts Limited

Trading and Profit and Loss Account
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Turnover				
Box Office and ticket sales	1,482		3,832	
Refreshment sales at events	777		2,016	
Visual Arts	4,135		4,540	
Grant funding	6,430		4,450	
Advertising and sponsorship	7,450		6,208	
Donations, including Gift Aid	12,376		18,256	
Other income	1,338		1,498	
		33,988		40,800
Cost of Sales				
Performers' and facilitators' costs	2,505		3,425	
Event technical costs	1,854		2,265	
Venue hire	1,800		619	
Costs of refreshment sales	339		720	
Marketing	3,617		2,545	
Booking charges	132		317	
Event specific personnel	6,967		6,576	
Other	80		=	
		17,294		16,467
GROSS PROFIT		16,694		24,333
Expenditure				
Administration personnel	7,747		23,269	
Venue hire (non-event)	(583)		-	
Insurance	468		542	
Bank charges	-		74	
Office costs	4,196		4,821	
		11,828		28,706
EXCESS / (DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		4,866		(4,373)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.