

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024.

STATUS

Stourbridge Amateur Operatic Society is a registered charity (No. 511436) governed by its constitution. Its address for correspondence is 125 Vicarage Road, Wollaston, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 4QZ.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY

The objectives of the society are to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts, to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts; to assist and further such charitable institutions and charitable purposes as the Committee shall from time to time determine.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

The Society is managed by a committee of members who are elected at the Annual General Meeting. During the year that committee was as follows:

Prof L Davies	- Chairman	Mrs E-L Clifton
Mrs V Simpson	- Secretary	Miss B Hemmings
Mr D Gregory	- Treasurer	Mr J Hunt
Mrs A Hough	- Vice-Chairman	Mrs J Hunt
Miss K Berrington		Mrs E Miles
Mr A Chester (resigned 25th April 2024)		

No members of the committee received remuneration. Trustees' expenses are detailed in Note 5 of the accounts.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The results for the year are set out on page 3. The Youth production of "Les Misérables" was a huge success both financially and critically with 100% ticket sales, a first in living memory of the society, resulting in a surplus of £8,034. The main production of "West Side Story" saw an increase of 15.7% in ticket sales compared to the 2023 production of "Made In Dagenham". This, along with an underspend on budgeted costs, contributed to the small surplus of £123. There was a £2,731 surplus on other activities, mainly generated by bank interest and Gift Aid receipts, resulting in an overall surplus for the year of £10,888, compared with a surplus of £2,559 for 2023.

The NODA conference in April brought success for our 2023 Youth production of "Everybody's Talking About Jamie - Teen Edition" as it won the Region 8 Youth Award. Life member Bernard Shaw was also presented with a Special Recognition Award for his many years' contribution to amateur theatre.

The society made total charitable donations of £800 in the year, split equally between Mary Stevens Hospice, West Midlands Air Ambulance, DGNHS Charity and Acorns Children's Hospice.

The committee has secured the rights for "Anything Goes" for the Youth section in July and "Hello Dolly" for the main production in October 2025, two traditional shows which it feels will be both popular with members and the public. It will continue to closely scrutinise costs and ensure the necessary steps are taken to encourage the public to support its productions.

POLICY ON RESERVES

The Committee has a policy of keeping reserves at a level sufficient to cover the net annual cost of productions. Should reserves fall below this level the committee explores other fundraising possibilities to cover the shortfall.

GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL

The Committee actively reviews the major strategic, business and operational risks, which the charity faces and confirms that it has established systems to mitigate the significant risks

COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The constitution of the Society requires the committee to ensure the keeping of a true account of the Society's income and expenditure and to submit accounts for an independent examination at least once a year. The committee is responsible for ensuring that proper minute books, accounts and other relevant records are kept.

Approved by the committee of management and signed on behalf of the committee:



V SIMPSON

Secretary

6th February, 2025

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's report to the members of Stourbridge Amateur Operatic Society (Registered Charity Number 511436) on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 set out on pages 3 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the trustees concerning 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 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave 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.

Signed M A Taylor FCCA

M. Taylor, FCCA
122 Bridgnorth Road
Wollaston
STOURBRIDGE
DY8 3PB

Date 2 ND FEBRUARY 2025

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES	3			
Incoming Resources from Generating Funds				
Voluntary Income		3,173	3,173	2,740
Activities for generating funds		2,182	2,182	1,762
Investment Income		1,943	1,943	1,324
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities				
Production Account		80,891	80,891	64,082
Total Incoming resources		<u>88,189</u>	<u>88,189</u>	<u>69,908</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED	4			
Costs of Generating Funds				
Costs of generating voluntary income		8	8	17
Fundraising Trading Costs		193	193	207
Charitable Activities				
Production Account		72,734	72,734	63,857
Donations		800	800	600
Governance Costs		3,566	3,566	2,668
Total Resources expended		<u>77,301</u>	<u>77,301</u>	<u>67,349</u>
Net movement in funds		10,888	10,888	2,559
Total Funds brought forward		<u>52,464</u>	<u>52,464</u>	<u>49,905</u>
Total Funds carried forward		<u><u>63,352</u></u>	<u><u>63,352</u></u>	<u><u>52,464</u></u>

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st December 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6		2,777		3,361
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	5,943		2,469	
Cash at Bank and in hand		54,637		47,233	
		<u>60,580</u>		<u>49,702</u>	
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	<u>5</u>		<u>599</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>60,575</u>		<u>49,103</u>
NET ASSETS			<u><u>63,352</u></u>		<u><u>52,464</u></u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	9		<u><u>63,352</u></u>		<u><u>52,464</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the Committee of the Society on 6th February, 2025

Signed on behalf of all the trustees



L DAVIES
Chairman



D GREGORY
Treasurer

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005);
- Accounting Standards; and
- The Charities Act

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Tax Reclaims on donations and gifts

Incoming Resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Investment Income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources.

