

Lacey Theatre Company

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the period ended 31 May 2008

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Lacey Theatre Company is a charitable company, limited by guarantee,
Registered in England and Wales. Company No. 06241489
Registered Charity No. 1122069

Trustees report

1. Reference and administrative details

Trustees

Norman Adams
Sandra Harnisch-Lacey
Gerard Kelly
Joy Watson

All of the above trustees have held office throughout the year. Trustees are also directors for the purpose of Company Law except Gerard Kelly who acted as a trustee, but was appointed as a director from 11th August 2008.

Secretary

Alun Mathias

Bankers

HSBC
94 Albany Road
Cardiff
CF24 3RT

Registered Office

The Gate Arts Centre
Keppoch Street
Roath
Cardiff
CF24 3JW

2. Structure, management and governance

The governing body of the Lacey Theatre Company is the board of directors (also referred to as Trustees), who meet from time to time to discuss the affairs of the Charity. The day to day operations of the Charity are overseen by the Alun Mathias who acts as Finance Director (designate) and Company Secretary. The day to day management of the Theatre Company's operations is the responsibility of the Theatre Company Manager, Elin Jeyes, who is accountable to the Finance Director. The Finance Director is accountable to the Trustees and is required by them to identify areas of risk, and to communicate any areas of concern to them in a clear and timely manner.

Trustees report

3. Objects, aims and activities, achievements and performance

Our Objects

The Charity's objects are:

- (a) to advance the Christian faith in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit;
- (b) to promote and encourage art and in particular performing art for the benefit of the public by the development production and presentation of new writing or works of any form and the advancement of education of children young persons and adults by participation in the experience of theatre drama and the performing arts.

Our aims and activities...

'Telling stories and asking questions'. Lacey Theatre Company is about what we all loved as kids, and some may have lost since 'growing up' - the craft of 'telling stories and asking questions'. We are consciously exploring the role of the Bard – **reclaiming the ancient art of storytelling for today** so that we may become more effective in the mystery of offering spiritual principles to a wide range of people in a way they can handle and weigh. Often it's as simple as just **'treating adults as kids and kids as adults'**, that is, not dumbing down the language for the younger end of the spectrum and not denying a bit of playfulness for the adults.

Our vision is to create original work of high quality, that brings the Bible to life, making the words count. We offer our craft and our character to audiences of all make ups and break downs, that, by sharing our journey though yet incomplete, we might spur others on in theirs. And if the audience applauds, we will bow, but we're merely **taking on the mantle of the court jester** bowing before the king and saying **'we have served you'**.

The Story begins...

Lacey Theatre Company was founded in 2004 by Rob and Sandra Lacey, initially to support Rob in his ministry, where churches, communities, conferences, book festivals and even TV programmes were queuing up to secure performances from *the street bible* (now published as *the word on the street*). Due to his health, Rob was unable to meet all these engagements, and so took on 3 actors, Elin Jeynes, Abby Guinness and Lucy Thampi, to produce a new show which became known as *the street bible Live*, and was directed by Steve Stickley of Footprints Theatre Trust.

The Story continues...

At first, it wasn't clear how people would react to unknown actors performing Rob's work, rather than the man himself, but they were soon singing the company's praises. "20 years of hard grind and they've forgotten about me already!" Rob said, with a proud smile. This unexpectedly easy transition proved an important indicator of the fact that Rob's writing stood on its own, and even with other performers, it still had the power to affect, instruct, and enliven audiences on a massive scale, with almost 200 performances nationwide in the first year. The feedback from the many festivals, churches, schools and prisons was overwhelmingly positive.

Trustees report

The next episode...

Elin, Abby and Lucy were later joined by a team of new actors, and together continued to seek a fresh approach to theatre and storytelling: to create high quality theatre bringing scripture to life, making the words count. Now starring Keren, Rhian and Emily, the success of *word on the street live* continued with 3 further national tours in churches, schools and prisons across the UK.

Christmas Presence...

Rob commissioned Abby to write a new show based around the Christmas story as it appears in Rob's final book *The Liberator*. The enthusiasm for this show matched *the word on the street*, and it completed two national tours.

