The Charity Registration Number is :- 267275

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY SOCIETY

Report and Accounts

31-Dec-25

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106 Coventry Road
Ilford
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Great Eastern Railway Society

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

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Great Eastern Railway Society

Reference and administrative information

Trustees	Peter John Walker (Chair) Brian Arthur Watson (Secretary) Dr. Ian Bruce (Treasurer) Graham John Roper Ruth Ann Ivimey-Cook Dr. Iain Charles Scotchman Nigel Bowdidge Bernard Joseph Anderson
Charity number	267275
Principal office	6 Windmill Walk Sutton ELY Cambridgeshire CB6 2NH
Independent Examiner	Mohammad Ali FCCA Skyleaf Chartered Certified Accountant 106 Coventry Road Ilford Essex IG1 4RG
Bankers	NatWest 250 Bishopsgate London EC2M 4AA

Great Eastern Railway Society

Trustee's Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

Reference and administrative details

The Society's membership numbers still lie at about 950, and the Committee is aware that an aging membership may result in a steady decline. Again this year we have recently lost several long-standing members.

It has discussed how to evolve the Society further to meet the needs and preferences of our members and other people who benefit from our researches and our diverse resources and has introduced several online means to give members and enquirers a range of options for interaction with our resources.

Another consequence of the older demographic of our membership has been that the majority of the work of the Society still falls onto barely-sufficient numbers of people. That said, what those people do achieve is highly respected by other similar societies and we do not have any vacancies on the Executive Committee who do the majority of the administration of the Society.

Objectives and activities

We put considerable effort into acquiring and disseminating information on railways and related matters in our geographical area of interest

Our Annual General Meetings and Half-Yearly Meetings include knowledgeable speakers, second-hand book sales, and time to socialise. We are working to improve facilities at each which include access from members unable to attend in person.

Between these meetings, we hold periodic online discussions and "sorting days" at which members meet and process donated photographic images. As we have a large number of books and historic documents donated each year, working parties have been formed to process these.

We continue to publish four issues each year of our GE Journal, which concentrates on historical material from our area, and also four issues each year of the GE News, which is more focused on current railway-related activity in our area of interest. With rising production and shipping costs, the Executive Committee has examined means by which those costs may be managed more economically. At this time, we see no need to move to digital distribution.

Achievements and performance

An open Zoom meeting each month enables discussion matters pertinent to the Society, including the identification of submitted images and discussion of modelling matters. There is also an e-Group to which announcements, messages and queries can be posted, and the frequent helpful responses draw on the collective knowledge of those participating.

There is a WhatsApp Group, run by our Modelling Co-ordinator, in which our modellers can share tips and information on their projects. It is very active with (typically) 10-30 postings a day.

The Photographic Digitisation Working Group runs the "sorting days" and works throughout the year to digitise and catalogue our extensive collection of photographic and other images to make them accessible by Society members and the general public through a dedicated website linked to that of the Society.

Barry Jackson, as Publication Sales Officer, continues to sell files and duplicated documents and makes new discs and downloads available to members and non-members.

Our Exhibitions Manager, Nigel Bowdidge, has attended a number of model railway exhibitions on our behalf and we are increasing the list for 2026.

No organised visits for members took place during the year but it is hoped to resume these in 2026. It is hoped we shall be able to arrange transport help for our less able members

Financial review

The Annual Return for 2025 will be submitted to the Charity Commission, including notifications of Trustee changes.

At 31 December 2025 the Society held total funds of £128,490. Of this amount, £24,510 has been designated for the Archive and Capital Projects Account, leaving unrestricted general reserves of £103,980.

The trustees keep the level of reserves under regular review. Annual expenditure for the year was £28,238, and the present level of unrestricted reserves represents approximately three to four years of expenditure at current levels.

The trustees consider this level appropriate in view of the Society's reliance on membership subscriptions as its principal source of income and the demographic profile of its membership. Maintaining a prudent level of reserves enables the Society to continue publishing its Journal and News, support archive preservation work, and meet its ongoing commitments with confidence. It also provides sufficient flexibility to respond to unforeseen costs and, if necessary, to ensure an orderly winding down of activities.

