

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements
for the period
19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024
for
The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7 to 8

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Report of the Trustees
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report, together with the financial statements, for the year ended 31 December 2024. This year marked a significant milestone for CAODS as we achieved registered charity status, allowing us to strengthen our mission of bringing the arts to life in Lincoln and beyond.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our core purpose is to advance the arts, particularly theatrical performance, and to promote community engagement through cultural and educational activities. We aim to inspire creativity, foster a sense of community, and contribute positively to the mental health and well-being of our members and audiences.

Public benefit

In planning and delivering our activities, the Trustees confirm that we have complied with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The charity's activities during the year have directly contributed to its aims to educate about the dramatic and operatic arts and provided clear public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

2024 has been a year of transition and growth, with several highlights:

1. Productions and Performances

- We celebrated our 75th anniversary with a stunning production of Sunset Boulevard, which received critical acclaim, enthusiastic audience feedback and awards.
- Our choir continued to grow, performing at notable community events, including the 80th anniversary D-Day Beacon lighting celebration in Castle Square and the Christmas Light Switch-On in Lincoln.

2. Charity Milestone

Becoming a registered charity in February 2024 was a proud moment, enabling us to access new funding streams and strengthen our governance.

3. Community Engagement

- Our productions and events were supported by many volunteers, who contributed their time and talents to roles ranging from backstage support to front-of-house operations.
- We maintained strong partnerships with local organisations, including Lincoln Bishop University, to foster creativity and support local talent.

4. Fundraising and Financial Stability

- To commemorate our 75th anniversary, we launched a special prize draw, offering unique prizes donated by local businesses and supporters. This initiative was a resounding success, both financially and in raising our profile.
- We continue to rely on the generosity of donors and members to sustain our activities.
- A dedicated team is actively exploring opportunities to apply for specific funding to support the society's future. In addition, we are seeking sponsorships and donations from generous supporters to help ensure CAODS remains financially stable and continues to thrive.

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Report of the Trustees
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees of CAODS Lincoln have established a reserves policy to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity and to protect the continuity of its operations in the event of unexpected financial difficulties or funding shortfalls. The policy recognises the need to hold sufficient unrestricted reserves to:

- Maintain essential activities in the event of a significant drop in income
- Cover contractual and unavoidable operational commitments
- Fund future development projects and meet strategic objectives
- Allow time to secure new funding streams or adjust expenditure if needed

As of the financial year ending 31 December 2024, the trustees have agreed that an appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to 3 to 6 months of core operational expenditure, which currently equates to approximately £2,934 to £5,868, based on average costs over the last six months. This level is considered sufficient to cover ongoing costs such as venue hire, production expenses, insurance, and other essential outgoings, while enabling the charity to respond to unforeseen events or opportunities. Reserves held above this target range may be allocated to designated projects or used to invest in the charity's future sustainability and growth, in line with its charitable objectives. The amount of free reserves at the end of the reporting period was £3,885. The trustees review the reserves policy annually as part of the budgeting process and in response to any significant changes in the charity's income, expenditure, or risk profile.

FUTURE PLANS

Looking ahead to 2025, our focus will be on:

- Delivering an exciting production of Annie The Musical.
- Expanding our choir's activities to reach new audiences including the following events:
 - Saturday 5th April - Midday charity performance at Easter Fayre in aid of St Barnabas Hospice (Bracebridge Heath Pavilion)
 - Thursday 8th May - VE-Day Celebration evening performance (Castle Square)
 - Friday 31st October to Saturday 8th November - Backstage choir for production at New Theatre Royal
- Saturday 27th September Tesco bag pack
- Saturday 4th October Caods Choir will perform at Lincoln Waterside Shopping Centre
- Thursday 27th November - Christmas Light Switch-On
- Strengthening our financial position through fundraising and grant applications.
- Continuing to enhance our community impact and engagement.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting. The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed or as an additional charity trustee.

Organisational structure

The charity is governed by a board of trustees, who are responsible for its strategic direction and oversight. The trustees ensure the smooth running of day-to-day activities. We are grateful for the contributions of all who have supported our work this year.

Acknowledgments

The Trustees extend their heartfelt thanks to all members, volunteers, donors, and audiences for their continued support. Together, we look forward to building on the successes of 2024 as we advance the arts and enrich the community.

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Report of the Trustees
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1207090

Principal address

210 Long Leys Road
Lincoln
Lincolnshire
LN1 1EQ

Trustees

D Bussey
E Novell (Chair)
M Housley-Smith
D Hammond
P Merrick
L Hawbrook
K Fenn
P Hawbrook (Treasurer)
M Sands (appointed 31.3.25)
E Lowe (appointed 31.3.25)
J Crowther (appointed 31.3.25)
K Phoenix (appointed 31.3.25)

Independent Examiner

Steve Robinson ACA
Nicholsons
Chartered Accountants
Newland House
The Point
Weaver Road
LINCOLN
Lincolnshire
LN6 3QN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

E Novell (Chair) - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCORN)**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society (LINCORN)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society (LINCORN) (the Trust) for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Steve Robinson ACA

Nicholsons
Chartered Accountants
Newland House
The Point
Weaver Road
LINCORN
Lincolnshire
LN6 3QN

9 October 2025

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies		29,008	-	29,008
Other trading activities	2	118,691	-	118,691
Total		<u>147,699</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,699</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Production		145,560	-	145,560
NET INCOME		2,139	-	2,139
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward		1,746	-	1,746
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>3,885</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,885</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and in hand		5,885	-	5,885
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(2,000)	-	(2,000)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>3,885</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,885</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,885	-	3,885
NET ASSETS		<u>3,885</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,885</u>
FUNDS	6			
Unrestricted funds				<u>3,885</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>3,885</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25 September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

E Novell (Chair) - Trustee

P Hawbrook (Treasurer) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	£
Shop income	9,767
Admissions	105,169
Subscriptions	3,755
	<hr/>
	118,691
	<hr/>

**The County Amateur Operatic and Dramatic
Society (LINCOLN)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the period 19 February 2024 to 31 December 2024**

3. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Governance	Totals
	£	costs	£
Production	3,301	2,000	5,301
	<u>3,301</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>5,301</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 December 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 December 2024.

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Other creditors	2,000
	<u>2,000</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 19.2.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,746	2,139	3,885
	<u>1,746</u>	<u>2,139</u>	<u>3,885</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,746</u>	<u>2,139</u>	<u>3,885</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,699	(145,560)	2,139
	<u>147,699</u>	<u>(145,560)</u>	<u>2,139</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>147,699</u>	<u>(145,560)</u>	<u>2,139</u>

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 31 December 2024.