Spring Harvest...

Lacey Theatre Company's collaboration with Spring Harvest as its resident theatre company in Minehead grew stronger each year, and in 2006 Rob was commissioned to write, *The Stars, the Sand and That Other Now*, to be performed by the company on the opening night of each week. The DVD of the production is enclosed with this pack. The company's collaboration is still very strong, and we have been back each year, creating original work to fit the needs of the conference.

Other conferences / organisations that regularly book us are New Wine, Soul Survivor, Revive (Ichthus), Greenbelt, Roots (Salvation Army), Crusaders, Care for the Family and Scripture Union.

Trustees report

And so...

In 2007 Lacey Theatre Company became a registered charity, and are looking forward to the future, bringing the word off the page onto the stage for people of all ages and backgrounds. Our artistic ethos is to tell stories and ask questions, reclaiming the ancient art of storytelling for today, and to provide a bridge between church and community. As we share our craft we hope to bring others closer to the best story of all time, in fact the author of authors.

The Liberator

Sadly in May 2006 Rob passed away after bravely facing cancer, but he left behind a legacy of written work, as well as the theatre company. It was Rob's vision that the work of the theatre company would continue into the future, and the company is passionate about communicating biblical truth to our culture. Since the beginning Lacey Theatre Company has now performed to over 100,000 people in local communities, and have continued to perform throughout the past two years.

In 2007 a new show was launched based upon *The Liberator*, which was Rob's final published work. In the play, the focus is entirely on the person of Jesus, and the gospel story is retold with a 21st Century twist, running commentary, satire, and character insights. The show is a lively piece of storytelling theatre, with memorable characters, music and comedy, that brings the bible to life for those who have never read it, or those who have read it too much! The show was seen in venues across the UK in 2007 and 2008.

The Story so far

The Story So Far is a brand new multimedia theatre piece covering the whole bible, with a close look at the life of Jesus. Poetry, original music, visuals, comedy and memorable characters collide to create an exciting and magical exposition of one of the most retold stories in our culture. The Story So Far is a solo show that has been created as part of our theatre in education programme, but has also been adapted for public performances.

The story so far is part of a programme for Key Stage 3 comprising of performances, workshops and follow up materials. The aim is to explore the subject of Christianity within the national curriculum for RE in an innovative way, making the experience creative, inquisitive, fun and memorable. Teachers can choose from 10 workshops to follow the performance, 6 of which help to unpack the story of Christianity, and 4 are specifically drama related.

4. Financial review

The Charity finished the year with sufficient working capital to allow it to continue to operate without the need for loans or overdraft facilities. Funds are not sufficient however, to allow the Charity to set aside any Reserves at the current time. The Charity benefited from a successful Appeal for donations at the beginning of the financial year. Broadly, it appears that Income from charitable activities needs to be supplemented by income from grants or donations of around £16,000 per annum in order for the Charity to be able to sustain its current level of activities. We are optimistic that, given the widespread level of support that there is particularly among churches and Christian organisations, this level of annual donations is realistically attainable going forward.

Trustees report

5. Future plans

Over the next two years the Charity is seeking to develop the 'Story so Far' and to deliver the show and workshops to Secondary Schools all over the UK. At the same time we want to develop our support base and to establish a financial model which is sustainable over the long term.



Norman Adams
Acting Chairperson

Date: 22/04/09

Statement of financial activities

Including income and expenditure account for the period to 31 May 2008

	Notes	2008 Restricted Funds £	2008 Unrestricted Funds £	2008 Total £
Incoming Resources				
<i>Incoming resources form generating funds</i>				
Voluntary income: Donations & gifts		-	34,306	34,306
Grants	2	1,500	-	1,500
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>				
Performance & tour fees		-	41,271	41,271
Sales of merchandise & programmes		-	4,347	4,347
Travel fees		-	2,358	2,358
Other incoming resources		-	158	158
Investment income	3	-	16	16
Total Incoming Resources		1,500	82,456	83,956
Resources expended				
Cost of generating funds		-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	1,500	67,952	69,452
Total Resources Expended		1,500	67,952	69,452
Net incoming resources		-	14,504	14,504
Net movement in funds		-	14,504	14,504
Fund balances at 9 May 2007		-	-	-
Fund balances at 31 May 2008		-	14,504	14,504

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 1985.

