

**THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**

Registered Charity No. 1189940

**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE PERIOD**

**1st SEPTEMBER 2020 to 31st AUGUST 2021**

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## THE TAUNTON THESPIANS

### Chairman's Report to the AGM of Taunton Thespians 11/10/2021

*My thanks to all of the other eight members of the committee who started with the last AGM. That said the effective size of the committee shrank, at least for the last six months, from nine to seven people, when Andy and Jane Busby moved out of the area to be closer to family. My special thanks therefore to the other six remaining committee members for picking up the slack and keeping us going. They have worked tirelessly to make sure that all of the jobs necessary to us have been completed.*

*There have been a couple of losses to the society over the last twelve months. Notably our previous President, John Meikle, who was the figurehead of our society for as long as I can remember. John's contribution to the Thespians, over many decades, is eclipsed only by his contribution to Taunton. He reached the impressive age of 97 and cast a long shadow and I am grateful for everything he did for us. Mike Leach, on the other hand, was taken from us far too early. Mike played a great many roles for us over the years, and I'm fairly sure that the one he most relished was as Jaques in As You Like It. Mike was also a fiercely intelligent person, to such an extent that if there was a quiz (the subject was almost irrelevant) you were either on Mike's team, or you didn't win. I'd like to pause for a short while so that we can remember these two Thespians.*

*Thank you*

*On the face of it you might be forgiven for thinking that, with the entire country in lockdown and all venues closed, there isn't a lot to report. Well, of course, there haven't been any live performances at all, which is unheard of in Thespian history. When the first lockdown started I think many of us thought that, as all-embracing as it was, we would all wait it out for a few months and then it would be done and we could get back to normal. How wrong that thought was. And so, to begin with, we all just battened down the hatches and very little was done in the way of communicating and socialising online. As time marched on, and it became obvious that we were in it for a longer haul, so the advent of digital Thespians grew and we began to do all of the society-type events over Zoom until, in July, we were finally able to meet up again. In fact, in the 12 months since the last AGM we have held a total of 14 play readings, held two quizzes, had two talks by guests, had a digital Christmas party, attended Taunton Live, held an open day and had a member's barbecue. We even posted a show, of sorts, onto YouTube with a rendition of one of the Arabian Nights Tales.*

*The thirst for social contact was brought home to us at the Taunton Live event. What was clear was that the people there were ready, eager even, to start face to face contact again. It is, perhaps, understandable, given just how serious the previous 18 months have been, that there are some who are hesitant, but, it seems to me, that there are many, many more who ready for a return to normality. With that in mind we have set out a path ahead.*

*It will come as no great surprise that we are starting off by playing to our strengths with, firstly, an Agatha Christie play: *The Hollow*, followed by comedy in the form of a farce called *Holiday Snap*. These have been carefully chosen to not only help us show ourselves at our best, but also to give our audiences some light-hearted relief after so long without any live theatre. The plays that we choose to produce, and how we choose to present them to the public are important decisions, to be sure, but they are not so important, I think, as the decision to actually *DO* them. We could, maybe, sit and worry about whether we will have big enough audiences. Maybe we will and maybe we won't, and maybe, if we allowed that to dictate our actions, I might be standing here in a year's time telling you that we still hadn't put on any shows. Instead, we will do what we do: be a drama society.*

*The program over the next 12 months is not just about those two Brewhouse shows. In addition we have lined up reintroductions for our Mummers group, under the leadership of Dona Bullion, who are doing their thing in January, our County Drama Festival participation with the denied 2020 entry finally being given its chance in March next year and, by no means least, the Thespians Summer Tour in July. We already have about half of the venues lined up. We also have more play readings coming very soon and more social events*

*My last message to you all is this: enjoy your society, take part in what it has to offer, but. Above all, have fun.*

**THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**

I report on the Financial Statements of the charity The Taunton Thespians (Charity No. 800217) for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

**Respective Responsibilities of General Committee and Examiner**

The charity's committee are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's committee consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act"), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- ♦ examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- ♦ to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 you as members of the General Committee concerning 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 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 Charities Act; and
  - ♦ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave 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.



