



**The David Oluwale
Memorial Association
(DOMA/Remember Oluwale)**

**12th ANNUAL REPORT
2024 — 2025**

#RememberOluwale
www.rememberoluwale.org

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OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

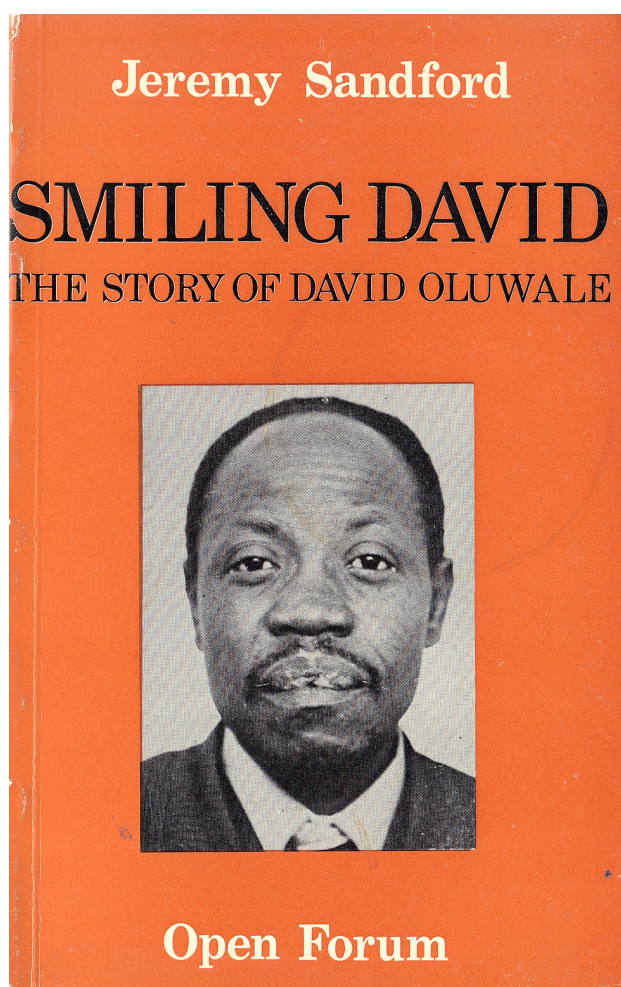
The David Oluwale Memorial Association (DOMA) has adopted aims agreed with the Charity Commission. It aims to promote equality, diversity and racial harmony for the public benefit in Leeds specifically and the UK in general, in particular but not exclusively by any or all of the following means:

1. educating the public about the life and death of David Oluwale
2. educating the public on the progress the City of Leeds has made towards justice for ethnic minorities and humane treatment of the homeless and destitute, and in combating the stigma of individuals experiencing mental ill health
3. educating the public on what more needs to be done to achieve full racial justice and humane treatment of the homeless and destitute in Leeds, and to combat the stigma of individuals experiencing mental ill health.

WHO WAS DAVID OLUWALE?



David Oluwale arrived in Hull, East Yorkshire, in 1949, having stowed away on this ship, the MV Temple Bar, as it left Apapa Wharfe in Lagos, Nigeria.



David Oluwale arrived in Hull (East Yorkshire, UK) in 1949. With some friends, he had stowed away on the MV Temple Bar, a merchant ship docked in Lagos, Nigeria. He was imprisoned in Leeds (UK) for one month for the offence of not buying a ticket. Since he was a British citizen, he was free to make his way when he left prison. Like all migrants in search of a better life, he arrived with energy and ambition. He had various manual jobs until 1953. Despite gruelling work and racism, he seems to have enjoyed himself in the pubs and dance-halls of Leeds. He was known as Yankee by his friends, such as his love of American popular culture and his zest for life. This is the period of hope for David Oluwale.

After a dispute over the bill at the King Edward Hotel in Leeds city centre on 25th April 1953, he was arrested and sent to Leeds Prison in Armley. From there, he was dispatched to Menston Asylum, a psychiatric hospital in Leeds (later renamed High Royds). He was briefly released in 1961. In 1964 he was jailed for being drunk and disorderly, assessed as paranoid and a 'dullard', and sent again to High Royds hospital in 1965. Released in 1967, he lived as a vagrant on the streets of Leeds. He was last seen in the early morning of 18th April 1969, having been assaulted by two Leeds police officers. David was found drowned in the River Aire/Leeds Canal at the Knostrop weir on 4th May 1969.

