

REGISTRAR

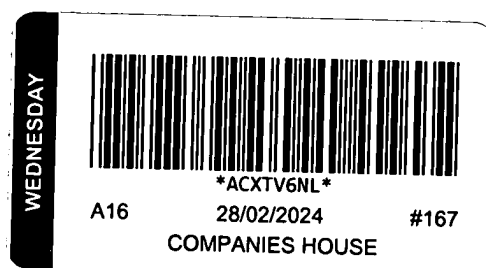
Charity registration number 214249

Company registration number 00268828 (England and Wales)

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 JULY 2023**



THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof J Harding (Treasurer)	
	Mr S Dickens	
	Ms F Harris	
	Mr M Scott	
	Ms J Caunt	
	Mr J Middleton	
	Mr T Young	
	Mr D Moore	(Appointed 30 April 2023)
Senior management	Ms D Gatenby Davies	(Appointed 30 April 2023)
	Ms A Sadler	(Appointed 26 November 2023)
Secretary	Mr G Muir	
	Mr J Bale	
	Ms C Young	
Charity number	214249	
Company number	00268828	
Operating name	The Little Theatre	
Principal address	Dover Street	
	Leicester	
	LE1 6PW	
Registered office	Dover Street	
	Leicester	
	LE1 6PW	
Auditors	Newby Castleman LLP	
	West Walk Building	
	110 Regent Road	
	Leicester	
	LE1 7LT	
Bankers	CCLA Investment Management	
	COIF Charity Fund	
	80 Cheapside	
	London	
	EC2V 6DZ	
	Virgin Money	
	3 Eastgates	
	Leicester	
	LE1 5YA	
	Epworth Investment Management Limited	
	9 Bonhill Street	
	London	
	EC2A 4PE	

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Solicitors

Weightmans LLP
Waterloo House
71 Princess Road West
Leicester
LE1 6TR

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

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THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

The Board of Trustees (the "Board"), who are directors of the charitable company, has pleasure in submitting its annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 (2019), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

The objectives and aims of The Leicester Drama Society (LDS) are to encourage the study and practice of drama for the people of Leicestershire and beyond and to promote and conduct theatre and musicals, touring shows and educate volunteers in acting and technical theatre skills. These objectives are set out formally in the governing document, which is its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

LDS aims to achieve its objectives by:

- presenting a broad range of productions;
- offering opportunities to a broad range of people to become involved in all aspects of theatre;
- providing facilities for amateur and professionals to present their productions, enabling people of all characteristics to work together in theatre and to produce shows.

LDS owns and operates The Little Theatre (the "Theatre") in Leicester city centre and it promotes productions and events using that name.

Activities

The Board has planned its activities for the year such that a programme of theatre is presented to appeal to a broad audience.

Particular regard is given to affordable ticket prices, access and audience development through a range of ticket schemes. Careful consideration is also given to the accessibility of the Theatre with free art exhibitions and, as part of the Connections new members' evenings, open days and backstage tours. Membership of the LDS is free in the first year of joining to encourage new members, and acting and technical theatrical training are also available to members.

The LDS presents its own programme of shows, and also hires the Theatre to other musical and drama societies, who we like to call our extended family, as well as touring companies. LDS also develops theatre skills of young people through the LDS Youth Theatre.

The LDS seeks to develop new members' knowledge of theatres, encourage new audiences to see theatre and events, and deepen engagement through its actors' workshop and improvisation programme.

We also encourage creative theatre and LDS once again hosted heats of the All-England Drama Festival.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

A huge contribution as ever was made by the 394 current LDS member volunteers which enable the Society to deliver exciting theatre ranging from directing, acting, front-of-house and creative to technical support across all areas of the theatre throughout the year. We also very much appreciate the valuable contributions made by our hard-working staff. LDS is a community and we wish to also take this opportunity to thank all of our audiences, visitors and extended "family" who regularly contribute to the activities, well-being and upkeep of our Theatre, both creatively and financially.

Our main income is from ticket sales for our performances and we do not receive any regular funding or grants for our activities. Donations from supporters are always very gratefully received and this year we wish to particularly thank Mrs Jean Townsend and The Alan and Jean Gayton Trust for a very generous donation of £50,000 which will go towards future work on our buildings. Jean and Alan were very active members for many years and we very much appreciate Jean's continued support.

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Productions (101st Season 2022-23)

We are proud to report on the centenary year for the Leicester Drama Society which was the second year of recovery after being closed during the COVID pandemic and in common with many other theatres attendance at the Little Theatre has continued to build up as audiences gradually return.

As in previous years, our production year runs from September to early July with the closed season in July and August being used primarily to undertake routine maintenance of stage and lighting equipment.

LDS staged its own season of 11 plays plus a Pantomime and a Youth Theatre production in its 349-seat Main House as listed in Table 1.

LDS also hired the Main House of the Little Theatre to our extended family of Musical Societies, with whom we have long-standing working relationships (see Table 2). Theatre hire is managed by our Facilities Trustee and team. We also hosted special events including fundraisers and touring productions as listed in Table 3. Our thanks go to Andy Crooks for his continuing efforts in arranging these events.

As the following tables show our average audience size has continued to recover and has grown substantially to 61% during this, our 2nd season since COVID closures. The steady recovery is very pleasing and reassuring but caution is required as audience sizes are still lower than the average of 78% which was achieved in 2018-19 (immediately before COVID). The tables also show that most LDS productions (i.e. plays) seem to be impacted with lower audience numbers than those achieved by a number of the musicals staged by local societies in the extended family of LDS and Specials from touring companies.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Table 1: Main House Productions: 101st Season (2022-23)					
Opening Night	Production	Author(s)	Performances	Attendance	Audience %
12 Sep 22	Black Coffee	Agatha Christie	7	1,987	81%
3 Oct 22	The Shape of Things	Neil LaBute	7	826	34%
24 Oct 22	Alphabetical Order	Michael Frayn	7	1,149	47%
14 Nov 22	Entertaining Mr Sloane	Joe Orton	7	1,111	46%
15 Dec 22	Aladdin	John Bale	24	8,052	96%
23 Jan 23	Educating Rita	Willy Russell	7	1,400	57%
6 Feb 23	The York Realist	Peter Gill	7	660	27%
6 Mar 23	Bedroom Farce	Alan Ayckbourn	7	1,416	58%
31 Mar 23	The Railway Children	Julian Woolford, Richard John	12	2,414	58%
28 Apr 23	James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl	3	704	67%
8 May 23	Home I'm Darling	Laura Wade	7	1,326	54%
12 Jun 23	Bouncers (Remix)	John Godber	7	981	40%
3 Jul 23	Shakespeare in Love	Marc Norman, Tom Stoppard	7	1,223	50%
	TOTAL		109	23,249	61%
	2021-22	TOTAL	104	17,241	48%

Haywood Studio

No performances took place in the Haywood Studio during the year.

