

The Godalming Operatic Society

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements**

**for the Year Ended
31 March 2025**

**for
The Godalming Operatic Society**

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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The Godalming Operatic Society

Trustees and Advisors for the year ended 31st March 2025

VICE PRESIDENT:	Linda Scanlon
TRUSTEES:	L Power Hon Chairman H Jennings Hon Secretary (appointed 03/06/2024) A Plummer Hon Treasurer K Bare Hon Business Manager C Howard S Lavender M Barker (appointed 03/06/2024) S Wing (appointed 03/06/2024) Z Avern (resigned 03/06/2024) M Bright (resigned 03/06/2024) J Parkinson (resigned 03/06/2024) T Dutton (resigned 03/06/2024)
REGISTERED CHARITY NO:	802888
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA A J Bennewith & Co Upper Ground Floor 18 Farnham Road Guildford Surrey GU1 4XA
BANKERS:	Lloyds TSB Bank plc 49, High Street Godalming Surrey GU7 1AT
PRINCIPAL OFFICE:	Cherrytree Cottage Woodhouse Lane Holmbury St Mary Dorking RH5 6NN

The Godalming Operatic Society

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31st March 2025

The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 802888. The trustees, executive officers, address of the charity and professional advisers are as listed on page 1.

Structure Governance and Management

Godalming Operatic Society was formed in 1924 and by a Deed dated 15 May 1989, was constituted as a registered charity. Its members are comprised of those who have paid the annual subscription or who have been elected honorary members at a General Meeting. All trustees are members themselves and form the General Committee. The General Committee have absolute discretion to reject an application for membership, or to exclude an existing member.

Trustee meetings and conduct

The chairman is in charge of the day to day running of the society. Decisions on day to day matters are proposed by the chairman and voted on by the trustees at trustee meetings but certain key decisions are decided by members vote at the annual general meeting or an extraordinary general meeting. The trustees consider that their combined experience is sufficient to allow them to properly conduct the charity's affairs.

Appointment and recruitment of new Trustees

All trustees including new trustees are nominated and subsequently voted into office each year at the Annual General Meeting by the members. New trustees are taught their responsibilities at regularly held trustees meetings and receive a copy of the previous year's annual report and accounts.

Objects and Activities

The charitable 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 and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) to promote public interest in and knowledge of the works of W S Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan".

In furtherance of the Society's objects and for the public benefit the Society presents a main show each year, normally at the end of February, featuring one of the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. Ticket prices are kept at a level sufficient to cover costs and concessions are offered to young people and wheelchair users.

The Trustees believe that it is important to perform the less well known G&S operas as well as the more popular ones. Thus the aim is to make a surplus on the more popular shows to cover a likely deficit on the less popular ones.

In addition to the main Winter show, the Society normally presents one or more performances on a smaller scale in the Summer months. Sometimes these are free to the Public or are performed for other charities and organisations.

Our members volunteer their services as performers for the public benefit without payment. Occasionally it is necessary to employ an outside professional to fulfil a specific role.

The trustees have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities to undertake.

The Godalming Operatic Society

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

Achievements and Performance

The Society is proud to be celebrating its centenary, having been founded in 1924 with its first production in 1925. The first main event of this financial year was our Centenary Summer Concert, *Here's a How-De-Do*, which was held in June 2024 and was judged a great success by members and audience alike. It returned a surplus of £945.

In September, the Society started rehearsals for *The Yeomen of the Guard*, which was the first production of the Society in 1925. The production took place in February 2025 to great acclaim. Although ticket sales were good, this was an expensive production to stage and we made a deficit of £5,217 on the show.

Fortunately, donations from Patrons of the Society, together with membership and show subscriptions in addition to bank interest, helped redress the balance and resulted in a healthy overall surplus for the year of £5,759.

We are honoured to have been asked to take our production of *Yeomen* to the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Buxton in August. We have also been invited to perform a concert of G&S pieces on D'Oyly Carte Island in July.

