

EAST BERKSHIRE OPERATIC SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1140993

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**



The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

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 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
Ellie Tidy
Gillian Reid
Robyn Parton

Co-opted members of the committee (not Trustees):

Andrew Cooper (Company Stage Manager)
Kirsty McDougall (Child Liaison)

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.

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

During the year, the Society staged four musical productions: "Gypsy" and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at the Wilde Theatre, a musical revue "Sizzling Summer Nights" and "Spring Awakening" at the Pinewood Theatre.

We also ran a successful Summer School for the junior cast involved in Joseph.

The financial results of these productions can be viewed on page 4.

In addition to our show productions, the Society held a number of social and fundraising events during the year including the Annual EBOS Quiz, Elsie Crumpet's Bingo Bongo, and the Christmas Party.

We were grateful for a number of donations received during the year. These ranged from small amounts added to Pinewood Theatre ticket bookings, front of house collections at the Wilde Theatre shows, and donations to the Society from members and others.

Running the Society

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.

Whilst the Committee has been very careful to ensure that expenditure is kept to a minimum, the Society has suffered from an increase in costs of running the Society and maintaining our premises at Pinewood. In particular, the cost of electricity has almost doubled since last year.

Finally, after many years of negotiations with our landlord, Wokingham Without Parish Council and Wokingham Borough Council, the owner of the site, new 20 year leases for each of the clubs at Pinewood were signed in December 2023. The rent (subject to 5 yearly review) and services charges are broadly at the same level as we have been paying over the last few years.

On behalf of the Trustees

Amy Williams

Secretary

Date: 12 March 2025

East Berkshire Operatic Society

Registered Charity No. 1140993

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2024

			2023	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Productions	78,844		47,417	
Membership subscriptions	6,886		5,377	
Pinewood	3,380		2,768	
Social and fund raising activities	6,801		6,061	
Donations & other income	2,691		5,704	
		98,602		67,327
Expenditure				
Productions	66,145		40,318	
Pinewood	11,063		12,287	
Administration	2,668		3,242	
Social and fund raising activities	1,970		1,927	
		81,846		57,774
Surplus/(Deficit) before depreciation		16,756		9,553
Depreciation		(1,261)		(3,433)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		15,495		6,120

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

Fixed assets (see page 4)				
Leasehold improvements	13,746		14,770	
Society equipment	711		948	
		14,457		15,718
Current assets				
Bank and cash	31,453		16,487	
Debtors	1,053		0	
Prepayments	7,096		4,799	
	39,602		21,286	
Current liabilities				
Creditors	0		0	
Hire deposits	500		200	
Deferred income	2,225		965	
	2,725		1,165	
Net current assets		36,877		20,121
Net assets		51,334		35,839
Represented by				
General reserve brought forward	35,839		29,719	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	15,495		6,120	
General reserve carried forward		51,334		35,839

Natalie Hayllor**James Lole**

Chairman

Honorary Treasurer

Approved by the Trustees on 12 March 2025

East Berkshire Operatic Society

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Production Results for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Gypsy	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	Wilde Total	
Income				
Ticket sales	25,493	39,390	64,883	
Programme sales	518	768	1,286	
Programme advertising	100	100	200	
Summer school		5,460	5,460	
Sale of t-shirts	611	1,259	1,870	
	<u>26,722</u>	<u>46,977</u>	<u>73,699</u>	
Expenditure				
Theatre hire	5,850	6,353	12,203	
Royalties, Scripts and Scores	6,120	6,942	13,062	
Production team	1,895	3,400	5,295	
Orchestra	5,255	5,132	10,387	
Scenery & Transport	1,067	3,664	4,731	
Properties	114	23	137	
Lighting	1,759	2,045	3,804	
Sound	-	-	-	
Costumes	720	1,041	1,761	
Publicity	464	538	1,002	
Programme printing	435	621	1,056	
Cost of t-shirts	534	1,493	2,027	
Other show costs	-	246	246	
Ticket sales costs	2,788	4,141	6,929	
	<u>27,001</u>	<u>35,639</u>	<u>62,640</u>	
(Deficit)/Surplus	<u>(279)</u>	<u>11,338</u>	<u>11,059</u>	
	Sizzling Summer Nights	Spring Awakening	Other Total	Grand Total
Income				
Ticket sales	1,917	3,228	5,145	70,028
Programme sales	-	-	-	1,286
Programme advertising	-	-	-	200
Summer school	-	-	-	5,460
Sale of t-shirts	-	-	-	1,870
	<u>1,917</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>5,145</u>	<u>78,844</u>
Expenditure				
Theatre hire	-	-	-	12,203
Royalties, Scripts and Scores	-	950	950	14,012
Production team	330	-	330	5,625
Orchestra	-	820	820	11,207
Scenery & Transport	-	1,010	1,010	5,741
Properties	-	28	28	165
Lighting	-	-	-	3,804
Sound	-	141	141	141
Costumes	-	-	-	1,761
Publicity	-	-	-	1,002
Programme printing	-	-	-	1,056
Cost of t-shirts	-	-	-	2,027
Other show costs	-	-	-	246
Ticket sales costs	-	226	226	7,155
	<u>330</u>	<u>3,175</u>	<u>3,505</u>	<u>66,145</u>
Surplus	<u>1,587</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>12,699</u>

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 2024	66,413
Additions	0
At 31 December 2024	<u>66,413</u>
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2024	51,643
Depreciation charge for the year (5% of cost)	1,024
At 31 December 2024	<u>52,667</u>
Net Book Value	
At 31 December 2024	<u>13,746</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>14,770</u>
 <u>Society equipment</u>	
Net Book Value at 1 January 2024	948
Additions in the year	0
Less: Depreciation charge for the year (25% of NBV)	<u>(237)</u>
Net Book Value at 31 December 2024	<u>711</u>

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2024, 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 McCormack

Wokingham, Berkshire

Date: 12 March 2025