The reserves policy will continue to be reviewed annually in light of the Society's activities and financial position

This year, the Executive Committee has conducted an audit of our membership to ensure our records for claiming Gift Aid are up to date.

Structure, governance, and management

Four Executive Committee meetings each year are conducted using the Zoom program. However, a minimum of two Executive Committee meetings per year, plus the Annual General Meeting and the Half-Yearly Meeting are always held in person.

Great Eastern Railway Society

Trustee's Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

Our President, John Watling, passed away during 2025. The excellent liaison between him and the Essex Record Office, where our historic Collection is held, is now in the hands of long-time Trustee, Bernard Anderson. A storage unit is rented to store donations of photographs and documentation of significance pending sorting and formal acquisition, followed by transfer to the ERO.

Brian Watson, Secretary, is standing down with effect from the 2026 AGM but a replacement has been found who will stand for election as a new Trustee, and Secretary.

Plans for future periods

We were represented in 2025 at several of the events that have been part of the Rail 200 celebrations throughout East Anglia and look to build on those relationships made in 2026.

We shall take our GER Society displays to a number of model railway exhibitions and station events again this year to publicise the resources we have for modellers and also those manufacturers who create miniature versions of railway items.

We shall be booking more "sorting days" at which donated items can be assessed for incorporation into our Collection.

A small working group has been formed to consider revisions to our Constitution in the interests of improving our election processes.

Our Independent examiner as appointed by the board of trustees is Mohammad Ali FCCA of Skyleaf.

Approved by the board of trustees on .....5th March 2026.....and signed on their behalf by



Brian A Watson
Secretary, Great Eastern Railway Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Great Eastern Railway Society

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 6 to 15

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:-



Mohammad Ali FCCA - Independent Examiner

Chartered Certified Accountant

106 Coventry Road

Ilford

IG1 4RG

This report was signed on 5th March 2026

Great Eastern Railway Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	**Total Fund 2025** £	Total Fund 2024 £
Donations and legacies	3	27,958	28,509
Charitable activities	4	4,446	3,615
Investments	5	756	1,050
Total		33,160	33,174
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	28,238	35,262
		28,238	35,262
Net gain on investments		-	-
Net Income/ (Deficit)		4,922	(2,088)
Transfers between funds		-	-
Net movement in funds		4,922	(2,088)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward		123,568	125,656
Total funds carried forward		128,490	123,568

Note
The charity has not received any restricted income.

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements

Great Eastern Railway Society

Balance Sheet

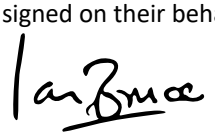
As at 31 December 2025

Charity No.267275	**Notes**	**2025**	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	8	**2,255**	1,809
		2,255	1,809
Current assets			
Stocks	9	**1,220**	1,155
Debtors	10	**3,953**	5,725
Cash at bank and in hand		**121,562**	115,279
		126,735	122,159
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	11	**(500)**	(400)
Net current assets		**126,235**	121,759
Total assets less current liabilities		**128,490**	123,568
Total net assets		**128,490**	123,568
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		**103,980**	115,804
Designated funds:			
Archive and Capital Projects Account		**24,510**	7,764
Total funds	12	**128,490**	123,568

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The Trustees are satisfied that, although the charity is not registered under the Companies Acts, if it were so registered, it would be eligible to prepare accounts in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on.....5th March 2026..... and signed on their behalf by:



Dr. Ian Bruce
Treasurer
The annexed notes form part of these financial statements

Great Eastern Railway Society

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis, following the historical cost convention, in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102), effective from 1 January 2016. They also adhere to the SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, which applies to accounting periods starting on or after 1 January 2019. The SORP was issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales (CCEW).

The charity has prepared its accounts in line with SORP 2019, superseding the previously applicable SORP 2005, which has now been withdrawn. While the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 still reference SORP 2005, this financial statement has been prepared in accordance with SORP 2019 to align with current best practice.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Where donations and grants are restricted to future accounting periods, they are deferred and recognised in those future accounting periods. Grants for immediate financial support and assistance, or to reimburse costs previously incurred, are recognised immediately

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower cost and net realisable value

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.
Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.
Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

Expenditure and basis of apportioning costs

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis with the irrecoverable element of VAT included with the item to which it relates and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Charitable activities: Expenditure on charitable activities includes costs associated with the delivery of the charity's activities and services for its beneficiaries, and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities. Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include office costs and those of other central functions.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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:

Office Equipment	20% on cost

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments. The trustees seek to use short term deposits to maximise the return on monies held at the bank and to manage cash flow.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Volunteers and donated services and facilities

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements as it is impractical to estimate such value. Where services and facilities are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this contribution is included in the financial statements at an estimate based on the value of the contribution to the charity.