Friends of LDS: Visiting Drama Societies & Fundraisers

LDS highly values its friends in other local amateur drama and operatic societies and production companies, who are supported by our technical staff to make use of our theatre and extend the range and scope of productions the Little Theatre can offer Leicester audiences.

Table 2: Friends of LDS: Visiting Drama Societies: 101 st Season (2022-23)					
Opening Night	Production	Company	Performances	Tickets Sold	Audience %
20 Sep 22	Adrian Mole, The Musical	LAOS	6	1,359	65%
10 Oct 22	42nd Street	IDOLS	7	1,411	58%
22 Nov 22	9 to 5	KPAOS	6	1,563	75%
18 Mar 23	One-Act Plays	L&R One Act Play Festival	1	20	6%
18 Apr 23	Anything Goes	LOP	6	1,328	64%
16 May 23	Ghost the Musical	WAOS	6	1,769	84%
20 Jun 23	Gypsy	KW Productions	6	1,361	65%
	TOTAL		38	8,811	66%
	2021-22	TOTAL	27	5,712	61%

Special Events and Touring Productions

The following short-run special events and touring productions were held in the main house of the "Little" during the year.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Table 3: Special Events and Touring Productions: 101 st Season (2022-23)				
Date	Production	Performances	Tickets Sold	Audience %
30 Oct 22	Tom Jones/Elvis Presley Story	1	209	60%
1 Nov 22	Steptoe & Son Radio Show	1	113	32%
2 Nov 22	Nelly – A Folk Musical (Studio)	1	26	87%
3 Nov 22	Soul Train	1	331	95%
4 Nov 22	Three Men in a Boat	1	179	51%
18 Nov 22	His Way, Frank Sinatra Story	1	110	32%
14 Jan 23	The Same Faces	1	109	31%
14 Feb 23	Jersey Beats, O What a Nite!	2	494	71%
17 Feb 23	LGS Big Band	1	257	74%
18 Feb 23	Murder She Didn't Write	1	302	87%
19 Feb 23	Searchers & Hollies Experience	1	172	49%
21 Feb 23	Ugly Duckling & Other Stories	1	87	25%
24 Feb 23	Marcel Lucont's Cabaret Fantastique	1	77	22%
25 Feb 23	The Queen Story	1	319	91%
21 May 23	Billy Fury Meets Elvis Presley	1	190	54%
23 May 23	Funny Girls on Tour	1	155	44%
24 May 23	Green Matthews History of Music	1	57	16%
25 May 23	Ceri Dupree Back to the Rhinestone	3	453	43%
30 May 23	Top Secret The Magic of Science	1	271	78%
31 May 23	Nick Cope Family Concert	2	336	48%
3 Jun 23	Very Best of Tommy Cooper	1	63	18%
14 Jul 23	Cilla & The Swinging Sixties	1	339	97%
15 Jul 23	George Harrison Project	1	339	97%
21 Jul 23	Old Time Music Hall	3	702	67%
27 Jul 23	Soul Train	1	331	95%
27 Jul 23	Sooty End-of Year Awards	1	217	62%
TOTAL		32	6,238	56%
2021-22 TOTAL		16	3,113	56%

Table 4: Total Performances & Seats Sold by Origin: 101st Season (2022-23)			
Origin of Production	Performances (21/22 in brackets)	Seats Sold (21/22 in brackets)	% change
LDS Main House Productions	109 (104)	23,249 (17,241)	+35%
LDS Studio Productions	0 (0)	0 (0)	-
Friends of LDS: Visiting Society & Fundraisers	38 (27)	8,811 (5,712)	+54%
Special Events, and Touring Productions	32 (16)	6,238 (3,113)	+100%
TOTAL	179 (147)	38,298 (26,066)	+47%

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Youth Theatre

Following the recruitment of our new Youth Theatre Leader, Andy Longley Brown and Deputy Youth Theatre Leader, Kate MacIntyre, the Society's Youth Theatre groups for both Seniors (12-18) and Juniors (8-11) continue to meet on Saturday mornings during school term time, with workshops working on key acting skills.

In the Spring term the Senior and Junior groups worked towards a production of James and the Giant Peach which played in the main house for three performances. Both groups benefited from being in a main house production this year and ticket sales were high for the run. Both groups also produced a showcase for family and friends in the Studio Theatre during the summer term.

The Youth Theatre continued to offer in depth training to young performers that developed their skills and imaginations. Youth Theatre members are also encouraged to audition for children's parts in the Adult Society's other productions, and some were involved in Shakespeare in Love in the main house during the summer term and registered interest for roles in other shows scheduled for Season 2023/24.

Our many operating teams and their volunteers

We wish to extend a huge thank you to our many volunteers who have seen us through the difficult reopening period following COVID and have taken on many additional volunteer roles since the lockdowns enabling us to rebuild our full range of activities and keep our theatre running. Whilst those directly involved in productions are regularly credited in show programmes, we detail below those who work behind the scenes that many of our audiences are unaware of, but who are just as vital to the continuing success of LDS and the Little Theatre. This section highlights the important work that they do in keeping the Theatre running and supporting our building, shows and our audiences.

Productions

Our thanks go to those volunteers who worked on the Productions operating team to plan LDS productions through the year. In addition to Joe Middleton (Productions Trustee) the team included Russell Hughes, Jenny Page, Jade Afflick, Alex Thompson, Mary Jayne Harding Scott, Simon Butler and Doreen Woolley.

Facilities

The Facilities Team, led by Facilities Trustee, Martin Scott, has continued the drive to return our buildings and systems to compliance with a whole range of regulations and requirements.

Our rehearsal rooms at 52 Albion St now have a safe and certified electrical system. The redundant boiler has gone from the garage and we continue to create valuable storage space for furniture in its place. We have now achieved more than 30% of our general lighting across our estate, being powered by LED sources which both reduces maintenance activity and running costs. The audience lift has had a checkered year, we have now changed our service provider and at last, are getting to the bottom of long-standing issues.

Many specialist visits to the heating and cooling system have marginally improved performance but the system remains inadequate to meet our needs. We are putting in place small temporary improvements and are exploring alternative solutions to this fundamental set of problems.

