

**MARKET HARBOROUGH DRAMA SOCIETY**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2024**

**berry accountants ltd**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
BOWDEN HOUSE  
36 NORTHAMPTON ROAD  
MARKET HARBOROUGH  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
LE16 9HE



**Market Harborough Drama Society (MHDS)**  
**Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered Charity no 1162014**  
**Trustees' Annual report for the year ending July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.**

The Trustees of Market Harborough Drama Society after a very successful year, are pleased to present this annual report to its members, customers, and the people of Market Harborough, for the 2023-24 season.

**Objectives and activities**

Market Harborough Drama Society ("MHDS" or "The Society") is a charity whose purposes are "to foster and promote the maintenance, improvement, development, study and practice of dramatic art in all its forms among the inhabitants of the district of Market Harborough and elsewhere".

It advances these purposes by:

- selecting, directing, staging, and performing a full season of plays each year.
- maintaining a working theatre containing a 118-seat auditorium, and a 50-seat studio, with full theatre equipment, and making these available, together with supporting services, for hire for public performances.
- providing bar and refreshment services in support of public performances in the theatre.
- making the theatre lounge and other accommodation available for hire to community groups.
- operating a membership scheme including a members' box office, a regular newsletter, and social events.
- encouraging local talent and providing some modest bursaries to support promising young actors.

Public benefit is provided by:

- membership available to all, at modest subscriptions.
- a wide variety of public performances in addition to the Society's own dramatic productions, with ticket prices kept low by reliance on volunteers to run the Society and staff its activities.
- provision of high-quality facilities to community groups at low cost, with special rates for appropriate regular users.
- provision of a defibrillator in the theatre for use by patrons.

Harborough Theatre is also home to:

- **Harborough Cinema**, Market Harborough's only cinema providing regular showings of both classic and modern films plus broadcasts from the National Theatre & Royal Opera House in London, the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford, and Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow etc.
- **Parsnips Youth Theatre**, a thriving independent organisation that runs classes for 75 students at the Theatre.
- **The Harborough Arts Society** with a programme of monthly lectures.
- **"Ha-Ha Harborough"**. Stand-up comedy nights.
- **The Young at Heart Group** – a monthly discussion meeting for older people held in the theatre lounge.
- **Musical Memory Box** – a singing group for people with dementia.

and we also hosted:

- Regular Saturday fund raising coffee mornings by local charities and community groups; and a variety of other meetings and events.
- And a series of social events for both members and visitors.

MHDS is a member of the Little Theatre Guild, a valuable source of theatrical information and advice.



## **Achievements and Successes**

Harborough Theatre has enjoyed an exceptionally successful year with ticket sales to all eight shows selling well and with three complete sell outs and audience feedback has also been positive.

Harborough Theatre continued to help local charities to raise awareness of their specific causes by hosting gala nights and other fundraising events.

The trustees appointed Dowling Compliance Ltd to act as the Society's Competent Authority for Health and Safety. Following their recommendations for improvements we have carried out a number of enhancements to the property.

We continue to receive commendations for the high standard in which our building is maintained, a tribute to our Premises Manager. Our volunteers also redecorated the theatre Lounge to make it more appealing to theatre audiences.

Our part-time paid administrator has greatly increased the Theatre's visibility in the town, as he interacts with the public both personally and through the website and social media. He has also hosted theatre volunteers on his regular Harborough FM show to promote our shows and activities.

We held refresher training for all Front of House and Bar Volunteer teams. We also ran Basic Acting Training sessions for Actors that were very popular.

All Society members have the opportunity to be involved in acting, directing, designing, building and painting sets, designing and operating sound, lighting, and special effects, stage managing, making and sourcing costumes and props, designing editing and publishing programmes, publicity material, the web site and producing 'Backstage' the members newsletter.

We are fortunate to have many volunteers willing to take on short term tasks, but like most voluntary organisations we depend heavily on a few for the essential coordinating, administrative and managerial roles.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

MHDS is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered number 1162014, whose governing document is its Constitution as a membership organisation, adopted in May 2015 and amended in November 2017 and December 2021.

