

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

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for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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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 2025.

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	Mr J Hunt
Mr B Shaw	- Secretary	Mrs J Hunt
Mr D Gregory	- Treasurer	Mrs E Miles
Mrs A Hough	- Vice-Chairman	Mrs K Russell (appointed 25th March 2025)
Miss K Berrington		Mrs V Simpson (resigned 25th March 2025)
Mrs E-L Clifton (resigned 25th March 2025)		Mr N Westley-Smith (appointed 25th March 2025)
Miss B Hemmings		

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 "Anything Goes" was a success critically but unfortunately ticket sales fell short of expectations, resulting in a loss of £4,558. The main production of "Hello, Dolly!" saw a similar situation with audiences responding positively to this classic show but the number of tickets sold was the lowest for many years. The main show therefore made a loss of £7,493. Although the committee is disappointed with the financial results, they are pleased with the feedback from the audiences who appreciated the showcasing of these older shows. Costs were well managed for both shows and the focus therefore needs to be on generating better ticket sales to prevent further losses.

Thankfully, there was a £3,384 surplus on other activities thereby reducing the overall losses for the year to £8,666, compared with a surplus of £10,888 for 2024. This was principally helped both by the continued high level of interest rates and the fundraising by the society's treasurer in running the London marathon in April 2025, raising £1,629 (net of costs) for the society.

The society made total charitable donations of £600 in the year, split equally between Mary Stevens Hospice, Cancer Support at the White House and Asbestos Support.

The committee has secured the rights for "Hadestown: Teen Edition" for the Youth section in July and "We Will Rock You" for the main production in October 2026, two modern shows which it hopes 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:


.....

B SHAW

Secretary

12th February, 2026

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 2025 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*

Date *10.2.26*

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

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
INCOMING RESOURCES	3			
Incoming Resources from Generating Funds				
Voluntary Income		4,858	4,858	3,173
Activities for generating funds		1,749	1,749	2,182
Investment Income		1,752	1,752	1,943
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities				
Production Account		57,620	57,620	80,891
Total Incoming resources		<u>65,979</u>	<u>65,979</u>	<u>88,189</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED	4			
Costs of Generating Funds				
Costs of generating voluntary income		23	23	8
Fundraising Trading Costs		976	976	193
Charitable Activities				
Production Account		69,671	69,671	72,734
Donations		600	600	800
Governance Costs		3,375	3,375	3,566
Total Resources expended		<u>74,645</u>	<u>74,645</u>	<u>77,301</u>
Net movement in funds		(8,666)	(8,666)	10,888
Total Funds brought forward		<u>63,352</u>	<u>63,352</u>	<u>52,464</u>
Total Funds carried forward		<u><u>54,686</u></u>	<u><u>54,686</u></u>	<u><u>63,352</u></u>

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

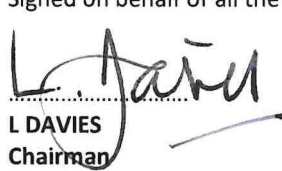
BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st December 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6		2,192		2,777
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	5,695		5,943	
Cash at Bank and in hand		46,799		54,637	
		<u>52,494</u>		<u>60,580</u>	
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	-		5	
		<u>52,494</u>		<u>60,575</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			52,494		60,575
NET ASSETS			<u>54,686</u>		<u>63,352</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	9		54,686		63,352

These financial statements were approved by the Committee of the Society on 12th February, 2026

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 2025

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Voluntary Income		
Subscriptions	1,590	1,740
Tax reclaimed under Gift Aid Scheme	1,396	1,401
Donations	1,872	32
	<u>4,858</u>	<u>3,173</u>
Activities for Generating Funds		
Hire of Props etc.	620	870
Sundry Income	1,129	1,312
	<u>1,749</u>	<u>2,182</u>
Investment Income		
Bank interest	1,752	1,943
	<u>1,752</u>	<u>1,943</u>
Production Account		
Ticket Sales	50,904	72,325
Programme Sales	1,182	1,651
Programme Adverts	1,315	1,330
Programme Sponsors	310	80
Sale of Libs and Scores	-	-
Sundry Income	309	1,305
Show Donations	3,600	4,200
	<u>57,620</u>	<u>80,891</u>

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

4. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

	2025	2024
	£	£
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income		
Trustee Expenses	23	8
Fundraising Trading Costs		
Sundry Expenses	976	193
	976	193
Production Account		
Royalties	10,348	13,886
Hire of Rooms	15,719	14,419
Costumes and properties	4,595	3,850
Scenery, lighting, sound etc.	17,902	19,085
Advertising, printing etc.	2,504	1,921
Orchestra and music	9,060	9,181
Printing programmes	589	942
Honoraria	8,600	8,150
Tickets and promotion	177	113
Sundry Expenses	177	1,187
	69,671	72,734
Governance Costs		
NODA Medals	290	414
NODA subscriptions & meetings	299	245
Insurance	1,986	1,849
Training	-	325
Sundry Expenses	96	65
Bank Charges	119	84
Depreciation	585	584
	3,375	3,566

5. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Number of Trustees who were paid expenses	2	1
	23	8

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 2025

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures & Fittings £
Cost as at 1st January 2025	10,076
Additions	-
Disposals	-
	10,076
Cost as at 31st December 2025	10,076
Depreciation as at 1st January 2025	7,299
Charge for the Year	585
Disposals	-
	7,884
Depreciation as at 31st December 2025	7,884
NBV at 31st December 2025	2,192
NBV at 31st December 2024	2,777

7. DEBTORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments & Accrued Income	5,695	5,943
	5,695	5,943
	5,695	5,943

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued Expenses	-	5
	-	5
	-	5

STOURBRIDGE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

9. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	General Fund £	Designated Fund £	TOTAL £
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,192	-	2,192
Current Assets	51,487	1,007	52,494
Current Liabilities	-	-	-
	<u>53,679</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>54,686</u>

	1 Jan 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	31 Dec 2025 £
General Fund	62,345	65,979	(74,645)	53,679
Designated Fund	1,007	-	-	1,007
	<u>63,352</u>	<u>65,979</u>	<u>(74,645)</u>	<u>54,686</u>

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