The Facilities Team continued to work diligently throughout the year with: Ian Connor leading on Emergency Lighting, General Lighting and Alarm systems and 52 Albion St, Simon Entwistle leading

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

on Lifting Equipment and general topics, Owen Lee leading on Sensors, measurement and recording, and Tim Neville being our chairperson and leading on IT.

Rob Mullins continues to be a critical part of our extended team and has his eyes and ears open to everything connected with our building. We are most grateful for his support.

Front of House (FOH)

Our FOH volunteers are coordinated by Fran Harris, our FOH Trustee. It has been a successful and rewarding year with excellent feedback from our audience members which is a credit to our many front of house volunteers.

Sadly we have lost some FOH staff due to illness or injury but fortunately we have gained several newcomers from the regular new members Connections evenings. New volunteers can be quickly integrated into the FOH teams and they receive full training from Fran and the FOH managers. This year, the cloakroom in the lower foyer has been converted into a staff room for FOH volunteers and rotas for forthcoming shows and pantomime are displayed there for the convenience of the teams.

The service provided by FOH volunteers is greatly appreciated by our audiences. FOH teams also keep visitors aware of forthcoming shows by giving out as many fliers as possible when the audience are leaving so that they are kept up to date with information about all performances at The Little Theatre.

Our thanks go to the 43 volunteers who worked on the Front-of-House teams through the year. In addition to Frances Harris as Front-of-House Trustee, FOH volunteers were:

Sarah Allan	Lance Huggett	Hilary Sanders
Rose Askham	Teresa Jones	Isabelle Sharman
Lynne Audley	June Kennell	Dana Simons
Mike Batho	Trish Kenyon	Ian Simons
Jo Cain	Alison Levy	Helen Skemp
Jackie Caunt	Nick McDonald	Elizabeth Spendlove
Geri Cawrey	Sue Morrell	Mary Sturgess
Hilary Cooper	Helen Musson	David Taylor
Sam Cooper	Robert Parry	Pat Thompson
Barbara Corker	Divya Patel	Kay Thompson
Kerry Cubin	Grace Philips	Maureen Vince
Hazel Curtis	Jeanette Robinson	Helena West
Linda Goode	Janet Robinson	Val Westbrook
Michelle Halloran	Peter Robinson	Kathy Williamson
Teresa Heaps		

Our thanks also go to the 52 volunteers who served our audiences behind the Bar through the year who were:

Amy Becker	Teresa Jones	Bob Parry
Ross Cartwright	Hector Julio Castro	Aarti Patel
Becca Cross-Collins	Paul Large	Chet Patel
Aiden Davis	Kat Lenthall	Divya Patel
Mrinmoy Deka	Ali Levy	Richard Payton
Ollie Draper	Calum Lucas	Grace Phillips
Rachel Draper	Samantha Meacham Roberts	Tom Preston

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Andrew Fiol	Graham Muir	Beulah Sell
Lisa Foster	Olivia Morrissey	Helen Skemp
Diani Gatenby-Davies	Charles Moss	Izzy Skemp
Kane Gray	Charlie Mullins	Caitlin Strommen
Jordan Handford	Charlene Munday	Mary Sturgess
Jenny Harding	Diane Murphy	Luke Taylor
Mary Jayne Harding Scott	Patas Mushtaq	Ella Thomson
Sarah Higgs	Richard O'Connor	Val Westbrook
Tim Hogarth-Jones	Liz Kavanagh Knott	Carolyn Young
Darianne Hoyen-Chung	Steffi Parker	
Ken Huggett	Trisha Parker	

Costume Hire

The Costume Hire Department, located in premises owned by the Society in Albion Street closed to the public on 17th March 2020 and has remained closed since. Despite this closure, to his credit, the Head of Costumes, John Bale, has managed to earn LDS some £4,690 in costume hire fees.

Marketing

Marketing has been a key focus for the theatre this year, as we have sought to modernise our public face, and seek out new audiences. While we continue to build back from COVID, we have not been shy about exploring new marketing channels, while enhancing our existing output.

Our Marketing Trustee is Tom Young and a primary change this year has been to hire a local marketing company to assist our efforts. Cross Productions assist with social media and handle all of our design work for print and digital artwork. They have also supported on fundraising efforts, and produce our members' newsletter, Scene (the editor of which, Kerry Smith, is both a Cross Productions employee and a member of LDS and various operatic societies).

Our staple publication remains our six-monthly brochures, typically seeing 10,000 copies distributed across the county in shops, restaurants, railway stations and more, as well as an additional 5,000 copies to our mailing list of consenting audience members. An additional 5,000 copies of our most recent brochure (Autumn/Winter 2023-24) were placed inside every copy of *Niche Magazine's* summer issue, which featured the theatre as its cover story. These were distributed across the county in hotels, office complexes, and more.

Elsewhere, we have made use of a digital billboard in Rushey Mead, and another at the Tom Jones concert at Leicestershire County Cricket Ground (reaching an audience of 10,000). We had a printed hoarding at Leicester Ice Rink to promote our pantomime and Easter musical, and have placed adverts in various publications such as *Primary Times* and *Leicester Mercury*.

While previously we had one reviewer for each show, this year we have embraced a whole pool of external reviewers. This encourages word of mouth referrals and delivers some wonderful feedback on our shows.

Finally, everything we do at The Little Theatre is about community. To that end, we have made a conscious effort to actively promote the members of our extended family – our selection of local amateur operatic societies – going out of our way to showcase their productions, support our community and help present a well-rounded, contemporary programme.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

It has been hard work, but we are delighted to report that our average audience percentage was 62% across the season, up from 55% the previous year. This is an undeniably positive improvement, but we consider it a foundation to build on with plenty more work to do in the coming year

Box Office

Many members work during the day in the theatre office, supporting Graham Muir, our Theatre Manager and Carolyn Young, our Deputy Theatre Manager. This year, we have also provided a box office service in the main foyer, prior to each performance. This has been achieved by the efforts of the following 14 members who we wish to thank:

Richard Awdry	Jackie Caunt	Mary Jones
Teresa Jones	Olivia Morrissey	Sue Morrell
Jo Muggleton	Helen Musson	Steffi Parker
Grace Phillips	Jeanette Robertson	Pauline Robertson
Beulah Sell	Pat Thompson	

Membership

Membership of the Society increased over the year from 375 on 31st July 2022 to 394 on 31st July 2023. Membership of LDS offers a wide range of opportunities, on stage, backstage, front of house and in committee and administration work. We offer free membership to new volunteers for the first year to give them time to find their interests and to decide whether membership of LDS is right for them. During this year, 128 new members joined using the first-year free membership option, they were all contacted through our successful Connections evenings (organised by our membership team) and by email. Regrettably we also lose members each year for a wide range of reasons. During this year, 131 memberships have lapsed.

