

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 2024**

TUESDAY



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28/01/2025

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COMPANIES HOUSE

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof J Harding (Treasurer) Ms F Harris Mr M Scott Ms J Caunt Mr T Young Mr P Beasley Ms M Carberry Mr S Wale	(Appointed 18 August 2024) (Appointed 10 April 2024) (Appointed 10 April 2024) (Appointed 30 June 2024)
Senior management	Mr G Muir Mr J Bale Ms C Young	
Secretary	Mr D Moore	
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

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Chairman's statement</i>	1
 <i>Trustees' report</i>	 2 - 16
 <i>Independent auditor's report</i>	 17 - 19
 <i>Statement of financial activities</i>	 20
 <i>Balance sheet</i>	 21
 <i>Statement of cash flows</i>	 22
 <i>Notes to the financial statements</i>	 23 - 36

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

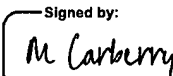
It is with great pleasure that I present my report as Chair of the Leicester Drama Society (LDS) Board of Trustees for the year 2023 / 2024. We have had a full season of plays, musicals and 'specials' covering all genres of performance.

We are very pleased to see our audiences gradually returning to pre-pandemic levels, and our traditional Pantomime, 'Puss in Boots', was especially popular with "full houses" for many performances. Average audience attendance at LDS productions increased by 7% this season to 68% overall. Our Youth Theatre is also now operating at full capacity and has a waiting list of young people wishing to join. Their main house musical production of "Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass" was particularly popular and all 3 performances were "sold out".

More recently we have also reopened our Studio with our New Directors Showcase and then, in July we concluded our season with a sell-out production of "Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors"

Successful productions can only be achieved by the dedication and hard work of our many volunteer members. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank them all for their help in the many areas of the theatre, both on and off-stage and we are pleased to recognize their individual areas of work throughout this report.

In conclusion I would like to offer sincere thanks to my colleagues on the Board of Trustees who have supported me in the day-to-day running of the theatre, and express my appreciation of our staff members – Graham Muir, Theatre Manager; Carolyn Young, Deputy Theatre Manager, John Bale, Head of Wardrobe, Rob Mullins, our Premises Officer, Andy Longley-Brown, Youth Theatre Leader and Kate MacIntyre, Deputy Youth Theatre Leader.

Signed by:

6522CB56C1764EE.....

Ms M Carberry

Trustee & Chairman of Board of Trustees

25-01-2025
Date:

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The Board of Trustees (the "Board"), consists of the directors of the charitable company and has pleasure in submitting this annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2024.

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 and the wider community.

The LDS presents its own programme of shows and also hires the Theatre to musical and drama societies 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. Creative theatre and wider participation are also fostered and LDS once again hosted heats of the All-England Drama Festival.

A huge contribution as ever was made by the 400 current LDS members who regularly volunteer and support for our Society by directing, acting and providing technical and front of house skills throughout

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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 everyone who has donated; joined our 200 Club; bought a "Star" or has remembered us by making a bequest in their will.

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 (102nd Season 2023-24)

We are proud to report on Leicester Drama Society's 102nd year during which, in common with many other theatres across the country, attendance at the Little Theatre has continued to increase as audiences have gradually returned (over several years) following the pandemic.

Our production year ran from September to July with the closed season in August being used primarily to undertake routine maintenance of stage and lighting equipment.

LDS staged its own season of 10 plays plus a Pantomime, a family Musical and a Youth Theatre production in its 349-seat Main House as listed in Table 1.

Our thanks go to those volunteers who worked on the Productions operating team to plan these productions through the year. Our Productions Trustee, Joe Middleton, stepped down with effect from the AGM in March 2024 and Paul Beasley was subsequently elected as Productions Trustee. Members of the Productions team during this season included Mary Jayne Harding Scott, Simon Butler, Ruth Cheetham, Russell Hughes and Jon Worthy. We also thank Mary Jayne Harding Scott for her work on licences, royalties and performing rights.

The Little Theatre is busy throughout our production year and hosts many performances in addition to LDS productions. During this 102nd Season, 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 3). Theatre hire is managed by our Facilities Trustee and team. Special events including fundraisers and touring productions were also presented, and these are listed in Table 4. 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 68% during this, our 3rd 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). Audiences remain selective when buying tickets and pantomime, "Agatha Christie" and our youth theatre show, Alice in Wonderland, were particularly popular. Ticket sales for some LDS productions received low audience numbers when compared with sales achieved by the musicals staged by local societies in the extended LDS family.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Table 1: Main House Productions: 102nd Season (2023-24)					
Opening Night	Production	Author(s)	Performances	Attendance	Audience %
11 Sep 23	A Murder is Announced	Agatha Christie	7	2,008	82%
2 Oct 23	Stags and Hens	Willy Russell	7	1,028	42%
23 Oct 23	The Innocents	William Archibald	7	1,052	43%
13 Nov 23	Fallen Angels	Noel Coward	7	1,445	59%
14 Dec 23	Puss in Boots	John Bale	25	8,354	96%
22 Jan 24	April in Paris	John Godber	7	1,254	51%
5 Feb 24	The Good Life	Jeremy Sams	7	1,827	75%
4 Mar 24	Dial M for Murder	Frederick Knott	7	1,713	70%
22 Mar 24	The Secret Garden	Marsha Normal & Lucy Simon	13	2,182	48%
29 Apr 24	Dangerous Corner	J B Priestley	7	1,675	69%
17 May 24	Alice in Wonderland (LDS Youth Theatre)	Lewis Carroll adapted by Adrian Mitchell	3	999	95%
6 Jun 24	Table Manners	Alan Ayckbourn	7	1,275	52%
1 Jul 24	The Darling Buds of May	H E Bates	7	1,450	59%
	TOTAL		111	26,262	68%
2022-23	TOTAL		109	23,249	61%
2021-22	TOTAL		104	17,241	48%

Table 2: Studio Productions: 102nd Season (2023-24)					
Opening Night	Production	Author	Performances	Tickets Sold	Audience %
30 Nov 23	New Director's Showcase	Various	4	133	99%
10 July 23	Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors	Gordon Greenberg & Steve Rosen	5	175	100%
	TOTAL		9	308	100%
No LDS performances took place in the Haywood Studio in 2022-23.					

