

**The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society**

A Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England & Wales No: 04938339

A Registered Charity in England & Wales No: 1117232

**Annual Report and Accounts  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society**

**Annual Report and Accounts  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society  
Annual Report of the Council of Management  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The Council of Management presents its annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Charity name:	The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society
Charity registration number:	1117232
Company registration number:	04938339
Registered office address:	Marroway Barn, Briery Lands Snitterfield Stratford-upon-Avon Warwickshire CV37 0PP
Operating address:	New House Farm Knightcote Warwickshire CV47 2DA

**COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT**

Covers the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Mr S G Butler	(appointed 21 July 2022)
Mr K Croucher	
Mr J V Gowers	(appointed 21 July 2022)
Mr DA Hewett	(retired 21 July 2022)
Dr P Hutchinson	Chairman
Mr J Mole	
Mr D Roots	
Mr S Ridgway	Treasurer
Mr G Smith	
Mr IN Spalding	Secretary
Mr SD Wilcock	

**SECRETARY**

Mr IN Spalding

**BANKERS**

HSBC UK, 65 Cornmarket Street, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 3HY

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Society is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated on 21 October 2003 and was registered as a charity on 13 December 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established its objects and powers and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, each member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The directors of the company are also the trustees of the charity and under the company's Articles of Association are known as members of the Council of Management. The members of the Council of Management are elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting. Under the Articles of Association, at least one-third of the Council of Management is bound to retire by rotation at each Annual General Meeting. The retiring members may offer themselves for re-election.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Council of Management has considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and has established procedures to manage those risks.

## **OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The Society's objectives are to advance public education, to foster a general interest in railways and model railways and to encourage a high standard of modelling by its members.

When planning its activities, the Council of Management has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There follows a summary of the principal activities of the Society which relate to its objectives.

The Society did not hold its annual exhibition in 2023, mainly due to increased costs involved in running the event. Also, due to continuing economic pressures, no two day shows, as previously promoted, are planned in the foreseeable future. This was obviously a disappointment as the annual exhibition is of paramount importance both in attracting new members to participate in its activities and in promoting and encouraging an interest in model railways generally and providing broader services to the local community. However, the Society was able to hold an Open Day at its clubrooms in November 2022. This followed our attendance at the Great British Model Railway Show at Gaydon in October where one of our layouts, the P4 gauge Clarendon, and our new club stand were present.

Several of the Society's layouts were exhibited at model railway exhibitions in the year. Duxbury, a OO gauge layout, was exhibited at the Statford Model Railway Exhibition in April 2022 and, as mentioned above, Clarendon in October 2022.

The new club stand has also been to several exhibitions during the financial year including Stafford Model Rail Show in September 2022, the International N Gauge Show in September 2022, the Great British Model Railway Show at Gaydon in October 2022, Warley Exhibition at the NEC in November 2022, and the Midland Garden Railway Show at the Fosse Exhibition Centre in March 2023. These events allowed us to promote and encourage an interest in model railways generally and providing broader services to the local community.

The Society has also makes its club rooms available to other railway groups in order to hold meetings as a further means of meeting its charitable aims. This has included several meetings for MERG (Model Electronic Railway Group) during the year.

For many years the Society has produced a Society Newsletter which contains articles about the club, its layouts and general railway related articles. This is now sent out not only the Society members but also to a wider audience as a means of encouraging an interest in model railways.

During the year, the Society received, through its website, a large number of enquiries on a wide range of railway, modelling and associated subjects. The Society endeavours, by allocating the enquiry to members with appropriate experience, to respond to the enquiry in a timely manner. Members have helped by providing advice, guidance, offers of help and detailed information and this helps to further the Society's objectives to advance public education and foster a general interest in railways and model railways.

An example of the type of enquiries included contacts from relatives of recently deceased modellers requesting help with disposing of the deceased model railway items and the Society advised them on a variety of avenues that they might like to pursue to dispose of the items.