The membership team is led by our Membership Trustee Jackie Caunt and thanks go to team members Teresa Jones, Ali Levy, Richard Payton, David Taylor, and Val Westbrook.

Backstage Co-ordination

The backstage co-ordination team has responsibility for the stage crew, flying, set building and deconstruction, props, lighting, audio description, prompting, furniture curator and sound personnel for each fit-up, rehearsal and performance.

Our thanks go to those volunteers who worked backstage through the year who in addition to Andy Crooks as Technical Trustee included:

Graham Austen	Lily Foley	Andy Mear	Nick Sheard
Grace Bale	Diani Gatenby-Davies	David Moore	Doug Simpson
Emma Bamford	Karen Gordon	Jackie Moore	Sam Simpson
Nadine Beasley	Nadine Hall	Dave Morris	Nikki Strickland
Paul Beasley	Jenny Harding	Tim Neville	Fraser Tew
Martin Bell	Mary-Jayne Harding Scott	Andrew Northcote	Rob Thirlby
Tom Brooks	Denise Hargreaves	Daniel Northcote	Mohisha Thomas
Sandra Brown	Mark Harrison	Raegan Oates	Alex Thompson
Katherine Burns	Darianne Hoyen-Chung	Alex Oldham	Andrew Thompson
Lucy Byrne	Russell Hughes	Jenny Paige	Jeremy Thompson
Mo Carberry	Mary Jones	Steffi Parker	Dave Towers
Judy Chan	Aditi Katoch	Grace Phillips	Jane Towers
Lydia Clemence	Victoria Kirk	Tom Preston	Ed Turner

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Andy Collins	Gary Kramer	Amanda Priestly	Anneke Van De Stege
Sean Collins	Alison Lee	Ann Ratcliffe	Anouk Vidanage Serasinghe
Amy Crighton	Evie Lee	Neil Reece	Stew Wale
Alex Crooks	Owen Lee	Jill Reville	George Walker
Reema Crooks	Kat Lethall	Tim Revitt	Erin Watkins
Simon Dickens	Ali Levi	Jane Rowland	Sian Williams
Ollie Draper	Jean Lingham	Georgia Russell	Clare Windle
Simon Entwistle	Phil Liquorice	Amanda Sadler	Jon Worthy
George Faulkener	Tim Lovell	Chris Sawicki	Darren Wright
Nikki Favell	Jacob Martin	Martin Scott	Tom Young
Pete Flannery	Shelly Martin	Beulah Sell	

Archiving

The Society has a substantial archive which provides a very valuable history of LDS and the Theatre. During his retirement, our former Theatre Manager, Jim O'Donoghue carried out a huge amount of work on the Theatre's archive and a generous donation from his estate has been used to complete the conservation of production materials (programmes, photos, crits, etc) from 1922 to the 1959-60 season, in acid-free storage.

The Society's Archivists work one day a week, usually Wednesdays, completing a wide range of tasks and often working with other organisations or individuals. Donations to the archive are welcomed and these can often help to fill small gaps in our collection. This year the Archivist at De Montfort Hall (DMH) found some LDS programmes among her collection and passed them on to us. In turn, we have been able to give her some DMH programmes and advertisements as well as drawings of DMH by Christopherson. We think these were intended for the celebration of the late Queen's coronation. We were also able to contribute to an exhibition about 'The Attenboroughs in Leicester' following an approach from a Research Associate at Leicester University Library. In consequence, we learnt that in the 1980s four members of LDS were interviewed as part of the East Midlands Oral History Archive. Lisa Thirlby now has access to these interviews and will add them to our archive.

In January 2023 we were approached by Emma Steele, a grand-daughter of the late Laurence Neal who was an actor and director for LDS between 1947 and 1974. She asked if we had anything about her grandfather in our archives, and whether her parents might visit the theatre on or near her father's birthday. The family visited and were given a tour and Malcolm Neal was presented with an 80-page folder of copies of photos, programmes and newspaper crits relating to Laurie's 50 or so acting roles and 15 shows as director.

Ongoing projects include documentation of the many changes in our buildings since 1930. We would welcome more photos, particularly of backstage areas, and of Albion Street when we first bought it. A scrapbook has been created which documents the career of Rita Barsby with LDS from the 1920s through to the 1960s and a further scrapbook relating to the late James Wheeler is in preparation. The digital repair of damaged photographs (of which there are many) is also an ongoing project.

Our archivists also maintain the Memorial Books of members who have died. In the last year LDS has lost Michael Hughes, Antonia Kennell, Kathie Layfield, David Lomas, Margaret Mangan, Freda Morton (Cooper), Linda Ragg, Sue Vials and David Wilson.

We wish to thank our Archivists and everyone who works to preserve our heritage and history. This includes:

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Lisa Thirlby	Alan Freckingham	Diane Smith
Mavis Roper	John Ghent	Christine Hewson
Karen Gordon	Rob Thirlby	

IT Matters

During the year, we have continued to maintain our IT systems ensuring we are complying with best practice. This has included updating IT policies and procedures. We wish to acknowledge the contribution made by Tim Neville in providing support and advice on our IT systems throughout the year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The results for the year ended 31 July 2023 are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 20. This, together with the balance sheet on page 21 should be read in conjunction with the related notes in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

Total income for the year amounted to £672,291 (2022 - £444,116). The principal funding source was box office income. Total expenditure for the year amounted to £560,970 (2022 - £418,850). A breakdown of expenditure is set out in notes to the financial statements.

There was a surplus on general funds for the year totalling £51,514, a surplus on designated funds totalling £52,927 and a surplus on restricted funds totalling £6,880. This has resulted in a total increase in funds for the year of £111,321. The funds for the charity at the year-end totalled £1,036,333 which comprise general funds of £752,331, designated funds of £132,833 and restricted funds of £151,169.

The trustees have prepared forecasts for the period ended 31 July 2024 which incorporate the above measures. Based on these forecasts, the trustees are of the opinion that the charity will continue operating for at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

On this basis, the trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Reserves

As is the policy, shows are chosen to maintain a level of box office income sufficient, with profits from ancillary activities, to cover running costs and maintain the infrastructure of the premises. Any surplus is used to finance improvements or build reserves. Cash reserves are kept at a prudent level for unplanned contingencies.