All recognised gains and losses have been included in the statement of financial activities.

All operations are continuing.

Balance sheet

at 31 May 2008

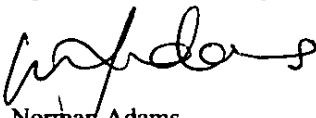
	Notes	2008
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	5	5,000
		<hr/> 5,000
Current assets		
Debtors		3,456
Cash at bank and in hand		16,788
		<hr/> 20,244
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2,205
		<hr/>
Net current assets		18,039
		<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		23,009
		<hr/>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	6	8,535
		<hr/>
Net assets		14,504
		<hr/> <hr/>
Accumulated funds		
General fund	7	14,504
Restricted fund		-
		<hr/>
		14,504
		<hr/> <hr/>

For the period ended 31 May 2008 the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under s249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 and no notice has been deposited under s249B(2) requiring an audit of these accounts.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221 of the Act; and
- preparing accounts that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at 31 May 2009 and of its profit for the period then ended in accordance with section 226, and otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 11 were approved by the Trustees on 9/3/09 and signed on their behalf by:



Norman Adams
Acting Chairperson

Date 22/04/09.

Notes to the financial statements

at 31 May 2008

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and the Companies Act and comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The policies adopted for items which are judged material to the financial statements are as follows:

Incoming resources

Donations and gifts are recognised as income when received. The donations under Gift Aid are recognised when receivable. The associated income tax recovery is recognised when the recovery is receivable.

Interest is recognised when receivable.

Grants are recognised as income when they are received provided conditions for receipt have been complied with, unless they relate to a specified future period in which case they are deferred.

Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised on an accruals basis. They are allocated to activities based on actual usage and time spent. Establishment, support costs and costs associated with attracting voluntary income are allocated to cost of generating funds.

Costs of charitable activities relates to the costs for festivals, tours and performances together with associated travel and the cost of merchandise.

Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, on a straight line basis over their expected lives on the following basis:

Equipment	33.5%
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Restricted Funds

Restricted funds relates to a grant received was from the Christian Arts Trust and was designated to be used on development of performances.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be utilized at the discretion of the trustees.

2. Grants

A grant of £1500 was received from Christian Arts Trust, which was restricted to performance development.

3. Investment income

Investment income relates to bank interest receivable.

Notes to the financial statements

at 31 May 2008

4. Charitable activities

	2008 <i>Restricted Funds</i> £	2008 <i>Unrestricted Funds</i> £	2008 <i>Total</i> £
Staff costs	-	29,086	29,086
Tour & performance costs	-	14,895	14,895
Development of performances	1,500	8,385	9,885
Marketing, publicity & website	-	2,472	2,472
Office costs	-	2,101	2,101
Merchandise costs	-	2,079	2,079
Travel expenses	-	1,920	1,920
Other costs	-	4,514	4,514
Depreciation	-	2,500	2,500
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>67,952</u>	<u>69,452</u>

5. Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Equipment Unrestricted</i> £
<i>Cost</i>	
At 9 May 2007	-
Additions – start-up equipment	7,500
At 31 May 2008	<u>5,000</u>
<i>Depreciation:</i>	
At 9 May 2007	-
Charge for year	2,500
At 31 May 2008	<u>2,500</u>
<i>Net book value:</i>	
At 31 May 2008	<u>5,000</u>
At 9 May 2007	<u>-</u>

Notes to the financial statements

at 31 May 2008

6. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2008
	<i>Unrestricted</i>
	£
Other creditors	8,535

Other creditors relates to the sale of equipment by Lacey Productions to Lacey Theatre Company at start-up.

7. Funds

	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Un- restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
	£	£	£
At 9 May 2007	-	-	-
Funds generated in the period to 31 May 08	-	14,504	14,504
At 31 May 2008	-	14,504	14,504