Great Eastern Railway Society
Notes to Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

		Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
3	**Income**		
	Subscriptions	**22,865**	23,865
	Gift Aid reclaim	**3,753**	3,907
	Donations	**1,111**	617
	Surplus on meetings,	**229**	120
		27,958	28,509
4	**Charitable activities**		
	Publication Sales	**4,446**	3,615
		4,446	3,615
5	**Investments**		
	Bank Interest	**756**	1,050
		756	1,050
	Total income	**33,160**	33,174

6	**Expenditure**	**2025**	2024
	Unrestricted Funds	**£**	£
	Journal - Production	**5,295**	5,500
	- Distribution	**6,959**	7,292
	News - Production	**2,901**	3,796
	- Distribution	**4,717**	8,156
	Investment in Digitised Magazine Projects	**29**	3,563
	Governance Costs Note 7	**1,669**	1,012
	Postage & Telephone	**123**	148
	Stationery etc	**-**	50
	Cost of Goods Sold	**282**	279
	Commission	**321**	316
	Administration	**1,021**	1,307
	Publicity	**-**	291
	Insurance	**139**	120
	Depreciation	**1,028**	884
		24,484	32,714
	Expenditure from Designated Reserve		
	Archive and Capital Projects	**240**	2,310
	Purchase of Items for Collection	**32**	147
	Admin	**192**	
	Cataloguing	**678**	
	Temporary storage	**1,737**	39
	Conservation	**875**	52
		3,754	2,548
	Total Expenditure	**28,238**	**35,262**

7	**Governance Costs**		
	Independent Examiner fees	**500**	400
	AGM, HYM & Exec Meetings	**1,169**	612
		1,669	**1,012**

Great Eastern Railway Society

Notes to Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

8 **Tangible fixed assets**

	Office Equipment
	£
Cost or revaluation	
At 1st January 2025	4,421
Additions	1,475
At 31 December 2025	5,896
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1st January 2025	2,613
Depreciation charge for the year	1,028
At 31 December 2025	3,641
Net book values	
At 31 December 2025	2,255
At 31 December 2024	1,808

9 **Stocks**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Stocks (Publications DVD)	1,220	1,155
	1,220	1,155

10 **Debtors**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gift Aid claim(s) outstanding	3,763	3,868
Prepayments and accrued income	190	1,857
	3,953	5,725

11 **Creditors:**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	500	400
	500	400

Great Eastern Railway Society

Notes to Accounts

12 **Movement in funds**

	At 1st January 2025	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses)	Resources expended	Gross transfers	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	115,804	33,160	(24,484)	(20,500)	103,980
Designated funds:					
Archive and Capital Projects Account	7,764	-	(3,754)	20,500	24,510
Total Unrestricted Funds				-	
Total	123,568	33,160	28,238	-	128,490

Unrestricted Revenue Funds

These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and, subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Designated funds:

Archive and Capital Projects Account

For the acquisition, preservation or storage, of material for the archive established and maintained by the GERS.

13 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025	2024
	£	£
Fixed assets	2,255	1,809
Net current assets	126,235	121,759
	128,490	123,568

13 **Employees**

The charity had no employees during the year. As a result, no employee-related costs, such as salaries or social

Notes to Accounts

14 Related Party Transactions

The following trustees were reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the charity:

Trustee	**2025**	2024	
	£	£	
B Anderson	**-**	206	
N Bowdidge	**-**	-	-
I Bruce	**240**	-	
R Ivimey-Cook	**258**	-	
G Roper	**607**	52	
I Scotchman	**-**	-	
P Walker	**2,604**	1,341	
B Watson	**105**	120	
	3,814	**1,719**	

No other payments were made to trustees, and there were no other related party transactions.