The address of the Theatre is:

Harborough Theatre  
Church Square  
Market Harborough  
LE16 7NB

The Society's principal professional advisers are:

Bankers	Lloyds Bank
Solicitors	Wartnaby Hefford, 44 High Street, Market Harborough, LE16 7AH.
Independent Examiner	Berry Accountants Ltd, 36 Northampton Road, Market Harborough. LE16 9HE



The Trustees for the 2023/24 season were:

Name	Position	Notes
Hazel Cook	Chair	Resigned - September 2023
Barbara LLOYD	Chair	Appointed - 29/11/2023
Rita Kimmett	Secretary	
John Waller	Treasurer	
Sue Waller	Drama Officer	
Chris Raymakers	Membership Secretary	
Maxine Kempster	Health & Safety and lettings	
Anne Clayton		Resigned - September 2023
Tony Ruscoe	Marketing, website and social media	Appointed - 1 /9 /2023
Lynne Scannell	Without portfolio	

The Board of Trustees is confirmed annually at the Spring General Meeting and takes office on the following 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

During the year to 31 July 2024, no Trustee received payment, except for reimbursement of minor expenditure incurred on behalf of the Society.

### Financial Report

Financial Accounts, attached, are prepared according to Charity Accounting rules and are intended to comply with FRS 102.

MHDS is not required to have a full audit but engages the services of an Independent Examiner to examine and report on its financial accounts. The Independent Examiner's report confirms that the accounts, together with this annual report, follow the Charity Commissions SORP guidelines (as amended) and satisfy the requirements of Charity law.

MHDS follows the conventions of accrual accounting to make year-on-year comparisons easier, and to give a truer picture of the financial position at the end of the financial year.

The Society's balance sheet does not include the value of its principal asset, the theatre building, because it is effectively inalienable. Furthermore, the Society owns a quantity of equipment and furnishings to support its theatrical productions, but no value is shown for these because physical assets are written off in the year of purchase.

The Society has continued to manage its finances in accordance with its plans and procedures and has had a very satisfactory year achieving an operating profit of £32,752. Matters contributing to this result are:

- High demand for tickets for the season of plays.
- An increase in letting income from Harborough Cinema and new hirers.
- Careful control of running costs.

The operating profit achieved has allowed the trustees to improve stage lighting and make property enhancements to improve health and safety. After the cost of these improvements the resulting net profit of £4,587 has been added to reserves.

At 31 July 2024 the Society's reserves stood at £87,741 of which £50,000 was designated for contingencies. The Trustees consider reserves to be adequate for the theatre to operate safely.



The cash position remains strong. At 31 July 2024 cash at banks and in hand amounted to £112,439. Cash was invested in various current and deposit accounts to provide a balance between financial return and flexibility.

The Society's financial position is strong allowing the Trustees and members to look forward with confidence.

Signed Babara Lloyd  
Chair of Trustees

Date 8/10/2024

Signed J M Hall  
Treasurer & Trustee

Date 8/10/2024



**MARKET HARBOROUGH DRAMA SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2024**

	<b>Total Funds 2023/24 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022/23 £</b>
<b>Income from:</b>		
Subscriptions	6,555	6,458
Donations	1,571	2,358
Charitable Activities	135,758	127,673
Legacy	-	10,000
Investments	1,981	496
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>145,865</u>	<u>146,985</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Charitable Activities	140,858	130,021
Governance	420	420
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u>141,278</u>	<u>130,441</u>
<b>Net Movement in funds</b>	<u><u>4,587</u></u>	<u><u>16,544</u></u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Balances brought forward	83,154	66,610
Balances carried forward	<u>87,741</u>	<u>83,154</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Cash at Bank and in Hand	112,439	96,183
Stock	1,126	910
Debtors and Prepayments	8,546	9,429
Total Current Assets	<u>122,111</u>	<u>106,522</u>
Less Creditors and Accruals	<u>34,370</u>	<u>23,368</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u><u>87,741</u></u>	<u><u>83,154</u></u>
 Note: Independent Examiner's Fee	 <u><u>420</u></u>	 <u><u>420</u></u>

Note that except for sponsorship of next season's brochure, which was simple reimbursement of the printing costs, no donations for specified purposes were received during 2023/24. Therefore no Restricted Fund is shown.