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6th October 2021

**THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2021</u> 12 Months £	<u>2020</u> 12 Months £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>2</b>	89,648	93,034
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at Bank - Treasurers Current Account		2,200	801
- Business Bank Interest Account		22,615	16,613
- CAF Deposit Account		20,000	20,000
- PayPal Wallet		0	
- Redwood Account		10,004	
Petty Cash held		105	115
Bar stocks at cost		267	149
<b>Prepayments</b>			
- Future Shows		244	8
- Repairs & Improvements		0	0
- Business Rates		0	268
<b>Accrued Income</b>			
- Prepaid Subscriptions		-549	-348
- Prepaid donations		-46	-28
- Future Shows		-136	
- Clothing orders		-48	0
		<u>54,656</u>	<u>37,578</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within</b>			
<b>One Year</b> Rates (estimate)		(300)	(152)
Independent Examiner		-240	0
<b>Debtors</b>		<u>102</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		54,218	37,426
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>143,866</u>	<u>130,460</u>
<b>Funds (all unrestricted)</b>	<b>3</b>		
General Reserve		54,218	37,426
Capital Reserve		89,648	93,034
Development Fund		0	0
		<u>143,866</u>	<u>130,460</u>

Approved by the General Committee on 11th October 2021

and signed on their behalf by:-

Lorna Evans - Secretary



Robert Smith - Treasurer



The notes on pages 7 and 8 form part of these Accounts.

**THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	12 Months	12 Months
	£	£
<b>Incoming Resources</b>		
Income from stage productions	0	22,778
Subscriptions	588	959
Interest received	155	166
Club activities	26	1,496
Wardrobe & Equipment Hire	127	607
Donations	64	199
Letting Income	5,547	4,139
Gift Aid Received	217	238
Government Covid grants	18,654	0
Other	0	0
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>25,378</b>	<b>30,582</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>		
Expenditure on stage productions	0	22,473
Club activities	369	1,066
Cost of premises	632	709
- Rates and water	632	709
- Repairs and improvements	3,703	917
- Safety and security	260	332
- Heat and light	431	1,065
- Insurance	954	894
Warden's Honorarium	300	300
Postage, stationery, advertising and telephone	30	27
Subscriptions and donations	365	648
Sundry expenses	217	368
Marketing	448	221
Clothing sales	0	0
Independent Examiners Fee	240	0
Other Professional Fees	635	0
Depreciation	3,386	3,438
PayPal Charges	2	0
Write-offs	0	0
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>11,972</b>	<b>32,458</b>
<b>Net Ingoing/(Outgoing) Resources</b>	<b>13,406</b>	<b>(1,876)</b>
Accumulated Funds Brought Forward	130,460	132,336
<b>Accumulated Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>143,866</b>	<b>130,460</b>

**THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**1. Accounting Policies**

General

These Accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities Act and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

Fixed Assets

Individual fixed assets costing £50 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates, based on the estimated useful life of the fixed assets and their anticipated residual value:-

Freehold land and buildings	2% straight line
Technical equipment	10% reducing balance
Office equipment	10% reducing balance

**2. Fixed Assets**

	<b><u>Freehold Land &amp; Buildings</u></b>	<b><u>Technical Equipment</u></b>	<b><u>Office Equipment</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<u>Cost</u>				
At 31 August 2020	145,716	9,483	59	155,258
Additions	0	0	0	0
Write-offs	0	0	0	0
At 31 August 2021	<u>145,716</u>	<u>9,483</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>155,258</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>				
At 31 August 2020	57,403	4,762	59	62,224
Charge for the year	2,914	472	0	3,386
At 31 August 2021	<u>60,317</u>	<u>5,234</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>65,610</u>
<u>Net Book Value</u>				
At 31 August 2021	<u>85,399</u>	<u>4,249</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>89,648</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>88,313</u>	<u>4,721</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>93,034</u>

**THE TAUNTON THESPIANS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

3. **Funds (all unrestricted)**

	<b><u>General</u></b>	<b><u>Capital</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
	<b><u>Reserve</u></b>	<b><u>Reserve</u></b>	<b><u>£</u></b>
	<b><u>£</u></b>	<b><u>£</u></b>	
At 1 September 2020	37,426	93,034	130,460
Transfers	0	0	0
Net ingoing/(outgoings) for the year	13,646	0	13,646
Adjustments - Depreciation	3,386	-3,386	0
At 31 August 2021	54,458	89,648	144,106

The Capital Reserve represents profits which have accrued to the charity from the past sales of freehold land and buildings of £116,943 and from a bequest from a former member of £2,000. This was reduced by £19,174 in 2013 and has subsequently been reduced each year to reflect the amount of tangible fixed assets after depreciation.

The General Reserve now shows, fairly, the true amount of Current Assets.