

**GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

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# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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**Trustees**

Mary Penford  
Peter Whelan  
Graham Blyth

**Secretary**

William Parkinson

**Charity number**

297031

**Company number**

02065882

**Registered office**

26 Highbury Terrace  
Leeds  
West Yorkshire  
LS6 4ET

**Independent examiner**

Stuart B Lodge FCA  
Stuart B Lodge & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
44 Bradford Road  
Idle  
Bradford  
West Yorkshire  
BD10 9PE

**Bankers**

Yorkshire Bank plc  
6 Otley Road  
Leeds  
West Yorkshire  
LS6 2AA

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

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# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 20 October 1986 and registered as a charity on 3 July 1987. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The charity trades as Mimika Theatre.

#### Trustee Recruitment and Appointment

The Directors who also act as Trustees serve for a three year period, retiring by rotation and may be elected for a further period.

The current Directors provide a range of skills and experience relevant to the needs and size of the Company. Should it be necessary to recruit new members in the future, the existing Trustees consult with the Chief Executive to select new appointments.

#### Organisational Structure

Day to day decisions, including general administrative duties, artistic planning, the creation of shows and actual performances are carried out by Jenny Ward and William Parkinson.

At Directors meetings reports are given to the Trustees regarding current activities, future plans and income and expenditure updates.

### Objectives and Activities

#### Objectives

The Company's objects and principal activity as described in its Governing Document is to promote, maintain, improve and advance education through the performing arts.

#### Mission Statement

The charity was set up for the benefit of the public and achieves this through the presentation of high quality accessible theatre to a wide cross section of young people in both school and theatre venues.

### Key Objectives 2015/16

- Continue the process of extending the Company's audience base by performing in previously unvisited venues to new audiences.
- Application made to Arts Council Yorkshire G4A grants towards the development of a new theatre production.
- Continue to develop partnerships established in 2014/15 with Yorkshire based organisations.

### Strategies for Achieving Objectives

- The database of venues who regularly programme children's theatre to be updated and extended.
- Touring of "Small Worlds" and "Landscapes" to both new and previously visited Theatre venues and Schools throughout the UK.
- Marketing the Company and its work to new audiences in Yorkshire.
- Update the Company website.
- Formulate key ideas/styles of presentation for the new production – working title "Seasons".

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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### Activities 2015/16

This was primarily a performing year.

### Performances

A total of 25 venues were visited by the Company in 2015/16. Of these 14 were new to the Company and 11 were return visits with the repertoire.

Performances took place in both Theatre, School and Community venues.

The contact time with each Theatre venue was a minimum of 2 days.

The contact time in each school visited was a minimum of 2/3 days.

### Mimika Performances 2015/16

\* indicates a new venue/organisation.

2/4/15 – 6/4/15

\* Leeds Film Festival

3/5/15 – 14/5/15

\* San Antonio International Puppet Festival, Texas USA

23/5/15 – 24/5/15

\* Winchester Discovery Centre

26/5/15 – 27/5/15

\* Wigtown Town Hall, Dumfries and Galloway Arts Festival, Scotland

29/5/15 – 31/5/15

Salisbury International Festival

5/6/15 – 6/6/15

Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal

14/6/15 – 16/6/15

\* Kingsland Special School, Wakefield

23/6/15 – 25/6/15

\* Victoria Park Infant School, Stretford, Manchester

27/6/15 – 28/6/15

\* Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester

1/7/15 – 2/7/15

\* St Mary's School, Middleton, Leeds

4/7/15 – 4/7/15

Lichfield International Arts Festival

14/7/15 – 16/7/15

\* Creetown Initiative, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland

27/7/15 – 28/7/15

Heart Arts Centre, Leeds

2/8/15 – 7/8/15

Jersey Royal Opera House

8/8/15 – 9/8/15

The Guildhall, Portsmouth

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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16/10/15 – 17/10/15

\* Washington Arts Centre, Sunderland

20/10/15 – 23/10/15

\* Coventry Belgrade Theatre in Education Festival

26/10/15 – 28/10/15

CAST Theatre, Doncaster

23/11/15 – 25/11/15

Skelton Grange Environmental Centre, Leeds

29/11/15 – 6/12/15

Left Bank Arts Centre, Leeds

10/1/16 – 12/1/16

Kingsland Special School, Wakefield

27/1/16 – 29/1/16

Grove Lea Primary School, Pontefract, West Yorkshire

29/2/16 – 1/3/16

\* Square Chapel Arts Centre, Halifax

9/3/16 – 11/3/16

\* St.Chad's School, Leeds

14/3/16 – 16/3/16

\* Ravenscliffe High Special School, Halifax

### Key Activities and Events

The highlights of the year include:

#### Performances at the San Antonio International Puppet Festival, Texas May 2015

This was the first of its kind to be held in Texas and grew out of an invitation from Kathleen Miller of the Children's Fine Art Series in May 2013. The Festival included Companies from Vietnam, France and Australia. Mimika was the only UK representative. Performances took place at the newly built Tobin Arts Theatre. 13 performances took place over the Festival period. All the performances were sold out and met with a fantastic response from both audiences and Festival organisers. As a result of this success Mimika was asked to make a return visit in 2017.

