

**Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society**

**Report of the Trustees and Accounts  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**



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**Independent Examiner's Report**  
**to the Trustees of Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society**  
**for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages two to seven.

**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").

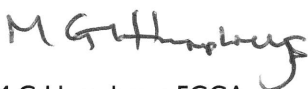
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.



M G Humphreys FCCA  
McCabe Ford Williams  
Bank Chambers  
61 High Street  
Cranbrook  
Kent  
TN17 3EG

Date: 14/04/2025

**Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

Marian Cumberland  
James Hanaway  
Glyn Roberts  
Annie Hatcher  
Sharon Pickles  
James Harper  
Guy Fillmore

**Executive Committee**

Presidents  
Chairman  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Business Manager

**to AGM 2024**

Rita and Maurice Wilkins  
James Harper  
Penny Tobin  
Glyn Roberts  
Guy Fillmore

**from AGM 2024**

Rita Wilkins  
Julie Hine  
Penny Tobin  
Glyn Roberts  
Guy Fillmore  
  
Louise Franklin  
Alison Withey-Harrison  
Steve Lenham  
Adrian Williams  
Mark Jeffery  
Kester Hulland-Rumley

**Committee Members**

Karen Kember  
Alison Withey-Harrison  
Annie Hatcher  
Rebecca Evans  
Mark Jeffery

**Bankers**

NatWest

**Independent Examiner**

M G Humphreys FCCA  
McCabe Ford Williams  
Bank Chambers  
61 High Street  
Cranbrook  
Kent  
TN17 3EG

**Type of Governing Document**

The Society is governed by a constitution adopted on 3 June 2004 and amended 12 May 2015.

**How the Charity is constituted**

The Society is constituted as an unincorporated association.

**Charity Trustee selection methods**

Trustees are appointed by the Executive Committee. The Committee is elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

**The objects of the Society**

As a charity, the objects of the Society are to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of the public appreciation and taste in the said arts.

### **Summary of the main activities in relation to the objects**

The main activity has been to stage shows in the Queen's Hall, Cranbrook. Members are invited to audition and take part in any or all these productions either on the stage or behind the scenes in various capacities needed to stage a successful production. All performances are open to any member of the public to attend and are staged by a large team of local volunteers embracing many different skills and age groups. The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

### **Summary of the main achievements during the year**

Having had a challenge to produce all 2023 shows ourselves, we were extremely pleased to be able to return to normal service in 2024 with our usual selection of play, musical and pantomime. It was also a welcome relief to see that all these productions at least broke even, with some helping to boost our coffers further.

The Spring Play was "Twelve", directed by Louisa Nelson-Chambers and loosely based on a famous courtroom drama film. Innovatively staged and superbly acted, this was really appreciated by the audience that came to see it – we only wish that they had been larger and we need to address how to get local people to come and see plays that don't have a well-known title.

No problem with the Autumn musical, however, as "Addams Family – The Musical" directed by Annie Hatcher was immediately identifiable and we had good audiences for all of the performances. Again, striking stylised staging, costumes, makeup and use of puppets (as well as a remote-controlled hand that could even sword-fence!) complemented the strong acting and singing performances on stage to provide a memorable night for all that came to see it.

The year was crowned by the return of our own pantomime, with "Aladdin" produced in partnership with long-time CODS collaborator Jack Davidson, who also directed an upbeat and updated version of the well-known story – but with all of those pantomime features that audiences are expecting. Cranbrook was obviously ready for this, as we managed to break box-office records and set ourselves up well for the next in the series.

Our collaboration with the Queen's Hall and Cranbrook School continues to improve and we have been able to help more this year with significant donations from the Dennis Russell legacy to buy proper stage extensions and equipment for the Performing Arts department.

Our membership has again stayed relatively consistent, both performers and helpers back-stage and Front of House. Given the itinerant nature of AmDram these days, this is a good result.

The income from the investments we made last year from the Dennis Russell Legacy enable us to cover our fixed operating costs that are not linked to productions, including rental of Flushinghurst and the Gray Room, as well as professional fees and insurance, which is a great benefit in relation to other societies. Apart from the donation identified above to Cranbrook School we have also supported the creative community around Cranbrook and our own members in upskilling through attendance at NODA courses.

2025 will be another year of challenge, as we compete increasingly for a smaller audience and against more distractions – we are in a strong financial position but it remains to be seen how effectively we can take advantage of this.

### **Reserves Policy**

The charity's policy is to keep the cost of one major performance in reserve, so as to provide against a box office failure. In addition, a reserve of £12,000 is kept to cover the rental cost of the costume store.