Tangible Fixed Assets for use by charity

These are capitalized if they can be used for more than one year and are depreciated to their estimated residual values over the period of their estimated economic lives. The rate used is 10% on a straight line basis.

3. ANALYSIS OF INCOMING RESOURCES

	2024 £	2023 £
Voluntary Income		
Subscriptions	1,740	1,590
Tax reclaimed under Gift Aid Scheme	1,401	1,131
Donations	32	19
	<u>3,173</u>	<u>2,740</u>
Activities for Generating Funds		
Hire of Props etc.	870	755
Sundry Income	1,312	1,007
	<u>2,182</u>	<u>1,762</u>
Investment Income		
Bank interest	1,943	1,324
	<u>1,943</u>	<u>1,324</u>
Production Account		
Ticket Sales	72,325	57,361
Programme Sales	1,651	1,341
Programme Adverts	1,330	1,220
Programme Sponsors	80	-
Sale of Libs and Scores	-	85
Sundry Income	1,305	355
Rehearsal Fee	4,200	3,720
	<u>80,891</u>	<u>64,082</u>

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

4. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

	2024 £	2023 £
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income		
Trustee Expenses	8	17
Fundraising Trading Costs		
Sundry Expenses	193	207
	193	207
Production Account		
Royalties	13,886	10,392
Hire of Rooms	14,419	14,645
Costumes and properties	3,850	3,309
Scenery, lighting, sound etc.	19,085	16,151
Advertising, printing etc.	1,921	1,427
Orchestra and music	9,181	9,070
Printing programmes	942	765
Honoraria	8,150	7,880
Tickets and promotion	113	140
Sundry Expenses	1,187	78
	72,734	63,857
Governance Costs		
NODA Medals	414	-
NODA subscriptions & meetings	245	230
Insurance	1,849	1,698
Training	325	-
Sundry Expenses	65	75
Bank Charges	84	80
Depreciation	584	585
	3,566	2,668

5. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

	2024	2023
Number of Trustees who were paid expenses	1	1
	1	1
	£	£
Total amount paid	8	17
	8	17

Nature of Expenses

Trustees are reimbursed for postage, stationery and telephone costs incurred on behalf of the Society.

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures & Fittings £
Cost as at 1st January 2024	10,076
Additions	-
Disposals	-
Cost as at 31st December 2024	10,076
Depreciation as at 1st January 2024	6,715
Charge for the Year	584
Disposals	-
Depreciation as at 31st December 2024	7,299
NBV at 31st December 2024	2,777
NBV at 31st December 2023	3,361

7. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments & Accrued Income	5,943	2,469
	5,943	2,469

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued Expenses	5	599
	5	599

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

9. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	General Fund £	Designated Fund £	TOTAL £
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,777	-	2,777
Current Assets	59,573	1,007	60,580
Current Liabilities	(5)	-	(5)
	<u>62,345</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>63,352</u>

	1 Jan 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	31 Dec 2024 £
General Fund	51,457	88,189	(77,301)	62,345
Designated Fund	1,007	-	-	1,007
	<u>52,464</u>	<u>88,189</u>	<u>(77,301)</u>	<u>63,352</u>

The designated fund represents amounts set aside in respect of educational bursaries available.

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

PRODUCTION ACCOUNT

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	2024 Youth Les Mis £	2024 West Side Story £	2023 Youth ETA Jamie £	2023 Made In Dagenham £
INCOME				
Ticket Sales	31,494	40,831	22,085	35,276
Programme Sales	658	993	393	948
Programme Adverts	610	720	420	800
Programme Sponsors	-	80	-	-
Sale of Libs and Scores	-	-	85	-
Sundry Income	1,305	-	255	100
Rehearsal Fee	2,300	1,900	2,050	1,670
	<u>36,367</u>	<u>44,524</u>	<u>25,288</u>	<u>38,794</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Royalties	6,047	7,839	3,619	6,773
Hire of Rooms	6,029	8,390	5,423	9,222
Costumes and properties	1,678	2,172	1,241	2,068
Scenery, lighting, sound etc.	7,028	12,057	3,241	12,910
Advertising, printing etc.	759	1,162	630	797
Orchestra and music	1,752	7,429	3,644	5,426
Printing programmes	385	557	243	522
Honoraria	3,500	4,650	3,500	4,380
Tickets and promotion	36	77	48	92
Sundry Expenses	1,119	68	78	-
	<u>28,333</u>	<u>44,401</u>	<u>21,667</u>	<u>42,190</u>
GAINS/(LOSSES) ON PRODUCTIONS	<u>8,034</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>3,621</u>	<u>(3,396)</u>

This page does not form part of the Statutory Accounts