#### Performances at Jersey Opera House August 2015

This was the Company's second visit to the Channel Islands. As a result of the success of our first visit in February of this year Jasmine Hendry, the Director of Jersey Opera House invited Mimika back to present performances of "Landscapes" in August over 3 performing days. Performances were again sold out. An invitation was extended to present the Company's new performance when it was completed.

#### New Partnerships in Leeds

Two significant partnerships began in 2014/15 with Skelton Grange Environmental Centre and Left Bank Arts Centre.

#### Skelton Grange Environmental Centre

The first performances took place in November 2014 to both school and family audiences. The Centre is keen to pursue this relationship and invited Mimika back in November 2015. In addition they would like to be involved in the new theatre project – "Seasons". This could involve pre-viewing shows, using the Centre for advice on Educational Resource Material and developing a genuine complimentary partnership between a Theatre Company and a Centre devoted to promoting the study and educational exploration of the natural world.

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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### Left Bank Arts Centre

Left Bank is a converted Victorian Gothic Church. After seeing a performance and realising the potential of the tent environment in this unusual setting the staff invited Mimika to perform "Landscapes" for 3 days in June 2014 for both school and family audiences. A week long residency took place in December 2014. A further week long residency also took place in December 2015 with an additional weekend booked for April 2016.

Left Bank have offered their space, free of charge, for rehearsals during the creation of the new "Seasons" project.

Both these partnerships have developed in 2015/16 and the Company believe they have great potential and must be nurtured.

In addition:

The Company website continues to be redesigned to better reflect the quality, detail and highly visual nature of the performances. Feedback received throughout the year indicates that these changes were successful and, aside from the actual performance experience, the website is now the main marketing asset for the Company.

The Company Venue database continued to be updated and new venues were added.

The themes, content and styles of presentation of the new performance project were constantly revised and added to throughout the year.

### Key Objective not met

It was clearly stated in the 2014/15 Trustees' Report that an application would be made to Arts Council Yorkshire G4A in 2015/16 towards the creation of a new performance. The Company intended to apply for a maximum grant of £15,000 which involves a 6 week decision making process.

This application was not made for the following reasons:

In October 2015 a meeting took place with Hannah Bentley, the current Theatre Officer for the Arts Council regarding the potential application. Having seen the work of Mimika Hannah gave her full support and offered valuable advice.

In January 2016 a new Application Form and Portal was created by the Council. On reviewing these changes and the advice received, the Company decided to delay the application until 2016/17 in order to establish clear designs of the set, performance style and narrative line.

In addition, the Company also needed to establish firm agreements from schools partnerships to preview elements of the new project in order to fulfill the Arts Council requirements regarding public engagement during the creative process.

An application in 2016/17 allows for:-

- Key aspects of the new performance to be fully developed allowing for a more accurate assessment of the budget.
- The time to establish the agreement and commitment of school participants.

### Achievements and Performance

The Company successfully continued to reach new audiences both nationally and internationally.

Local partnerships continue to be developed.

Performance fee income in 2015/16 showed an increase of almost £4,000 compared to 2014/15.

The Company continued to develop new Yorkshire based contacts both in Schools and Theatre venues.

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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The importance of successful return visits to previously visited venues cannot be overestimated. This builds a larger base of potential audiences for the new project for 2016/17.

Performances in 2015/16 continued to receive a fantastic response from both audiences and promoters, along with testimonials from programmers who have continued to support the Company:

*"There are many reasons to admire the work of Mimika Theatre and I've been delighted to book them on many occasions to guarantee the Warwick Arts Centre children and family audiences a mesmerizing and uplifting experience. Their work is thoughtfully considered and beautifully performed. It is generous and highly engaging. They completely disprove the myth that children have short attention spans and show by their care and attention to detail that if you put something intriguing and mysterious and gentle in front of children they will stay with you, fully absorbed ..."*

**Brian Bishop – Education Director, Warwick Arts Centre**

*"I am writing to say a huge thanks for bringing your beautiful production of "small worlds" to Lakeside on Sunday. It was beautifully crafted, everything about it clearly benefitted from such enormous care and thought, and I together with the rest of the audience was clearly mesmerized by your gorgeous story telling."*

**Shona Powell – Director, Lakeside Theatre Nottingham**

*"Really magical experience. Enjoyed by all students and staff. The effects were tremendous. Could have watched it over and over again. It was suitable for all abilities... such a magical morning. The performance was nothing short of fantastic!"*

**Fiona Harrison – Leading Teacher, Ravenscliffe Special School**

### Summary and Conclusion

The Company concludes that the key objectives have been met:

- The Company has continued to extend its audience base.
- The Company has formed new partnerships with venues which will impact on the future uptake of performances.
- The Company continues to increase its Yorkshire based contacts.
- The artistic quality of the work has been demonstrated.

