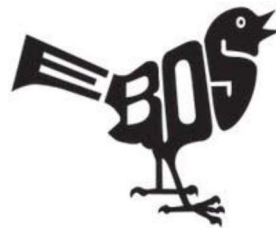


EAST BERKSHIRE OPERATIC SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1140993

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**



The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

East Berkshire Operatic Society ("the Society") is an association governed by its Constitution. Founded in 1952 it was granted charity status on 2 February 2011. The members of the executive committee are Trustees of the Charity and are appointed by the members annually. The Trustees during the year under review and to the date of this report were:

Natalie Hayllor (Chairman)
James Lole (Treasurer)
Amy Williams (Secretary)
Duncan Bruce
Peter Hider
Amy Cowie
Kirsty McDougall
Ashleigh Wells (resigned March 2022)
Gillian Reid
Robyn Parton (appointed March 2022)

In addition, Andrew Cooper (Company Stage Manager) was a co-opted member of the committee (but not a Trustee) during the year.

Objectives and Activities

As stated in the Society's constitution, the objects of the Society are: "to educate the public in dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts. Such charitable purposes for the public benefit are exclusively charitable, according to the laws of England and Wales, as the trustees may from time to time determine."

The Trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and consider the Society's activities all fall within the objectives of the Society.

During the year, the country continued to return to normal following the lifting of social distancing guidance issued by the UK Government in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and, as a result, the Society was able to return to presenting a full programme of shows to the public.

Policy on Reserves

The Society's general reserves, accumulated from prior years' surplus of income over expenditure are retained and utilised in the activities of the Society and the maintenance of its premises for the benefit of the members and the wider local community. From time to time, the committee may allocate funds towards a specific project for the improvement of the Society's premises or facilities. Where the project extends beyond the accounting period these funds are maintained as a separate designated fund.

Otherwise, the charity has no restricted or endowed reserves.

Achievements and Performance

At the Wilde Theatre, we presented a production of Sandy Wilson's "The Boy Friend" in May and in November one of the first amateur productions of the Mel Brooks musical "Young Frankenstein". Both shows were enormously enjoyed by audiences and press reviewers. However, despite a huge marketing effort on social media and the more traditional avenues, ticket sales were disappointing at 35% and 50% of maximum capacity respectively. This meant that despite keeping production costs within our normal budgets the shows returned a deficit of expenditure over income of £9,155 and £5,419 respectively.

At the Pinewood Theatre, we presented the play "Curtain Up!" in March which returned a surplus of £1,109. In September we attempted another "first" for the Society, staging a production of "A Slice of Saturday Night" to be rehearsed and performed in a 24 hour period. Rehearsals started at 2.30pm on the Friday and there were two performances at 2.30pm and 7.30pm on the Saturday. Owing to only having two performances, ticket sales were lower than might be usual for a run of 4 or 5 shows. A very modest surplus of £77 was generated. However it was a fantastic (albeit tiring) experience for all involved.

Our summer show was the musical "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" which was performed at The Whitty Theatre in Wokingham. This was a new venue for us having a capacity of 176 seats meaning it fits between the Pinewood Theatre (75 seats) and the Wilde Theatre (300 seats) allowing us to present more expansive shows than we would be able to at Pinewood without the much larger cost commitment of the Wilde. The show was well received by audiences. However again, ticket sales were disappointing at 37% of capacity and resulted in a small deficit of £870.

As reported last year, operating in the hospitality and leisure sector we were eligible for several phases of Covid-19 related government grant administered by Wokingham Borough Council. Early in 2022 we received a final grant of £2,667. In total we therefore received some £18,500 of grants to support leisure activities which were unable to operate during the pandemic. This assistance has enabled us to continue to run the Pinewood premises and to return to presenting shows. As reported above, ticket sales have been disappointing during the year and we hope that audiences will feel more confident to return to theatres in 2023.

Membership subscriptions and support from Patrons are our life blood to contribute much needed income towards the running costs of the Society and the upkeep of the Society's clubhouse and theatre at Pinewood in Wokingham. It was good to see that the level of new and renewed memberships at all levels have returned to pre-Covid levels.

The Pinewood Theatre, which is the home of the Society, operates as the social hub and rehearsal space for members. It is also a fully licenced theatre for the Society to present several of its own shows each year and is regularly hired to other local community groups involved in the Arts.

Overall, 2022 was a challenging year financially. Audiences for our shows have not returned to pre-pandemic levels meaning that we need to be very careful with our show choices and production spend over the next couple of years to ensure we can maximise surplus of income over expenditure in order to cover the ongoing running costs of the Society and return reserves to the levels required to fund our normal programme of shows.

