

Off Centre Theatre (OCT) report for year ending 31 March 2024

Registered Charity Number 1112602. OCT became a Charity in December 2005.

Contact address: 34 Duchess Road, Monmouth NP25 3HT

Objectives

1. To promote and advance the education of the public, in the community of Monmouth and the surrounding area, in the art of drama and amateur dramatics by the participation in, and appreciation of, plays and other dramatic productions
2. From time to time, to advance such other charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion think fit.

Management

Off Centre Theatre is managed by a committee whose members are elected by the membership. Trustees are appointed from the committee.

Trustees

Geoffrey Manning
Stuart MacFarlane
Tom Rigby
Barbara Spence
Anne MacFarlane
Brian Pearce

Activities during the year

Off Centre Theatre had a very successful year. The main productions at The Savoy Theatre Monmouth began with *The Vicar of Dibley* in June. This was followed by *A Murder is Announced* in November and *The Importance of Being Earnest* in March. Each of these productions attracted new members to join the group who were involved both on stage and behind the scenes.

All three productions were very successful attracting large audiences. Of particular note was *A Murder is Announced* which sold out with an audience of 1100. As a result of these productions OCT made a substantial profit in 2024/24 which resulted in reserves increasing by £24.9K to £64k. Many thanks go to everyone involved for all their hard work.

In addition to these profitable productions the award-winning *Beside the Seaside, Beside the Sea* written and directed by Jim Newcomb was invited to be part of the National Drama Festivals Association annual festival. This event consists of 15 plays described as 'the cream of amateur theatre' which have won awards during the year. *Beside the Seaside, Beside the*

Sea was an outstanding production performed by Becky Townsend and Joel Daffurn. It had previously won all the major awards at the Herefordshire One Act Play festival – best play, best direction, best actress, best actor and best original play.

Throughout the year OCT held club nights and events which were open to everyone, not just members. These comprised play readings, an open mic evening a comedy night and a Christmas dinner. The AGM in April was well attended.

OCT continually supports other groups and organisations in the area lending props, costumes and equipment. During the year help was given to Monmouth Music Theatre, Mayhem Youth Theatre, Monmouth Comprehensive School and Theatre Workshop Cymru.

In September OCT arranged training for trustees. Trustees from two other local charities – Monmouth Music Theatre and The Monmouth Savoy Trust were invited to take part.

During the year donations were given to St Mary's Church Monmouth and The Spirit of Monmouth running club. Also donations were made in memory of two former members of OCT who passed away.

Financial Review

The committee are very pleased with the results for the year. The success of the three productions resulted in the largest profit OCT has ever made.

The investment of reserves is to be reviewed.

OCT's policy is to maintain reserves to cover a year's costs. All funds are unrestricted.

In the coming year plans will be developed to make best use of the reserves to benefit members.

Approval

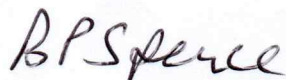
This report was approved by the committee and signed on their behalf



Tony Summers
Chair

Date

27/9/24



Barbara Spence
Trustee

Date

27/9/24

OCT accounts: 1st April 2023 - 31 March 2024

Income

Membership	1045.00
Lloyds Bank interest	139.37
Scottish Widows interest	42.93
Monmouthshire Building Soc Interest	1031.56

Club Nights	139.00
Christmas Dinner	1092.00

Productions

Vicar of Dibley	10053.20
A Murder is Announced	16201.61
Importance of Being Earnest	10253.74

Donations	24.00
Amazon Smile	27.89
Give As You Live	70.29
Misc	406.55
Gift Aid	159.84
Costume sales	220.00

Total Income **40906.98**

Expenditure

Storage	4752.00
Website	163.16
Insurance	213.03
Club nights	252.04
Drama Competitions	672.00
Play Readings	33.60
Christmas Dinner	1157.00
AGM	24.00

Productions

Vicar of Dibley	1820.15
A Murder is Announced	3235.44
Importance of Being Earnest	2791.68
39 Steps	21.20
Dick Barton Special Agent	14.29
Going Green	18.75

Misc	531.17
Trustee Training	39.00
NDFA Membership	30.00
Membership overpayment refund	30.00
Donations	175.00

Total expenditure **15973.51**

Surplus/deficit **24933.47**

Cash in Bank at 31 March 2024

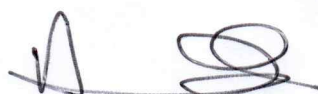
Current	1633.73
Lloyds BIA	30009.66
Scottish Widows	0.00
Mon BS	32367.38
	64010.77

Cash in Bank at 31 March 2023

Current	7200.49
Lloyds BIA	830.28
Scottish Widows	6710.71
Mon BS	24335.82
	39077.30

Change from 1/4/23 **24933.47**

These accounts have been approved by the committee and signed on their behalf:



Tony Summers, Chair

Date 27/9/24



Barbara Spence, Trustee

Date 27/9/24

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Off Centre Theatre (OCT)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of OCT for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of OCT 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 OCT'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of OCT as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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:



Name: Susannah Adams

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA

Address: 1 Monkswell Road, Monmouth, NP25 3PF

Date: 10 October 2024