### Plans for Future Periods

Key Objective:

- The creation of a new performance. The Company recognises the importance of this in the coming year.
- 2016/17 will see the Company continuing to present the current repertoire and laying the foundations for the "Seasons" project. This involves set design, story boarding narrative ideas, identifying and exploring new techniques of presentation.
- An application will be made to the Arts Council in 2016/17 for the creation of the "Seasons" project. The creation and first performances are planned to take place in 2017/18.
- The Company will continue to seek new audiences and venues through the performance and selling of the repertoire.
- The Company will continue to develop the contacts made with venues and Schools.
- The Company will continue to build on the inroads made in the Yorkshire region in both School and Theatre venues.
- The Company will continue creative and artistic development through the application of new techniques and art forms in the new performance project.



# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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### Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees of General Theatre Company Limited(The) are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these accounts the Trustees are required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose at anytime the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006, and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees



WILLIAM E. PARKINSON

Secretary

Dated: 22/11/16

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2016, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

### Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees, who are also the Directors of General Theatre Company Limited(The) 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 year 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:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) 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
- (iii) 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 those matters set out in the statement below.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities, preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice issued in April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has since been withdrawn.

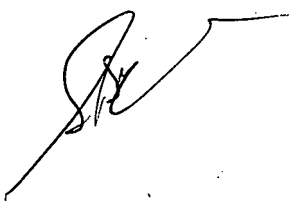
I understand this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - (ii) 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
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart B Lodge FCA  
Stuart B Lodge & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
44 Bradford Road  
Idle  
Bradford  
West Yorkshire  
BD10 9PE



Dated: 2 December 2016

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
<b>Income</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	-	50
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	18,860	15,815
Other income	4	7,741	6,036
<b>Total income</b>		<u>26,601</u>	<u>21,901</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>	5		
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Project running costs		27,868	20,964
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>27,868</u>	<u>20,964</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		(1,267)	937
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,512</u>	<u>575</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>245</u>	<u>1,512</u>

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

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2016


	Notes	£	2016 £	£	2015 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	8		-		-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	9	96		874	
Cash at bank and in hand		891		1,358	
		<u>987</u>		<u>2,232</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	742		720	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>245</u>		<u>1,512</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds:			<u>245</u>		<u>1,512</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2016. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The accounts were approved by the Board on 22/11/16

  
GRAHAM BEUTH

Trustee

Company Registration No. 02065882

**GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)****STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2016**

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	<b>2016 £</b>	<b>2015 £</b>
<b>Cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(467)</b>	<b>(619)</b>
Cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,358	1,977
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>1,358</b>
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# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

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### 1. Accounting policies

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise stated.

The accounts are prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

In preparing the accounts the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

#### 1.2 Incoming resources

Core funding revenue grants are credited to the income and expenditure account at the time when they are received. Revenue grants for specific projects are credited to the income and expenditure account when received and unspent amounts at the year end are carried forward as part of the restricted funds in the balance sheet.

Income from performances is credited to the income and expenditure account at the time when they are received.

Donations are accounted for when received by the charitable company.

#### 1.3 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charitable company in the delivery of its activities and services for beneficiaries. These costs includes those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirement of the charitable company.

#### 1.4 Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Equipment	25% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

#### 1.5 Accumulated funds

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

### 2. Donations and legacies

	2016 £	2015 £
Donations – Mr P Fergusson	-	50

### 3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2016 £	2015 £
Performance fees	18,860	15,815

### 4. Other income

	2016 £	2015 £
Reimbursed costs	7,741	6,036

### 5. Charitable activities

	2016 £	2015 £
Performance fees	15,100	8,850
Production costs	214	138
Refundable costs	7,741	6,451
Motor vehicle expenses	2,085	2,760
Travel	1,558	1,690
Printing, postage and stationery	263	223
Independent examination fee	720	720
Computer costs	91	14
Sundries	16	16
Subscriptions	60	60
Bank charges	-	12
Telephone costs	20	30
	<u>27,868</u>	<u>20,964</u>

### 6. Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year (2015 - £nil).

### 7. Employees

There were no employees in the year (2015 none).

# GENERAL THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED(THE)

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

### 8. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Motor Vehicle £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2015			
And			
<b>31 March 2016</b>	27,714	17,179	44,893
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2015			
And			
<b>31 March 2016</b>	27,714	17,179	44,893
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 31 March 2016			
And			
31 March 2015	-	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 9. Debtors

	2016 £	2015 £
Performance fees	-	450
Prepayments and accrued income	96	424
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	96	874
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2016 £	2015 £
Accruals	742	720
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 11. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

	2016 £	2015 £
Net movement in funds	(1,267)	937
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	778	(352)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	22	(1,204)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	(467)	(619)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>