While he was of no fixed abode ('wandering abroad' was his crime under the 1824 Vagrancy Act) and sleeping rough in the Leeds city centre over the last two years of his life, David Oluwale was persistently assaulted and abused by two Leeds police officers, Sergeant Kitching and Inspector Ellerker.

These officers were arrested following the brave whistle-blowing of a police cadet named Gary Galvin after David's body was found. The investigating officer, Chief Superintendent Perkins of the Metropolitan police, recommended that they were charged with the murder of David Oluwale on 18th April 1969. Instead, they were prosecuted for manslaughter, ABH and GBH (Actual and Grievous Bodily Harm).

In November 1971 they were convicted of ABH. They were acquitted of David's manslaughter and GBH on the Judge's direction. Ellerker was sentenced to three years, Kitching got 27 months.

There was much publicity of the trial in the local and national press. The artist Rasheed Araeen produced his work *For Oluwale* between 1972 and 1975. In 1974 *Smiling David*, the script of a BBC radio play by Jeremy Sandford, was published. Linton Kwesi Johnson referenced David Oluwale in his 1979 poem *Time Come*. Until two more books about David were published in 2007, by Caryl Phillips and Kester Aspden, his story was almost forgotten. In 2008, while speaking about David Oluwale at the launch of his book at Leeds Metropolitan (now Beckett) University, Caryl Phillips suggested that there should be a memorial in Leeds to David Oluwale.

DOMA: EDUCATING AND CAMPAIGNING TO #REMEMBEROLUWALE

The David Oluwale Memorial Association (DOMA) started life in 2007 as a committee based in the Community Partnerships and Volunteering office at Leeds Metropolitan/Beckett University. In 2012 it was registered as a charity and as a company limited by guarantee, unaffiliated to the university. Its objects are listed above. It is now branded as #RememberOluwale.

In remembering David Oluwale, and in joining with all those who are working today to overcome all the challenges that David faced, the charity sees itself as restoring David's initially hopeful trajectory. We recognise the improvements that have been made since David's time in Leeds, but we argue that so much more is needed to properly address the 'Oluwale issues' in the city of Leeds: racism, hostility to migrants, mental ill-health, homelessness, police malpractice and destitution. We support Leeds City Council's ambition to create a compassionate, inclusive and more equal city, where diversity is welcomed and everyone is able to fulfil their dreams.

Leeds City Council has supported our work since we set up the working party at Leeds Met University. It made a major contribution to DOMA's work by backing the *Hibiscus Rising* sculpture for David Oluwale by Yinka Shonibare CBE, RA, installed in the Meadow Lane Gardens in Aire Park in Leeds in November 2023.

This art-work symbolises the creativity and energy that migrants bring to our city and the special place of remembrance that is being created exemplifies the city's aim to embrace diversity and welcome everyone to Leeds. Fund-raising and technical matters for *Hibiscus Rising* was brilliantly managed by the LEEDS2023 Festival of Culture, and the sculpture is a major part of the legacy of that festival.

David's life in Leeds started with hope and ended in abjection; DOMA aims to restore hope as *Hibiscus Rising* exemplifies the City of Leeds becoming a place that is fully inclusive. We always work with artists of every type to tell David's story and to campaign for social justice with vivacity, creativity and enjoyment.



DOMA co-secretary Chloe Hudson (left) in the Oluwale Memory Garden in Meadow Lane, Aire Park, Leeds on 23.5.25 © Max Farrar

[Much more information about David Oluwale and the charity can be obtained from [here](#) on our website.]

DOMA'S IMPACT IN THIS PERIOD

This report covers the charity's activities over the period of 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. It provides the charity's accounts up to 31st March 2025.

DOMA regarded the installation of Hibiscus Rising as the fulfilment of its main ambition: a permanent, inspiring and hopeful place of memory in the city for David Oluwale. The year covered by this report has therefore been one of consolidation and rest.

In brief we have:

- + Produced the Nice Up Again music and poetry festival in Meadow Lane Gardens.
- + Included David's story and memory places in a 'Black Flaneurs' academic project at Leeds Beckett University (BU).
- + Begun to promote the Oluwale-related educational materials and animated film we produced last year for use in schools
- + Worked with students in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at LBU.
- + Provided illustrated lectures about David and DOMA's work for a major law firm in Leeds.
- + Completed a new short film about David's life and legacy.
- + Initiated a re-design of our website.
- + Commissioned Leeds University to print a copy of the Hibiscus Rising maquette to enhance blind people's appreciation of the sculpture.
- + Developed our partnership with Leeds African Communities Trust.