Signed: Chairman – Julie Hine



Signed: Treasurer – Glyn Roberts



Date:

11/04/2025

**Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society**  
**Registered Charity No. 1105153**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023
<b>Cash Balances</b>		
Cash held	150	150
Natwest Current Account	33,712	93,915
Natwest Deposit Account	50,871	-
CCLA COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund	85,000	85,000
Scottish Widows	12,000	12,000
	<u>181,733</u>	<u>191,065</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>		
Prepayments	186	150
Expenditure on future shows	598	-
	<u>784</u>	<u>150</u>
	182,517	191,215
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors	1,760	688
Accruals	900	-
	<u>2,660</u>	<u>688</u>
	<u>£ 179,857</u>	<u>£ 190,527</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
<b>General Fund</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2024	187,446	29,251
Deficit for the year	<u>(10,170)</u>	<u>158,195</u>
	177,276	187,446
<b>Restricted Fund</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2024	3,081	3,581
Income received in year	-	-
Expenditure for year	<u>(500)</u>	<u>(500)</u>
	2,581	3,081
	<u>£ 179,857</u>	<u>£ 190,527</u>

**Approved on behalf of the Executive Committee**

Signed   
Chairman - Julie Hine

Signed:   
Treasurer - Glyn Roberts

Date: 11/04/2025

**Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society**  
**Registered Charity No. 1105153**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Incoming resources	31 Dec 2024		31 Dec 2023	
	General Fund	Restricted Fund	General Fund	Restricted Fund
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>				
Members' subscriptions	670		590	
Other donations	<u>4,439</u>		<u>160,188</u>	
	5,109	-	160,778	-
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Hire or sale of costumes	<u>1,740</u>		<u>86</u>	
	1,740		86	
<b>Investment income</b>				
Bank and Building Society interest	3,534		-	
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>				
Twelve	857		-	
The Addams Family Musical	952		-	
Aladdin	3,793		-	
Blackadder	-		2,227	
Made in Dagenham	-		(54)	
Adventures of Treasure Island	<u>-</u>		<u>(138)</u>	
	5,602	-	2,035	
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>15,985</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>162,899</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Carried down</b>	15,985	-	162,899	-

**Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society**  
**Registered Charity No. 1105153**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	31 Dec 2024		31 Dec 2023	
	General Fund	Restricted Fund	General Fund	Restricted Fund
<b>Brought down</b>	15,985	-	162,899	-
<b>Resources expended</b>				
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>				
Hire of sale of costumes	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Other resources expended</b>				
Subscriptions and fees	234		250	
Rent of Gray Room	881		285	
Flishinghurst rent	1,380		1,380	
Rehearsal room	677		-	
Insurance	820		726	
Accountancy	900		-	
Training	1,440		-	
Flishinghurst repairs and other scenery costs	8,100		-	
Equipment and small repairs	185		16	
Advertising and publicity	108		-	
IT costs, software and website	746		138	
Lighting	269		184	
Costumes	52		-	
Refreshments	68		62	
Trophies and awards	33		85	
Donation to Hospice in the Weald	-		1,500	
Donation to Cranbrook School	8,600		-	
Donation to Melody in Mind	1,000		-	
Donation to Air Ambulance	250		-	
Donation to Wellbeing in the Weald	300		-	
Gifts	35		48	
AGM expenses	77		30	
	26,155		4,704	
<b>Total resources expended</b>	26,155	-	4,704	-
<b>Deficit/Surplus for the year</b>	(10,170)	-	158,195	-
Allocated to shows in the year	-	(500)	-	(500)
<b>Funds brought forward</b>	187,446	3,081	29,251	3,581
	<u>£177,276</u>	<u>£2,581</u>	<u>£187,446</u>	<u>£3,081</u>



**Production Income and Expenses**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Income	The Addams		
	Twelve	Family Musical	Aladdin
Box Office	2,674.38	11,515.40	12,821.35
Programme sales	122.74	55.15	212.40
Profit on raffle	33.45	14.75	85.99
Bar	201.32	619.30	516.95
Show fees	100.00	400.00	415.00
T Shirt/Hoodie sales	-	-	174.05
Transfer from Access All Areas	-	250.00	250.00
	<u>3,131.89</u>	<u>12,854.60</u>	<u>14,475.74</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Royalties/licences	513.48	4,249.58	2,811.70
Libs and scores	132.96	1,250.00	212.19
Musicians	-	2,130.99	490.00
Choreographer	-	200.00	150.00
Scenery	31.97	800.23	940.45
Props	77.20	17.17	-
Lighting, sound and effects	-	29.98	109.06
Costumes	-	126.83	145.93
Make-up and wigs	-	301.69	31.95
Programmes	59.40	390.00	300.00
Accessibility services	-	250.00	250.00
Publicity	405.54	283.63	270.42
Director's expenses	-	104.25	-
Director profit share	-	-	3,752.81
Rehearsal room	1,054.00	1,755.00	918.00
Refreshments	-	13.27	-
T shirts/Hoodies	-	-	300.12
	<u>2,274.55</u>	<u>11,902.62</u>	<u>10,682.63</u>
<b>Surplus on Production</b>	<u>£857.34</u>	<u>£951.98</u>	<u>£3,793.11</u>

**Additional Notes for the information of members  
for the year ended 31 December 2024  
(not forming part of the accounts)**

**Peter Gray room in Queens Hall**

The sum of £12,000 has been set aside in the Scottish Widows account with the intention that the interest from this deposit can pay a contribution towards the rent which Cranbrook School charges for the use of this room.