On behalf of the Trustees



Amy Williams (Mar 21, 2023, 10:39pm)

Amy Williams
Secretary

Date: 21 Mar 2023

East Berkshire Operatic Society

Registered Charity No. 1140993

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2022

			2021	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Productions	41,472		15,318	
Membership subscriptions	4,658		1,791	
Pinewood	3,468		789	
Social and fund raising activities	3,155		3,590	
Local government grant	2,667		16,907	
Donations & other income	1,965		4,659	
		57,385		43,054
Expenditure				
Productions	55,730		20,237	
Cancelled productions costs	0		570	
Pinewood	11,360		10,084	
Administration	2,340		1,897	
Social and fund raising activities	3,180		1,863	
		72,610		34,651
Surplus/(Deficit) before depreciation		(15,225)		8,403
Depreciation		(3,742)		(3,691)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(18,967)		4,712

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2022

Fixed assets (see page 4)				
Leasehold improvements	17,887		21,208	
Society equipment	1,264		1,111	
		19,151		22,319
Current assets				
Bank and cash	7,642		22,705	
Debtors (sale of YF set)	1,000		0	
Prepayments	3,077		4,497	
	11,719		27,202	
Current liabilities				
Creditors	271		0	
Hire deposits	100		200	
Deferred income	780		635	
	1,151		835	
Net current assets		10,568		26,367
Net assets		29,719		48,686
Represented by				
General reserve brought forward	48,686		43,974	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(18,967)		4,712	
General reserve carried forward		29,719		48,686



Natalie Haylor (Mar 21, 2023, 10:46pm)

Chairman



James Lole (Mar 21, 2023, 7:15pm)

Honorary Treasurer

Approved by the Trustees on 21 Mar 2023

East Berkshire Operatic Society

Registered Charity No. 1140993

Production Results

	The Boy Friend	Young Frankenstein	Wilde Total		
Income					
Ticket sales	11,536	17,296	28,832		
Programme sales	264	441	705		
Programme advertising	80	130	210		
Sale of set	-	1,000	1,000		
Sale of t-shirts	138	399	537		
	12,018	19,266	31,284		
Expenditure					
Theatre Hire	3,720	5,738	9,458		
Royalties, scripts, scores	5,738	4,389	10,127		
Production Team	2,700	2,700	5,400		
Orchestra	2,240	2,240	4,480		
Scenery & Transport	2,007	3,442	5,449		
Properties	154	237	391		
Lighting	1,646	1,667	3,313		
Sound	-	-	-		
Costumes	-	311	311		
Publicity	519	739	1,258		
Programme printing	761	514	1,275		
Cost of t-shirts	118	399	517		
Other show costs	100	223	323		
Ticket sales costs	1,470	2,086	3,556		
	21,173	24,685	45,858		
Surplus/(Deficit)	(9,155)	(5,419)	(14,574)		
	Curtain Up!	Spelling Bee	Slice of Saturday Night	Other Total	Grand Total
Income					
Ticket sales	1,620	5,838	1,545	9,003	37,835
Programme sales	-	-	-	-	705
Programme advertising	-	-	-	-	210
Sale of set	-	-	-	-	1,000
Bar sales	-	1,099	-	1,099	1,099
Sale of t-shirts	-	86	-	86	623
	1,620	7,023	1,545	10,188	41,472
Expenditure					
Theatre Hire	-	2,750	-	2,750	12,208
Royalties, scripts, scores	411	1,784	936	3,131	13,258
Production Team	-	500	-	500	5,900
Orchestra and Rehearsal Pianist	-	1,080	100	1,180	5,660
Scenery & Transport	60	65	-	125	5,574
Properties	-	155	-	155	546
Lighting	-	500	-	500	3,813
Sound	-	-	28	28	28
Costumes	40	-	-	40	351
Publicity	-	203	22	225	1,483
Programme printing	-	-	-	-	1,275
Bar purchases	-	389	-	389	389
Cost of t-shirts	-	86	-	86	603
Other show costs	-	-	285	285	608
Ticket sales costs	-	381	97	478	4,034
	511	7,893	1,468	9,872	55,730
Surplus/(Deficit)	1,109	(870)	77	316	(14,258)

Accounting Policies

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with guidance issued by the Charity Commission subject to the following exceptions.

Debtors are recognised for income receivable from activities undertaken by the Society in the year and which have been received subsequent to the end of the year.

Creditors are recognised where the Society has an obligation and the relevant charges have been agreed and communicated by the counterparty but remain unpaid at the year end.

All of the Society's reserves represent unrestricted funds with the exception of amounts designated by the committee for specific capital projects.

Pinewood Development and Tangible Fixed Assets

	£
<u>Leasehold improvements</u>	
Cost	
At 1 January 2022	66,413
Additions	0
At 31 December 2022	<u>66,413</u>
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2022	45,205
Depreciation charge for the year (5% of cost)	3,321
At 31 December 2022	<u>48,526</u>
Net Book Value	
At 31 December 2022	<u>17,887</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>21,208</u>

Society equipment

Net Book Value at 1 January 2022	1,111
Additions in the year	574
Less: Depreciation charge for the year (25% of NBV)	<u>(421)</u>
Net Book Value at 31 December 2022	<u>1,264</u>

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of 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 s144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 the general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 any 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 material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gerard J McCormack

Gerard McCormack
Gerard McCormack (Mar 21, 2023,
Wokingham, Berkshire)

Date: 21 Mar 2023