(Details of the above activities are provided below.)

We consider therefore that **our impact** has been to:

- Involve many more people in knowing about David Oluwale's life and death and its relevance today, by organising a cultural event, contributing to young people's education, and giving lectures to Leeds businesses.
- Contribute to raising the national and international recognition of David Oluwale, and the City of Leeds' reputation as a provider of world-class art and culture, by promoting Yinka Sonibare's *Hibiscus Rising* for David Oluwale.
- Develop the public understanding of the inter-relationship between migration, racism, mental ill-health, homelessness and policing in Leeds via our programme of activities and our educational work.
- Add to university students' understanding of the life and death of David Oluwale, and to school students' knowledge by commissioning educational materials for their use from 2024 onwards.
- Engage effectively with Leeds Beckett University, Leeds University and Leeds City Museum in furthering awareness among the public of David Oluwale and his significance today.
- Enhance the 'arts for social justice' activities in the city of Leeds.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Raising our profile:

We have kept our story in the public eye by regularly posting items of interest to our followers on social media. Facebook seems to be dropping in popularity, but our other social media platforms have seen reasonable increase in followers.

- The launch of Hibiscus Rising (24-5 November 2023) stimulated 80 pieces of editorial and news items, whose estimated circulation is over 35 million people.
- Our Facebook followers remained around 1.5k (actual number unobtainable)
- Our X-Twitter followers dropped slightly to 2009 (mainly because we don't use X any more)
- Our Instagram page increased slightly to 1,294
- Our You Tube channel has quite a bit of content now and it increased its subscribers from 307 to 352
- Our MailChimp newsletter or single-event email shots are going out more frequently. We have just over 700 contacts. (People are only added if they expressly agree, in accordance with data protection law.)
- Our website is being re-designed.

We also produced additional merchandise which we advertise on our website, use as gifts for supporters, and sell at events. Our merch now includes:

- T shirts, one with a Yinka batiq design and another with a Hibiscus Rising design
- Branded pens
- Lapel pin badges of the Blue Plaque for David Oluwale and of Hibiscus Rising
- Tote bags
- Two books (the Oluwale Anthologies of poetry, short stories and art)
- A poster (the a to b films graphic of David Oluwale)
- Postcards (the David Oluwale graphic)
- Greeting cards (Hibiscus Rising opening)

GOVERNANCE

Patrons

Caryl Phillips, writer and Professor of English Literature at Yale University, USA became our Founding Patron in 2013. Phillips was born in St Kitts and grew up in Leeds. The third part of his book *Foreigners — Three English Lives* (2007) analyses David Oluwale's life and death. He initiated the memorial to David Oluwale in Leeds when speaking about David Oluwale's significance at Leeds Met University in 2007. CarylPhillips.com

Ruth Bunday, MA, became a Patron in February 2019. Ruth has lived in Leeds since 1969. Initially she worked for the Race Relations Board but soon became a solicitor. Her office in York Place merged with Ison Harrison on Chapeltown Road in 1993, becoming Harrison Bunday Solicitors. Ruth now works from the city centre representing families at inquests into deaths in custody and mental health detention.

Directors and Trustees

In March 2025 our Directors and Trustees were: Abdullah Adekola, Victoria Ajayi, Max Farrar, Asher Jael, Chloe Hudson, Emily Zobel Marshall, Abigail Marshall Katung, Peter Hindle-Marsh, Ellie Montgomery, Meleri Roberts and Mariam Sadikot. Full details appear here on our website www.rememberoluwale.org

Volunteers and Consultants

There are lots of people who help DOMA's work as Patrons, Board members, Consultants, Advisers, Partners and Volunteers and we are grateful to them all. We particularly thank the two consultants who gave us much support in developing Phase 1 of the Yinka Shonibare sculpture project: Pam Bone and Pippa Hale. LEEDS2023's Sue Ball was very helpful in developing the early part of Phase 2 of this project (delivery of the completed sculpture).