In September we look forward to starting rehearsals for *Utopia Limited*, one of Gilbert & Sullivan's lesser known operas, which we will be performing in February 2026.

Financial review

The Society had a net surplus of £5,759 from normal activities for the year ended 31 March 2025. As a result of the annual surplus, year-end reserves stood at £128,542.

Reserves policy

The Society has a policy of maintaining reserves at a level sufficient to cover expenditure on the following February show. Expenditure on a show can be upwards of £45,000 and the Trustees aim for ticket sales and related income on average to exceed expenditure, covering deficits on historically less popular shows with surpluses on more popular ones. The Trustees also aim to minimise costs and to optimally promote shows so as to maximise the surplus/minimise the deficit on each show. Reserves are monitored throughout the year by the Treasurer through the maintenance of bank records and the preparation of annual accounts prepared on an accruals basis. From time to time the members agree to repeat the February show in a festival later in the year. When this happens the reserves are reviewed to ensure that they are sufficient to cover festival costs and the cost of the subsequent February show.

Helen Jennings
(Hon Secretary)

Date

The Godalming Operatic Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Godalming Operatic Society

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Godalming Operatic Society (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18 Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

Date:

The Godalming Operatic Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	
		2025	2024
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
- Activities for generating funds	3	2,205	1,730
- Investment income	3	4,541	4,075
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2	70,668	50,732
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>77,414</u>	<u>56,537</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
- Costs of activities for generating funds	5	1,982	729
-Charitable activities	4	66,422	52,659
-Other	6	3,251	3,071
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		<u>71,655</u>	<u>56,459</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	8	<u>5,759</u>	<u>78</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		122,783	122,705
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>128,542</u>	<u>122,783</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The Godalming Operatic Society

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds			
	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stocks				
Orchestral scores (bound)	2,400		2,400	
Stamps held	238		456	
Sundry debtors and prepayments	3,508		3,232	
Short term investment	104,441		99,943	
Cash at bank:				
Current account (total £16,898)				
Current account (General)	15,695		13,960	
Current account (Social Committee ringfenced)	1,203		1,875	
Savings account	1,057		1,046	
	<u>128,542</u>		<u>122,912</u>	
CREDITORS: Amount due within one year				
Creditors and accruals	<u>0</u>		<u>129</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		128,542		122,783
NET ASSETS		<u>128,542</u>		<u>122,783</u>
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
General Fund		128,542		122,783
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>128,542</u>		<u>122,783</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees

L Power

H Jennings

A Plummer

Date

The Godalming Operatic Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

a) Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis.

b) Incoming resources

Income from productions is included in the period in which the relevant show takes place; investment income is included as receivable; donations and legacies are included as received, subscription income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which it relates. Tax credits receivable in respect of Gift-aid donations are included with their respective incoming resource.

c) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis; inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Costs associated with the production of shows are included under charitable activities. Other costs comprise those costs incurred in the running of the charity itself as an organisation.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Annual show Income	50,957	37,796
Summer production income	8,135	3,472
Members annual subscriptions	2,265	2,172
Tax recoverable	2,235	1,996
Donations	6,846	5,264
Sundry income	230	32
	70,668	50,732

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Social Committee	1,300	434
Interval raffles	595	1,296
Investment income	4,541	4,075
Book sales	310	0
	6,746	5,805

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Show expenditure	56,174	49,347
Summer production expenditure	10,248	3,312
	66,422	52,659

The Godalming Operatic Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. COST OF ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS	2025	2024
	£	£
Social Committee	1,982	729
	<u>1,982</u>	<u>729</u>

6. OTHER	2025	2024
	£	£
Insurance	1,807	1,530
Subscriptions	295	280
Venue hire	40	40
Stationery & comms	132	0
Independent Examiner	480	480
Bank charges	26	22
Publicity	312	25
Gifts & Gratuities	73	0
Sundries	86	694
	<u>3,251</u>	<u>3,071</u>

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

None of the Trustees received any remuneration in the year.