It is the long-term policy of the board of trustees to maintain free reserves (unrestricted funds less tangible fixed assets less amounts held in designated funds) at approximately £120,000 to cover salaries and core operational costs based on a 3-month period. At 31 July 2023, unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets and amounts held in designated funds, which are freely available for the charity to use, totalled £217,718 (2022 - £138,854). The charity's reserves increased in this period due to tight cost management. The additional reserves are intended to be used as a contingency for future capital maintenance costs.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Investment Powers and Policy

The Society continues to invest in interest bearing accounts with the aim of maximising interest earned balanced against investment risk. Accounts are currently held in low-risk funds with the CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund and the Charity Aid Foundation.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the society is exposed and documented these in a comprehensive risk register. The Trustees have adopted the risk register as part of their risk management strategy and have established systems and procedures to mitigate the risks identified in the risk register.

The COVID pandemic is still considered to be a principal risk to the charity because the general public continues to remain cautious in attending indoor events due to the prevalence of the virus.

The Trustees are mindful of their duty of care towards the Society's employees and its many volunteer members. The Society has in place Sickness Absence, Equal Opportunities, Harassment / Bullying, Health & Safety, Retirement, Whistleblowing, Data Protection and Working Alone Policies. It also has Capability, Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures, Disciplinary Rules and Policy Statements on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders and on the Secure Storage, Handling, Use, Retention and Disposal of Disclosures and Disclosure Information.

As part of the Society's commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in its activities, it has in place a Child Protection Policy and a Policy on the Protection of Vulnerable Adults. The Trustees have also issued Guidelines on Appropriate Contact and Instructions on Managing Behaviour and Acceptable Restraint. Disclosure and Barring Service checks are required for those who work with children on the Society's behalf.

The Society's policies and procedures together with the Terms and Conditions of Employment are reviewed annually by the Trustees to ensure that the provisions of them continue to meet the Society's legal obligations and reflect best practice.

The Society is a member of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain which provides advice, training opportunities for members, and national and local contacts within the entertainment industry.

The Society takes advice from Legal and Professional external bodies when appropriate.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

LDS has a full range of activities and its artistic programme together with productions from its extended family of local operatic societies and special events for 2023-24 has already been published and audiences are booking these already. We are continuing to work on increasing audience numbers back to pre-Covid levels. LDS will also continue with its capital maintenance and development programme and continue to seek funding to enable delivery.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Society is a leading amateur drama organisation. It is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was founded in 1922 and incorporated in September 1932. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Board & Senior Management

The Board is the unpaid governing body of the Society. It ensures that the Society's work remains of the highest quality, and that it is managed efficiently and cost-effectively. Board members are both directors of the company and charity trustees and under company and charity law are responsible for policy, administration and general control. The Board delegates the day-to-day management of the Society to Operating Teams and staff which included:

Mr Graham Muir, Theatre Manager
 Ms Carolyn Young, Deputy Theatre Manager
 Mr John Bale, Head of Wardrobe

During the year, the Board met 11 times to ensure they were maintaining effective control over strategic, financial, organisational and compliance issues.

Board Membership

Trustees serve an initial term of three years. They may be re-elected for a second term of up to three years. Nominations for such of the roles as are due for election are sought prior to each Annual General Meeting (AGM). An election takes place at the AGM.

Anyone can become a member of the Society and acquire the right to vote at AGMs. Details relating to membership are set out in the Byelaws. The liability of the members is limited to a guarantee of an amount not exceeding £1 per member in the event of an insolvent winding-up of the Society.

Trustees who served during the year are listed in Table 5.

Table 5: Trustees			Retires
Honorary Secretary	Mrs M Jones	(resigned 19 th March 2023)	
Honorary Treasurer	Prof J Harding		2025
Company Secretary	Mr D Moore	(co-opted as Trustee 30 th April 2023)	2025
Trustee for Productions	Mr J Middleton		2025
Trustee for Marketing and Outreach	Mr T Young		2025
Trustee for Outreach	Ms A Sadler	(co-opted 30 th April 2023, resigned 20 th September 2023)	
Trustee for Facilities	Mr M Scott		2025
Trustee for Membership	Ms J Caunt		2025
Technical Trustee and Chairman	Mr A Crooks	(resigned 19 th March 2023)	
Trustee for Front-of-House	Ms F Harris	(re-elected 19 th March 2023)	2026
Trustee with responsibility for Studio	Mr R Hughes	(resigned 19 th March 2023)	

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Trustee with responsibility for Studio	Ms J Towers	(elected 19 th March 2023, resigned 11 th June 2023)	
Trustee without specific responsibility and Honorary Secretary	Mr S Dickens		2025
Trustee without special responsibility	Ms D Gatenby Davies	(co-opted 30 th April 2023)	2024

All new Trustees have access (via MS Teams and the Website) to the Society's Trustee Handbook comprising the Memorandum and Articles of Association and other key documents. There is a formal 'Roles of the Trustees and Operating Teams' document that sets out what the Society itself expects of Trustees. Trustees are currently drawn only from the membership. As such they will be familiar with the Society and are likely to have been involved with the Society for many years. The Board encourages Trustees to familiarise themselves with aspects of the organisation that they may not know so well, in particular the roles of the permanent staff.

At the March 2023 AGM, LDS members reviewed and approved a new Code of Conduct. The Code clarifies for all members, staff, visiting societies and touring production personnel how they are expected to conduct themselves whilst involved in any activities of the Little Theatre. The Code is designed to be a guide for everyone at the Little Theatre to comply with the Equality Act 2010 so that everyone is protected from bullying, harassment and discrimination, and the Health & Safety Act 1974 in terms of ensuring safe practice.

In their meetings, the Trustees were assisted by a Company Secretary. An appointment to the post of Company Secretary is made annually by the Trustees. Mr D Moore was originally appointed to this role on 27th March 2022. He was reappointed as Company Secretary in March 2023 and as a Trustee from 30th April 2023.

Operating Teams

The Board concerns itself with longer term strategic issues and the Operating Teams with day-to-day operational issues within policies and resources determined by the Board.

The Operating Teams have the following broad objectives.

- Productions: this team is responsible for furthering the artistic reputation of the Society by planning and implementing a programme of plays and ensuring their efficient and effective management.
- Facilities: this team is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Theatre as a public venue and this includes hires of the theatre and its resources.
- Marketing: this team is responsible for the promotion of the Theatre's programme of plays and shows and the promotion of the Society in the wider community.
- Membership: this team is responsible for the recruitment and retention of the Society's members and for encouraging participation in the Theatre.
- Backstage Co-ordination: this team is responsible for co-ordinating the staffing of shows and planning of closed-season work.