The Coronavirus restrictions in the past severely impacted our activities and the ability of members to meet indoors. These circumstances caused a group of members to consider how

members could meet to pursue railway modelling activities outdoors where meeting others has been allowed during the pandemic. The result has been the construction of a large scale outdoor track which has been agreed with our Landlords and this is nearing completion. The outdoor track will allow members to continue to meet, particularly if future epidemic disease measures restrict indoor meetings again, and also attract a potential new group of members who model in Gauge 1.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a surplus of £4,148 (2021/22: £4,282) for the year, which has been added to the reserves.

There is an increase in income over last year of just over £5k which is mainly due to increased membership contributions from additional membership and reducing Covid effects, improved Exhibition Income (second-hand sales) and clubroom hire (mainly for the MERG meetings) which is also a sign of reduced Covid restrictions. Overall there is a small increase in the surplus seen, held back by higher electricity costs and increased spend in improving the clubrooms. This latter is with the intention of providing better lighting and a reduction in our future running costs (electricity). Continuing the exciting development of the Outdoor Railway has reduced our surplus for this past financial year but is considered to be a wise investment.

For the last year the club has seen the effect of the COVID pandemic dwindle to almost nothing but the steep rise in energy prices has of course hit us. The farm qualified for the government grants which then assisted us to spend under our cautious £5k budget by around £3k. For the coming year's budget proposal grants will be assumed not to continue.

As in previous years, receipt of £2,955 Gift Aid (£2,947 last year) has been a significant contributor to the surplus. This shows the benefit the work by Ian Spalding to make the submission, and of members agreeing to support it.

Over the past year basic running costs of £12,778 (£10,991 in 2021/22) were more than covered by the regular income of £18,878 (£17,661 in 2021/22). This allowed us to fund the lighting improvements, Outdoor Railway development and some other non-essential activities. Additionally this allowed us to add to our reserves which will be essential to fund any premises additions.

The Society incurred no non-recurring expenditure during the year.

Gift Aid claims will continue to be made in the future.

## **RESERVES POLICY**

Whilst the Society has every reason to continue to believe that its presence at New House Farm can be an extended one, it is nevertheless aware of the need to retain a reasonable level of reserves as a contingency for any possible future change of circumstances. The evaluation of potential new clubrooms in 2005 after receiving notice to leave Squab Hall Farm highlighted the significant costs, which would be involved in any future relocation.

We need back up funds for any events that we might wish to promote which would include our annual exhibition although it should be noted that we are currently reviewing the future of our exhibition.

If we hold an exhibition, the exhibition venue normally has to be paid for in full ahead of the date of the exhibition. Other exhibition costs such as advertising and insurance also have to be paid for in advance. In the past, the Society has taken out appropriate event cancellation insurance but this cannot cover all circumstances and the Society must therefore maintain reserves as a protection against any shortfall in income from visitors.

We have also been building reserves with the aim of extending the clubroom floor space by building a mezzanine floor. This is needed because of the increasing numbers of members and the need to work on new projects which is difficult currently because of limited free floor space. However, until the situation regarding probate on the farm is satisfactorily resolved we cannot proceed with this.

The Society will continue to seek to balance expenditure on its general activities and the greater financial commitments involved in staging a large exhibition with the desire to maintain an appropriate level of reserves against future changes of circumstances. The level of reserves will be reviewed at each Annual General Meeting of the Society.

#### **SERIOUS INCIDENTS REPORTING**

The Charity Commission requires that a charity should report any serious incidents (ones which have resulted or could result in a significant loss of funds or a significant risk to a charity's property, work, beneficiaries or reputation). The Society can confirm that there have been no serious incidents or other matters over the last financial year which should have been reported.



Peter Hutchinson  
Chairman

17.08.2023



Ian Spalding  
Secretary

17.8.23

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Council of Management of  
The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

**Respective responsibilities of the Council of Management and examiner**

The Council of Management, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Council consider that an audit is not required for the 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 the council of management 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.

**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 Charitieshave 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.