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF  
MARKET HARBOROUGH DRAMA SOCIETY**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 July 2024, which are set out on pages 1 to 5.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and the 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 section 144(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 section 145 of the 2011 Act;
  - to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under
- section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

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 you as 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 statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

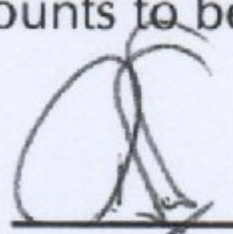
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:-

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn, in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

MRS R WALDEN FCCA  
BERRY ACCOUNTANTS LTD  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
BOWDEN HOUSE  
36 NORTHAMPTON ROAD  
MARKET HARBOROUGH  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
LE16 9HE

Dated: 9 October 2024.



**MARKET HARBOROUGH DRAMA SOCIETY**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 JULY 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash	1,200	1,386
Current Accounts	20,704	44,374
Savings Accounts	90,535	50,423
Value of Bar Stock	1,126	910
Prepayments:-		
Scripts and Licences for next season	5,245	5,755
Other payments in advance	2,720	1,400
Debtors	581	2,274
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>122,111</u>	<u>106,522</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Income received for next season:		
Season Tickets	15,130	12,385
Subscriptions	640	725
Theatre Hire	735	906
Creditors	1,095	1,078
Accruals	6,770	8,274
Provision for Health and Safety Enhancements	10,000	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>34,370</u>	<u>23,368</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>87,741</u></u>	<u><u>83,154</u></u>
<b>Consisting of:</b>		
General Fund	37,741	33,154
Designated for Contingencies	50,000	50,000
	<u><u>87,741</u></u>	<u><u>83,154</u></u>



**MARKET HARBOROUGH DRAMA SOCIETY  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Net Income from Activities</b>			
Membership and Fundraising	1	6,009	6,256
Putting on Plays	3	57,536	54,274
Theatre Hire and Visiting Productions		26,065	23,537
Bar, Coffee and Ice Cream		19,722	18,107
		<u>109,332</u>	<u>102,174</u>
<b>Less: Cost of Overheads</b>			
Running the Theatre	2	48,483	51,525
Administration	4	28,097	28,960
		<u>32,752</u>	<u>21,689</u>
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>			
Less: Improvements	5	26,809	15,145
Bursaries for Parsnips		1,356	-
Add: Legacy		-	10,000
<b>Total Deficit for the Year</b>		<u><u>4,587</u></u>	<u><u>16,544</u></u>

**NOTE 1: Membership and Fundraising**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions (including Gift Aid)	6,555	6,458
Donations	1,571	2,358
Fundraising	86	311
<b>Total</b>	<u>8,212</u>	<u>9,127</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Membership Admin	110	107
Newsletter	2,093	2,764
	<u>6,009</u>	<u>6,256</u>

**NOTE 2: Running the Theatre**

	2024 £	2023 £
Rates and Utilities	11,547	12,905
Cleaning and Waste Removal	21,921	20,506
Maintenance and Repairs	14,745	16,904
Sundries	270	1,210
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>48,483</u></u>	<u><u>51,525</u></u>



**MARKET HARBOROUGH DRAMA SOCIETY**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2024**

**NOTE 3: Contribution of Plays**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Season Tickets	16,490	16,149
Tickets	54,109	51,272
Programmes (net)	491	210
<b>Total</b>	<u>71,090</u>	<u>67,631</u>
<b>Costs</b>		
Scripts/Licences	6,010	4,949
Sets	1,410	1,871
Costumes	2,690	2,018
Props	1,627	1,317
Sound and Lighting Equipment	345	1,555
Rehearsals	197	313
Other	1,275	850
Summer School	-	484
	<u>13,554</u>	<u>13,357</u>
<b>Contribution</b>	<u><u>57,536</u></u>	<u><u>54,274</u></u>

**NOTE 4: Administration of the Society**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Insurance	3,887	3,810
Legal and Professional Fees	(241)	3,815
Independent Inspection of Accounts	420	420
LTG	125	209
Sundries	2,574	3,019
Administration Salaries	18,347	17,197
Health and Safety	3,661	986
Bank and Card Reader Charges	1,305	-
Less Investment Income	1,981	496
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>28,097</u></u>	<u><u>28,960</u></u>

**NOTE 5: Improvements and Development**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Various	-	15,145
New Stage Lights	8,650	-
Health and Safety Enhancements	18,159	-
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>26,809</u></u>	<u><u>15,145</u></u>