The Trustees review teams' objectives and budgets annually.

Operating Team Membership

Members of the Operating Teams are subject to proposal and election by the members following the AGM. Operating team members are elected to serve for a two-year term with effect from 1 August in

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

the year they are elected, except for members of the backstage co-ordination Team who are all elected annually. Members may be co-opted on to each team as needed.

Employees and Volunteers

Table 6(a) shows the employees in post at the start of the financial year.

Table 6(a): Employees – at the start of the financial year	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time equivalents
Administrative & Box Office staff			
Theatre Manager (Graham Muir)	1		
Deputy Theatre Manager (Carolyn Young)	1		
Caretaker / Handyman (Robert Mullins)		1	
Production Staff			
Costume Designer & Head of Wardrobe (John Bale)	1		
Total	3	1	3.6

Table 6(b): Employees – at the end of the financial year	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time equivalents
Administrative & Box Office staff			
Theatre Manager (Graham Muir)	1		
Deputy Theatre Manager (Carolyn Young)	1		
Caretaker / Handyman (Robert Mullins)		1	
Production Staff			
Costume Designer & Head of Wardrobe (John Bale)	1		
Youth Theatre Staff			
Youth Theatre Leader (Andy Longley Brown)		1	
Youth Theatre Deputy Leader (Kate MacIntyre)		1	
Total	3	3	3.8

Freelance staff

Table 7: Freelance staff
Gemma Greaves (Scenic Designer)
Matt Sykes Hooban (Scenic Designer)
Phil Newman (Scenic Designer)
Jacob Martin (Scenic Designer)
Lynsey Reilly (Scenic Artist)
Dave Towers (Stage Carpenter)
David Cross (General Audition Workshop)
Caroline Walsh (Choreographer)

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Paul Timms (Musical Director)
Mary Jayne Harding Scott (YT cover)

The Society also needs the hard work, enthusiasm and dedication of a large number of members if it is to continue to thrive. The Society's Main House productions commonly involve over 90 members of the Society. These include director, cast, stage crew, prompters, wardrobe, lighting crew, sound crew, wardrobe, front of house, bar and box office staff. Society members also support studio productions, special events and fundraisers.

Society members are also busy with a wide variety of tasks which help with the management and organisation of a busy venue and with recruiting, retaining training and encouraging new members of the Society. The Society has about 394 members, and many contribute to the work of two or three of the Theatre's 'departments', during daytime or evenings.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also directors of The Leicester Drama Society Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Auditors

A resolution for the reappointment of Newby Castleman LLP as auditors of the company will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Funds held as custodian trustee

The charity and its trustees are not acting as custodian trustees.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

DocuSigned by:



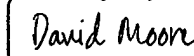
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Prof J Harding (Treasurer)

Trustee

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

DocuSigned by:



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Mr D Moore

Trustee

31-01-2024

Date:

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Leicester Drama Society Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 July 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the trustees' report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 15, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. However, responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud ultimately rests with both those charged with governance and management of the charitable company.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the charitable company by considering the nature of the industry in which the charitable company operates and enquiring of management; and
- identifying the key laws and regulations considered to have a direct impact on the financial statements including the UK Companies Act 2006, UK Charities Act 2011, UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and UK tax legislation. Other regulations identified which were not considered to have a direct impact on the financial statements but which were considered central to the ability of the charitable company to operate were the Licensing Act 2003 and the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974; and
- assessing how the charitable company is complying with the applicable legal and regulatory framework by making further enquiries of management and observing the charitable company's control environment regarding compliance with regulations and fraud prevention; and

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

- assessing the susceptibility of the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by considering the effectiveness of the charitable company's accounting systems and controls and how these were monitored by management. Where the risk of material misstatement was considered to be higher in certain areas, further audit procedures were designed to address this increased risk; and
- discussing amongst the engagement team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

Audit response to risks of irregularities identified

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- performing audit work over revenue recognition including analytical procedures and substantive tests of detail of a sample of revenue transactions; and
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and
- enquiry of charitable company staff responsible for compliance to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- enquiry of management, those charged with governance and other relevant parties around actual and potential litigation claims; and
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias; and
- communicating identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and assessing whether there are any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor%E2%80%99s-responsibilities-for>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Newby Castleman LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
West Walk Building
110 Regent Road
Leicester
LE1 7LT

1 February 2024

Newby Castleman LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general £	designated £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from						
Donations and legacies	3	59,032	5,130	6,954	71,116	33,258
Charitable activities	4	572,564	2,447	-	575,011	385,323
Other trading activities	5	12,231	-	-	12,231	12,939
Investments	6	13,933	-	-	13,933	12,596
Total		657,760	7,577	6,954	672,291	444,116
Expenditure on						
Raising funds	7	2,803	4,650	-	7,453	6,063
Charitable activities	8	553,443	-	74	553,517	412,787
Total		556,246	4,650	74	560,970	418,850
Net income		101,514	2,927	6,880	111,321	25,266
Transfers between funds	20	(50,000)	50,000	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		51,514	52,927	6,880	111,321	25,266
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		700,817	79,906	144,289	925,012	899,746
Total funds carried forward		752,331	132,833	151,169	1,036,333	925,012

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		617,425		644,849
Current assets					
Stocks	14	4,547		4,286	
Debtors	15	28,170		29,774	
Cash at bank and in hand		598,928		371,399	
		631,645		405,459	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(212,737)		(125,296)	
Net current assets			418,908		280,163
Net assets			1,036,333		925,012
Total funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	19		151,169		144,289
Unrestricted designated funds	20		132,833		79,906
Unrestricted general funds	20		752,331		700,817
Total charity funds			1,036,333		925,012

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

For the year ending 31 July 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies but as this company is a charity, it is subject to audit under the Charities Act 2011.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question with accordance with section 476.

31-01-2024

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of trustees on and are signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:



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Prof J Harding (Treasurer)

Trustee

Company Registration No. 00268828

The notes on pages 23 - 36 form part of these financial statements.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	26		216,584		66,909
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,988)		(1,373)	
Investment income received		13,933		12,596	
Net cash generated from investing activities			10,945		11,223
Financing activities					
Repayment of bank loans		-		(50,000)	
Net cash used in financing activities			-		(50,000)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			227,529		28,132
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			371,399		343,267
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			598,928		371,399

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Leicester Drama Society Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office and place of business is given in the legal and administrative information page of these financial statements. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 (2019), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity that the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside for specific purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income recognition

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Government grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with reliability. If entitlement is not met, then the amounts are deferred.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Income from charitable activities comprises box office performance income, front of house income, bar sales, costume hire and youth theatre subscriptions. Income from performances is recognised in the period in which the relevant performance takes place. Income is deferred when ticket sales are received in advance of the performance of events to which they relate. Otherwise income is recognised at the point of sale.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from membership subscriptions and sponsorships. Income from subscriptions is recognised to the extent that this relates to the current period, with the remainder being deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes. It comprises car park rental income and interest receivable which are recognised on an accruals basis.