Partners

We are indebted to these organisations, with whom we have had association and partnership arrangements and/or financial support over several years:

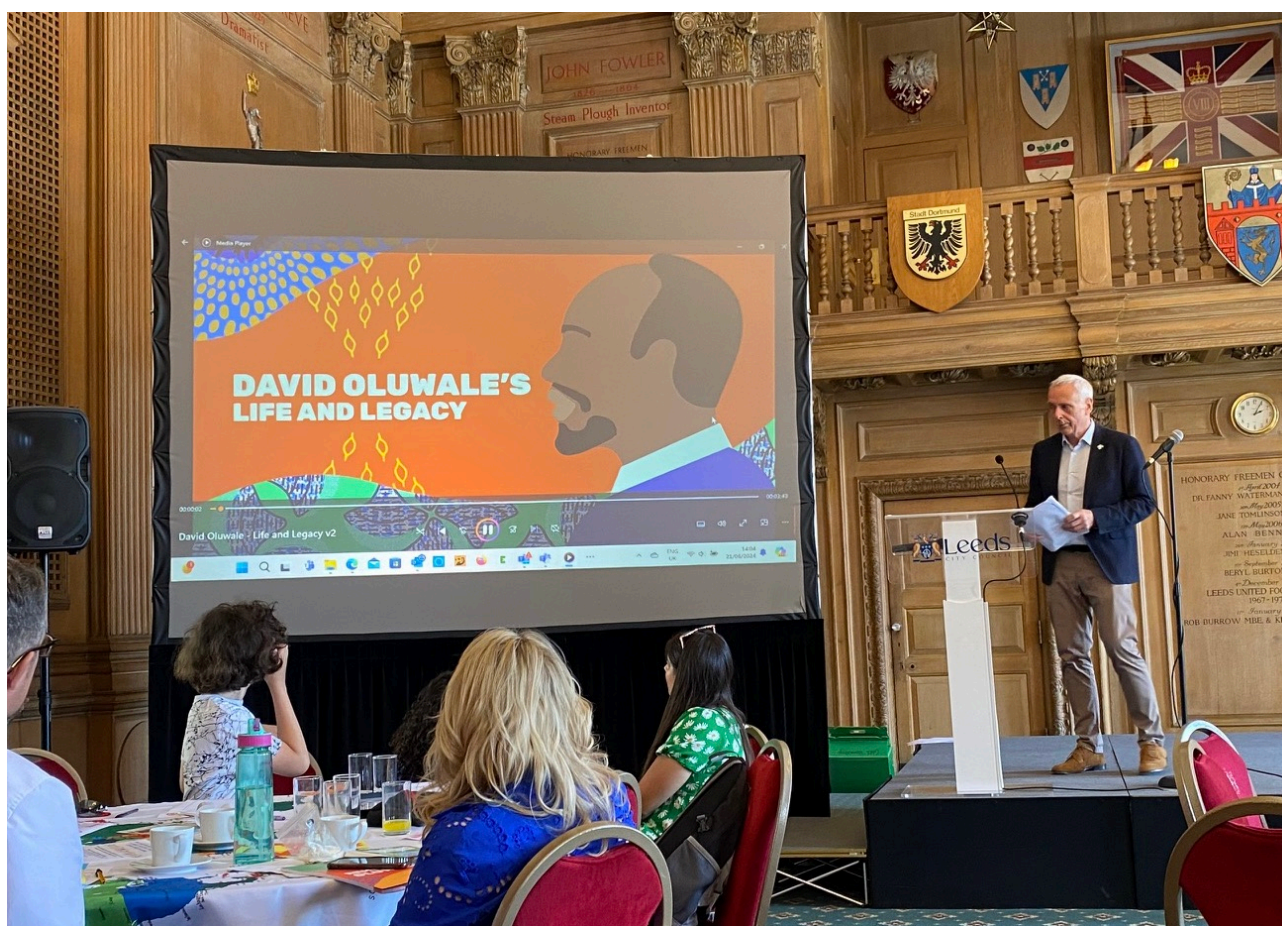
- Leeds City Council (including its Breeze Festival)
- Nigerian Community Leeds
- The Leeds African Community Trust
- The Tetley Centre for Contemporary Art (which closed in March 2024)
- Leeds Beckett University (School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Art, Architecture and Design)
- Touchstone
- Chapel FM radio and arts centre
- The Music House
- Hungry Sandwich Club
- Leeds University (School of English, School of History, School of Engineering)
- Leeds West Indian Centre
- Leeds Philosophical and Literary Association
- The Leeds Library
- Leeds Asylum Seekers Support Network
- Renaissance One
- The Forward Arts Trust
- Group Ginger Architects
- St George's Crypt
- Leeds Literary Festival
- Fictions of Every Kind
- Virtual Migrants
- Stand Up to Racism
- Together for Peace
- LEEDS2023 Year of Culture