21/7/23

Bernice Jaggard FCCA FFA  
FMS (Hereford) Limited

The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society  
 Statement of Financial Activities  
 For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	2023 12 Months Unrestricted Fund Total	2022 12 Months Unrestricted Fund Total
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>		
<b>Voluntary income</b>		
Members contributions	15,821	14,377
Donations and bequests	103	338
Gift Aid	2,955	2,947
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> hand stall	-	-
Club shirt revenue	410	86
Supply vans for GBMR show	-	250
<b>Investment income</b>		
Bank interest (nil tax)	274	7
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>		
Exhibition income - 2023		2,355
-		
Exhibition income - 2022		-
1,799		
Garden Railway	-	500
Room hire income	327	222
Fixed Assets increased	2,277	-
Stock Increase (club shirts)	1,122	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>25,644</u>	<u>20,526</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>		
<b>Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs</b>		
Club shirts stock sold	382	67
Procure vans for GBMR	-	250
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Exhibition expenditure - 2023	2,065	-
Exhibition expenditure - 2022	-	1,630
Layout expenditure	208	-
Outdoor Railway build (costs plus new assets)	2,552	2,161
<b>Other expenses</b>		
Rent, Council Tax and utilities	10,562	9,240
Insurance	606	572
Expenditure on clubrooms (including layout barriers)	1,898	-
Maintenance	1,293	1,104
Depreciation	285	63
Other expenses	1,645	1,157
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<u>21,496</u>	<u>16,244</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	4,148	4,282
<b>Total funds brought forward at Financial Year start</b>	73,288	69,006
<b>Total funds carried forward at Financial Year end</b>	<u>77,436</u>	<u>73,288</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Prior Year Funds £
<i>Fixed assets</i>			
Tangible assets	2	2,560	569
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>2,560</u>	<u>569</u>
<i>Current assets</i>			
Stocks	3	1,749	1,009
Debtors and prepayments	4	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		73,602	71,710
		<u>75,351</u>	<u>72,719</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due Within one year</b>	5	(475)	-
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>74,876</u>	<u>72,719</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>77,436</u>	<u>73,288</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds		77,436	73,288
<b>Total unrestricted funds and Total charity funds</b>		<u>77,436</u>	<u>73,288</u>

**The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society**  
**Balance Sheet at 31 March 2023 (continued)**

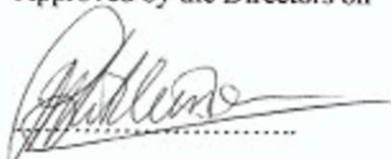
For the year ended 31 March 2023, the company was entitled under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 to exemption from the audit of its accounts.

Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 in relation to its accounts for the year.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial period and of its income and expenditure for each period in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Act and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

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

Approved by the Directors on 17th August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Hutchinson, Chairman



Ian Spalding, Secretary

The notes on pages 11 and 12 form part of these accounts.

**The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society**  
**Notes to the Abbreviated Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of accounting**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets in use at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and equipment - 10% on reducing balance

**Stock**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

**2. Tangible Fixed Assets**

<b>Cost:</b>		<b>£</b>
Initial purchase	Spray Booth	220
	Ultrasonic cleaner	392
	Lathe + milling m/c	400
	Grass patch maker	55
Additions	Outdoor railway	2,276
Disposals		-
31 March 2023		<u>3,343</u>
		—
<b>Depreciation</b>		
1 April 2022		498
Provision for the year		285
Disposals		-
31 March 2023		<u>783</u>
		—
<b>Net book value</b>		
31 March 2023		2,560
		—
31 March 2022		<u>570</u>
		—

**The Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society**  
**Notes to the Abbreviated Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)**

**3. Stocks**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Society sweatshirts, polo shirts and T shirts held for sale to members, valued at cost price	1,749	1,009
	<u>1,749</u>	<u>1,009</u>

**4. Debtors and prepayments**

2023	2022
£	£
-	-
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**5. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	475	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**6. Trustee remuneration**

No member of the Council of Management received any remuneration during the year.

**7. Guarantee**

The company was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and, not having a share capital, is limited by guarantee. The guarantee of each member is £1. The position at the period end concerning members giving a guarantee was as follows:

	No of members	Total members guarantee
At 31 March 2023	99	£99