1.5 Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Expenditure is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is recognised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes costs incurred in seeking donations, legacies, grants and fundraising.
- Expenditure on charitable activities notably includes costs to further the delivery of the objectives of the charity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged to support costs (note 10).

1.6 Support costs

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and costs of raising funds and include office costs, governance costs and administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Support costs are allocated to charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land & buildings	Over 6 & 10 years on cost
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Over 4 & 10 years on cost

Freehold land, payments on account and assets in the course of construction are not depreciated.

Apart from certain integral features, no depreciation is provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value to be higher than the carrying amount.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SOFA") unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.9 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to sell. Stock comprises bar and front of house stock and pantomime lighting.

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.11 Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are measured at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the SOFA.

1.12 Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.14 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

1.15 Taxation

The Leicester Drama Society Limited is a registered charity and no taxation provision is required as its income from charitable activities falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The estimates and assumptions which have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities are as follows.

Useful economic lives of freehold land and buildings

The annual depreciation charge for freehold land and buildings is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates.

Allocation of support costs

The allocation of support costs is sensitive to changes in the level of work undertaken on each activity by the charity. The allocation is reassessed annually and amended when necessary to reflect current estimates.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations including gift aid	59,032	5,130	6,954	71,116
	<u>59,032</u>	<u>5,130</u>	<u>6,954</u>	<u>71,116</u>
	Unrestricted general funds 2022 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Donations including gift aid	16,975	1,500	5,783	24,258
Legacies receivable	5,000	-	-	5,000
Grant income	4,000	-	-	4,000
	<u>25,975</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>5,783</u>	<u>33,258</u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted general funds 2022 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Box office LDS shows	346,562	-	346,562	246,507	-	246,507
Box office special shows & Comedy Festival	34,117	2,447	36,564	23,677	1,642	25,319
Front of house	44,947	-	44,947	31,741	-	31,741
Bar	85,933	-	85,933	51,735	-	51,735
Lettings and costume hire	61,005	-	61,005	30,021	-	30,021
	<u>572,564</u>	<u>2,447</u>	<u>575,011</u>	<u>383,681</u>	<u>1,642</u>	<u>385,323</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted general funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Membership income	<u>12,231</u>	<u>12,231</u>	<u>12,939</u>	<u>12,939</u>

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted general funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Car park and rental income	12,653	12,653	12,027	12,027
Interest receivable	1,280	1,280	569	569
	<u>13,933</u>	<u>13,933</u>	<u>12,596</u>	<u>12,596</u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted general funds 2022 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Membership schemes	2,803	-	2,803	1,273	-	1,273
Fundraising expenditure	-	4,650	4,650	-	4,790	4,790
	<u>2,803</u>	<u>4,650</u>	<u>7,453</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>4,790</u>	<u>6,063</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly Note 9 £	Support Costs Note 10 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Production	305,126	119,265	424,391	333,412
Front of house	19,109	13,992	33,101	22,581
Bar	43,764	26,749	70,513	43,672
Lettings and costume hire	6,521	18,991	25,512	13,122
	<u>374,520</u>	<u>178,997</u>	<u>553,517</u>	<u>412,787</u>
Unrestricted general funds			553,443	383,746
Restricted funds			74	29,041
			<u>553,517</u>	<u>412,787</u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

9 Expenditure on activities undertaken directly

	Production	Front of house	Bar	Lettings and costume hire	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	123,417	-	-	6,521	129,938	105,567
Depreciation	25,850	-	-	-	25,850	29,227
Box office admin	29,237	-	-	-	29,237	18,865
Direct production costs	70,574	-	-	-	70,574	65,615
Special show artistes	409	-	-	-	409	2,575
Marketing of shows	55,639	-	-	-	55,639	22,089
Front of house supplies	-	19,109	-	-	19,109	11,759
Bar supplies	-	-	43,764	-	43,764	27,438
	<u>305,126</u>	<u>19,109</u>	<u>43,764</u>	<u>6,521</u>	<u>374,520</u>	<u>283,135</u>

10 Expenditure on support costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation	4,562	4,138
Repairs and maintenance	37,929	14,226
Rent and rates	3,844	3,189
Light & heat	36,474	30,366
Cleaning and hygiene	25,914	20,630
Administrative expenses	16,202	15,902
Insurance	14,374	10,681
Irrecoverable VAT	24,882	19,588
Audit, legal & professional	8,920	5,160
Other costs	5,896	5,772
	<u>178,997</u>	<u>129,652</u>
Allocated to:		
Charitable activities	<u>178,997</u>	<u>129,652</u>

Support costs have been allocated to activities on a relevant basis to reflect the use of the resources. Support costs include governance costs amounting to £5,740 (2022 - £5,485).

The amount charged to the SOFA in respect of auditor's remuneration was:

- statutory audit £5,740 (2022 - £5,485)
- other services £1,029 (2022 - £1,279)

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

11 Trustees

Except for the disclosures below, none of the trustees received any remuneration, benefits or reimbursements from the charity during the year, or in the previous year.

During the year, expenses were reimbursed to the following trustees:

Prof J Harding was reimbursed £665 (2022 - £1,192) for merchandise to be sold in the Kids Panto Bar;
Mr M Scott was reimbursed £1,931 (2022 - £1,334) for materials for plumbing repairs and stage lighting equipment;
Mr A Crooks was reimbursed £90 (2022 - £Nil) for stage lighting materials;
Mr J Middleton was reimbursed £91 (2022 - £91) for scripts, Facebook ads and licences;
Mr T Young was reimbursed £19 (2022 - £Nil) for materials for Sooty's Ceremony;
Ms F Harris was reimbursed £28 (2022 - £204) for cleaning materials for Front of House operations;
Mr R Hughes was reimbursed £21 (2022 - £Nil) for properties for LDS productions;
Mrs V Jones was reimbursed £767 (2022 - £1,192) for hospitality for the LTG conference and properties for LDS productions.

At the year-end, £Nil was owed to trustees (2022 - £857 was owed to 2 trustees).