REVIEW OF OUR WORK

Educational and Arts work 2024-5

Essentially, DOMA is an educational charity which takes a very broad view of education and doesn't make a strong distinction between education and campaigning, and sees the arts as a key part of this process. (We see all our public events as both educational and change-making.) We are educationalists with a mission: to remind people of David Oluwale's story, its relevance today, and to make links with all those educating and campaigning for racial and social justice, with special attention to mental health, homelessness and migration, while joining with all those who are eliminating malpractice in the police service.

Each of these events were developed and produced by DOMA, utilising funds raised by DOMA and by the LEEDS2023 Festival of Culture. Our work with Leeds Beckett University is funded by its School of Humanities and Social Sciences.



*The DOMA education pack and animated film for use with Key Stage 2 and 3 pupils in schools was launched at the Development Education Centre's annual awards ceremony at Leeds Civic Hall on 21.6.25.
© Max Farrar*

2024-25

Education pack and animated film for schools: Thanks to a grant from Lottery Heritage during the LEEDS2023 Year of Culture we commissioned school teachers to produce an education pack for teachers working with pupils at Key Stage 2 (top primary) and Key Sage 3 (early secondary). The

pack shows how David's story might be integrated into the curricula and assessment of school students studying English, Drama, Art, Citizenship and History. To accompany the film we did the story board for a three minute animated film telling David's story and showing how we have remembered him in Leeds — the Hungry Sandwich Club made the film for us. Thus year we have begun to follow up the launch of this pack and film in further collaboration with the Leeds Development Education Centre.

August 2024

Arts and crafts: We held stalls at three of the City Council's annual Breeze Festivals held in parks all over the city. We engaged with children, their parents and careers, talking about David's story and its relevance today. Children made tiny fabric and wood models of Hibiscus

Rising and bunting flags with the words they chose to express compassion and solidarity. The bunting is used to adorn the stalls we use at public events.



7th September 2024

Nice Up Again: Following last year's *Nice Up* music festival hosted by young people from Music House in Leeds, held near The Tetley and close to the proposed site for Hibiscus Rising, we organised a second festival designed to draw people into the Meadow Lane Gardens to see Hibiscus Rising, installed in November 2023. This year we had performances from musicians with heritages in Ireland, the Punjab, Africa, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and the UK, expressing our enthusiasm for the diverse cultures we enjoy in the city of Leeds. This event was supported by LCC's Breeze team, who provided infrastructure and play equipment for young children.

January - April 2025

Educational work with Leeds Beckett University's School of Humanities and Social Science: DOMA has worked with students in this school over many years. This year we supported their Applied Humanities students, introducing them to the world of work in a small charity. As well as touring the city centre in David's footsteps, they had interviews

Members of Ey Up Klezmer! At the Nice Up Again festival beside Hibiscus Rising in Meadow Lane, Aire Park, 7.9.24. © Max Farrar

with a senior police officer (Asst Chief Constable Carl Galvin) and a prominent human rights lawyer (our Patron Ruth Bunday) in support of the educational materials they made for our new website which summarised recent cases in which black people have died in police custody.

Community and Civic Engagement Programme 2024-5



Members of the Punjabi heritage Sabhrang Gidda Group at the Lord Mayor's International Cultural Celebration event, 15.11.25. © Max Farrar

15th November 2024: The Lord Mayor's International Day of Cultural Celebration:

We worked in collaboration with Leeds African Communities Trust in applying for and administering a 'community cohesion' grant from Leeds City Council in order to assemble performances representing thirteen different cultural organisations in the city of Leeds at the Bridge Street Church's vast concert hall. There were dance and music groups with heritages in the Caribbean, Ireland, Nigeria, South Asia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Eritrea. In addition we worked with the Leeds Afrikindness group to provide African drumming workshops in three schools across the city. This was an initiative by Cllr Abigail Marshal Katung, our co-chair, who, this year, has been the Lord Mayor of Leeds. Our co-Secretary Chloe Hudson played a leading role in pulling this huge event together.