Expenses totalling £4,881 (2024: 2,427) were reimbursed to four (2024: six) of the trustees for sundry expenses during the year.

8. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	2025	2024
	£	£
Net surplus/(deficit) from annual shows	(5,217)	(10,541)
Net surplus/(deficit) from summer productions	1,172	946
Net surplus/(deficit) on general activities	10,486	9,968
Net surplus/(deficit) on Social Committee	(682)	(295)
	<u>5,759</u>	<u>78</u>
Brought forward funds	122,783	122,705
Carried forward funds	<u>128,542</u>	<u>122,783</u>

The Godalming Operatic Society

**Income and Expenditure from Annual Shows
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

	Yeomen 2025	Patience 2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Ticket sales	44,976	32,660
Show subscriptions	2,940	2,145
Programme sales	2,341	1,494
Programme advertising	700	435
DVD sales	0	1,042
Interval raffles	0	1,010
Sundry income	0	20
	<u>50,957</u>	<u>38,806</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Costumes and wardrobe	2,958	3,611
Scenery and props	6,004	3,390
Lighting	1,481	960
Hire of halls	14,973	13,421
Stage Director	3,350	1,800
Musical Director	2,850	2,750
Accompanist	2,405	1,995
Orchestra	15,625	13,875
Publicity	1,554	1,239
Programme printing	634	1,101
Communications	76	453
Ticket commission	2,394	2,780
Video recording	960	0
DVD purchases	0	980
Music stand hire	386	372
Bank charges	81	52
Piano hire and tuning	80	75
Gifts & gratuities	44	0
Scores	70	119
Catering	183	301
Sundries	66	73
	<u>56,174</u>	<u>49,347</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	<u>(5,217)</u>	<u>(10,541)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

The Godalming Operatic Society

**Income and Expenditure from Summer Productions
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Ticket sales	6087	2,478
Programme sales	363	0
Programme advertising	250	0
Show Subs	1435	875
Raffle	595	286
Bar	0	119
Donations	2,690	500
	<u>11,420</u>	<u>4,258</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Orchestra	2,950	0
Hire of Halls	2,193	863
Scenery & Props	336	72
Costumes & Wardrobe	0	75
Musical Director	1,410	715
Accompanist	1,605	980
Programme printing	258	0
Score Hire /printing	488	0
Catering	10	0
Bank Charges	26	17
Publicity	454	146
Stationery/comms	104	299
Ticket commission	399	145
Gifts / gratuities	15	0
	<u>10,248</u>	<u>3,312</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	<u>1,172</u>	<u>946</u>

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The Godalming Operatic Society

**General Income and Expenditure Account
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Members annual subscriptions	2,265	2,172
Patrons annual subscriptions	3,860	4,403
Donations	296	361
Interest received	4,541	4,075
Tax recoverable	2,235	1,996
Book sales	310	0
DVD sales	0	22
Sundry income	230	10
	<u>13,737</u>	<u>13,039</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Insurance	1,807	1,530
Subscriptions	295	280
Stationery & comms	132	0
Publicity	312	25
Venue hire	40	40
Scenery & props	0	348
Bank charges	26	22
Independent Examiner	480	480
Gifts & gratuities	73	0
Sundries	86	346
	<u>3,251</u>	<u>3,071</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	<u>10,486</u>	<u>9,968</u>

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The Godalming Operatic Society

**Social Committee Account
for the Year Ended 31st March 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Event income	1,171	434
Sundry income	129	
	<u>1,300</u>	<u>434</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Venue hire	515	165
Performer's fee	360	0
Bank Charges	2	14
Catering	820	390
Gifts & gratuities	138	160
Sundry expenditure	147	0
	<u>1,982</u>	<u>729</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	<u>(682)</u>	<u>(295)</u>

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