12 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Management and administration	4	3
Youth theatre	2	-
	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	124,591	102,980
Social security costs	3,171	1,207
Other pension costs	2,176	1,380
	<u>129,938</u>	<u>105,567</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Assets under construction £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 August 2022	621,513	239,461	598,199	1,459,173
Additions	-	-	2,988	2,988
At 31 July 2023	621,513	239,461	601,187	1,462,161
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2022	311,031	-	503,293	814,324
Depreciation charged in the year	11,979	-	18,433	30,412
At 31 July 2023	323,010	-	521,726	844,736
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2023	298,503	239,461	79,461	617,425
At 31 July 2022	310,482	239,461	94,906	644,849

Within freehold land and buildings, the cost is made up of land of £156,429 and buildings of £465,084.

14 Stocks	2023 £	2022 £
Bar	4,016	3,665
Front of house	391	621
Pantomime lights	140	-
	4,547	4,286

15 Debtors	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	2,596	400
Other debtors	-	1,694
Prepayments and accrued income	25,574	27,680
	28,170	29,774

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security		5,711	4,927
Deferred income	17	160,773	100,027
Trade creditors		25,612	1,859
Accruals		20,641	18,483
		<u>212,737</u>	<u>125,296</u>

17 Deferred income

Deferred income included within note 16 above is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Advance ticket sales	134,707	69,765
Membership subscriptions	3,543	3,047
Unrefunded cancelled tickets	14,922	14,922
Customer credits	2,800	8,643
Gift vouchers and order deposits	4,801	3,650
	<u>160,773</u>	<u>100,027</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees.

The charge to the SOFA in respect of the defined contribution schemes was £2,176 (2022 - £1,380), all of this expense was unrestricted and all has been allocated as a direct cost. Expenditure has been allocated between funds and activities on a relevant basis to the nature of the underlying costs in proportion to resources used.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

19 Restricted funds

The funds of the charity include restricted funds held for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 August 2022	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2023
	£	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	£
		£	£	£	
Improvements for the benefit of the audience	39,266	-	-	-	39,266
Building fund - cash	61,372	6,954	-	-	68,326
Building fund - assets	43,471	-	-	-	43,471
LCC Business Development & Diversification grant	180	-	(74)	-	106
	<u>144,289</u>	<u>6,954</u>	<u>(74)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,169</u>

	Balance at 1 August 2021	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2022
	£	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	£
		£	£	£	
Improvements for the benefit of the audience	39,266	-	-	-	39,266
Building fund - cash	55,589	5,783	-	-	61,372
Building fund - assets	43,471	-	-	-	43,471
Arts Council recovery fund	28,967	-	(28,967)	-	-
LCC Business Development & Diversification grant	254	-	(74)	-	180
	<u>167,547</u>	<u>5,783</u>	<u>(29,041)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>144,289</u>

Improvements for the benefit of the audience - this fund is represented by fixed assets, and relates to a disabled access and improvements to the box office and auditorium.

Building fund - this fund represents donations specifically given towards the costs of building projects. This is split between amounts held as cash and assets.

Arts Council recovery fund - this fund represents amounts received from the Arts Council to help cover the charity's running costs.

Leicester City Council Business Development & Diversification grant - this fund represents amounts received from Leicester City Council to develop or diversify our current operations and to enable safer working practices.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity include general and designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 August 2022 £	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2023 £
		Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	
Designated funds:					
Building fund - cash	79,906	7,577	(4,650)	50,000	132,833
General funds	700,817	657,760	(556,246)	(50,000)	752,331
	<u>780,723</u>	<u>665,337</u>	<u>(560,896)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>885,164</u>

	Balance at 1 August 2021 £	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2022 £
		Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	
Designated funds:					
Building fund - cash	76,554	3,142	(4,790)	5,000	79,906
General funds	655,645	435,191	(385,019)	(5,000)	700,817
	<u>732,199</u>	<u>438,333</u>	<u>(389,809)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>780,723</u>

Building fund - this fund represents amounts set aside towards the costs of building projects.

During the year, the charity received a donation totalling £50,000 and as agreed by the Trustees this has been transferred to the designated building fund.

21 Building fund

The cumulative amount raised on the Building fund net of expenditure incurred increased to £244,630 (2022 - £184,749) of which £43,471 (2022 - £43,471) has been spent on planning, professional fees and archaeological investigations, leaving a balance carried forward to spend of £201,159 split between restricted and designated funds.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total
	general	designated		
	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	534,613	-	82,812	617,425
Current assets/(liabilities)	217,718	132,833	68,357	418,908
	<u>752,331</u>	<u>132,833</u>	<u>151,169</u>	<u>1,036,333</u>
	Unrestricted funds	designated	Restricted funds	Total
	general			
	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	561,963	-	82,886	644,849
Current assets/(liabilities)	138,854	79,906	61,403	280,163
	<u>700,817</u>	<u>79,906</u>	<u>144,289</u>	<u>925,012</u>

23 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	1,727	1,727
Between two and five years	872	2,599
	<u>2,599</u>	<u>4,326</u>

Lease payments totalling £1,727 (2022: £2,267) have been recognised as an expense during the year.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

24 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Aggregate compensation	93,793	68,144

During the year, expenses were paid to 2 (2022 - 1) members of key management personnel, J Bale and G Muir, for costume expenses and general maintenance amounting to £2,298 (2022 - £1,701).

During the year, expenses were paid to MJ Harding Scott, the daughter of Mr M Scott and Prof J Harding, for youth theatre cover and printing of show photographs amounting to £235 (2022 - £Nil).

During the year, expenses were paid to D Towers, the husband of Mrs J Towers, for stage carpentry and set construction amounting to £3,780 (2022 - £Nil).

During the year, expenses were paid to A Crooks, the son of Mr A Crooks, for lighting materials amounting to £69 (2022 - £Nil). Additionally, he was paid £741 (2022 - £273) for assisting the crew with theatre productions.

25 Control relationship

The charity is under the joint control of the trustees.

26 Cash generated from operations	2023 £	2022 £
Surplus for the year	111,321	25,266
Adjustments for:		
Investment income	(13,933)	(12,596)
(Gain)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	1,020
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	30,412	33,365
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in stocks	(261)	(1,734)
Decrease in debtors	1,604	1,873
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	87,441	19,715
Cash generated from operations	216,584	66,909

27 Analysis of changes in net funds

During the year the charitable company had no borrowings or obligations under finance leases. The changes in net funds of the charity therefore solely comprise of cash and cash equivalents.