10th and 18th November 2024: Black Flaneurs in Leeds

In partnership with Dr Kalechi Anucha of the Humanities School at Leeds Beckett University we helped produce two events which explored the possibility of Black people engaging in the experience of the 'flaneur', historically invented by wealthy white people, and developed by the predominantly white 'psychogeographers' associated with the Situationist Interstitial. Our friend Joe

Williams led two groups around the city centre informing them on the places that mark the African presence, and the anti-slavery movement, while our co-Secretary Max Farrar inserted David's story and his places of memory in the city.

23rd January 2025: Addleshaw Goddard Solicitors

Our co-chair Cllr Abigail Marshall Katung and our co-secretary Max Farrar responded to a request for a talk about David's life in Leeds and the city centre memorial sites (Hibiscus Rising, the Blue Plaque and the David Oluwale Bridge) by making a photo presentation and fielding questions from a large group of staff at this prestigious firm.

PRIORITIES FOR 2025-6

We will aim to raise further funding to:

- Support a part-time project manager
- Hold another Nice Up Festival near Hibiscus Rising in Meadow Lane in the summer
- Organise another annual lecture and panel
- Lead another 'David Oluwale's Leeds' walking event
- Further develop the education programme in schools
- Respond positively to requests for collaboration on projects relating to David's story and his relevance today

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The David Oluwale Memorial Association promotes equality, diversity and racial harmony for the public benefit in Leeds based on the story of David Oluwale, and in this way complies with its duty as set out in section 4 of the 2006 Charities Act.

DAVID OLUWALE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Company Registration Number (England and Wales) 08107693
Charity Registration Number (England and Wales) 1151426

Abbreviated (Unaudited) Financial Statements

Period of Accounts:

Start date: 01 April 2024
End date: 31 March 2025

COMPANY INFORMATION
for the period ending 31st March 2025

Directors

A Adekola

V Ajayi

M Farrar

C Hudson

A Jael

A Marshall Katung

P Hindle-Marsh

E Zobel Marshall

E Montgomery

M Roberts

M Sadikot

Secretary

M Farrar

Office address

8 Gledhow Park Road
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS7 4JX

Company registration number

8107693

David Oluwale Memorial Association
Accounts for the 12 months to 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
INCOME		
Donations	5,066.93	38,924.61
Grant Income	46,410.00	37,050.00
Sale of Maquette	100,000.00	0.00
Book & Other Sales	308.12	1,314.64
Event & ticket sales	116.32	7,516.42
Interest and Other Income	0.00	1,237.57
Total Income	<u>151,901.37</u>	<u>86,008.00</u>
EXPENDITURE		
General Events (including performance fees and prizes)	24,771.60	25,661.81
Film Project	4,035.00	
Merchandise for resale	816.31	2,033.65
Sculpture & Garden Project	102,000.00	0.00
Marketing, Brand and Website	839.49	5,395.20
Book Publishing Costs	0.00	0.00
Consultancy and professional fees	13,952.50	31,699.80
General expenses	888.00	559.01
VAT Payment / (Recovery)	0.00	0.00
Total expenditure	<u>147,302.90</u>	<u>65,349.47</u>
BALANCE OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	<u>4,598.47</u>	<u>20,658.53</u>

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2023

ASSETS		
Bank balance	54,088.81	48,030.57
Cash / PayPal balance	3,206.97	3,180.21
Total Assets being Bank and Cash balances	<u>57,295.78</u>	<u>51,210.78</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities	<u>1,486.53</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total assets less total liabilities	<u>55,809.25</u>	<u>51,210.78</u>
Represented by Total Funds	<u>55,809.25</u>	<u>51,210.78</u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS RECONCILIATION

Opening Funds	51,210.78	30,517.01
Income less expenditure in period	<u>4,598.47</u>	<u>20,658.53</u>
Closing Funds	<u>55,809.25</u>	<u>51,210.78</u>

Audit Exemption

- For the year ended 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ('the Act')
- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

Approved by the Trustees on [] August 2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

DAVID OLUWALE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION (DOMA)

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1151426

Set out on pages

1 -3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 03 / 2025**.

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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

27/01/2026

Name:

Mr Uche Okpala FCCA

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Address:

39 Daleside Avenue. Pudsey. Leeds.

West Yorkshire.
LS28 8HB

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here
brief details
of any items
that the
examiner
wishes to
disclose.**

N/A