Table 3: Visiting Operatic Societies: 102nd Season (2023-24)					
Opening Night	Production	Company	Performances	Tickets Sold	Audience %
23 Sep 23	I Love Musicals	LAOS	2	526	75%
10 Oct 23	School of Rock: The Musical	IDOLS	6	1,947	93%
21 Nov 23	Nativity! The Musical	KPAOS	6	2,034	97%
16 Apr 24	Legally Blonde: The Musical	LOP	6	1,722	82%
21 May 24	Grease: The Musical	WAOS	6	2,016	96%
	TOTAL		26	8,245	91%
2022-23	TOTAL		38	8,811	66%

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Table 4: Special Events, Touring Productions & Fundraisers: 102 nd Season (2023-24)				
Date	Production	Performances	Tickets Sold	Audience %
18 Sep 23	Matt Rendell's Inside Stories	1	267	77%
20 Sep 23	Fire in the Belly	1	79	23%
29 Oct 23	Art of Believing – Flamenco	2	653	94%
30 Oct 23	Nosferatu	1	69	20%
1 Nov 23	Legends of Motown	1	320	92%
2 Nov 23	The Carpenters Experience 2023	2	641	92%
4 Nov 23	The Sooty Show	2	670	96%
13 Jan 24	The Same Faces 2024	1	116	33%
11 Feb 24	The Upbeat Beatles – 24	1	294	84%
14 Feb 24	Do You Think That's Wise?	1	125	36%
16 Feb 24	LGS Big Band 2024	1	203	58%
17 Feb 24	Murder She Didn't Write	1	260	74%
18 Feb 24	The ABBA Sensation	1	330	95%
21 Feb 24	Top Secret: Level Up!	1	296	85%
22 Feb 24	Jersey Beats - Oh What a Nite 24	2	453	65%
24 Feb 24	The Greatest Star: Barbra Streisand	1	170	49%
12 Apr 24	All England One Act Play Festival: Local Heats	3	122	12%
7 May 24	The Real Manhunter – Live	1	198	57%
8 May 24	Andalucia	1	337	97%
10 May 24	Diva of the Decades	1	143	41%
11 May 24	The Searchers and Hollies 24	1	171	49%
30 May 24	Ceri Dupree – Immaculate	2	365	52%
1 Jun 24	The Counterfeit Seventies	1	98	28%
20 Jul 24	Frank Sinatra: The Movie Years	1	41	12%
25 Jul 24	Seriously Collins	1	159	46%
26 Jul 24	Word Up 80s	1	130	37%
28 Jul 24	Cilla and the Swinging Sixties	1	253	72%
30 Jul 24	Past Tents	1	74	21%
TOTAL		35	7,037	58%
2021-22 TOTAL		32	6,238	56%

Table 5: Total Performances & Seats Sold by Origin: 102 nd Season (2023-24)			
Origin of Production	Performances (22/23 in brackets)	Seats Sold (22/23 in brackets)	% change
LDS Main House Productions	111 (109)	26,262 (23,249)	+13%
LDS Studio Productions	9 (0)	308 (0)	
Friends of LDS: Visiting Society & Fundraisers	26 (38)	8,245 (8,811)	-6%
Special Events, and Touring Productions	35 (32)	7,037 (6,238)	+13%
TOTAL	181 (179)	41,852 (38,298)	+9%

Youth Theatre

Youth Theatre Leader Andy Longley-Brown and Deputy Youth Theatre Leader Kate MacIntyre, lead the LDS Youth Theatre groups for both Seniors (12-18) and Juniors (8-11) meeting on Saturday mornings during school term time, workshopping and working on key acting skills. Our Youth Theatre

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

is now up to full strength and there are waiting lists for young people of all ages who wish to join the groups when vacancies occur.

In May 2024 the Senior and Junior groups presented a sell-out production of the musical Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass (Mitchell) which played in the main house for three performances. Both groups benefit from being in a main house production. Both groups also produced showcase performances for families and friends at the end of the summer term. Bookings have also been taken for two sessions of "Play in a Week" which are planned for August 2024 and are proving to be very popular.

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 this season some were involved in the LDS productions of The Innocents and The Darling Buds of May in the main house.

Our many operating teams and their volunteers

We wish to extend a huge thank you to our many volunteers who work with us in many roles to 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 our 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.

Facilities

The challenges of owning and working in a very old building remain with us, but we are making progress. All of our emergency lights are now LED driven as is much of the general lighting within the theatre. Our understanding and control of heating and ventilating our theatre continues to improve but continues to be hampered by the impracticality of raising insulation levels to anything like modern standards. We have worked hard to improve our streetscape with better lighting and a new fence to the adjacent car park.

The old roofs on both the theatre and 52 Albion Street bring their seasonal challenges and we try to manage those situations within our operating budget. The Lift has received a huge amount of attention and money, both from our internal team and the external experts and we are continuing to work to bring it back to an operating standard.

We continue to undertake work internally whenever we can, rather than engaging contractors. Contractors left us a legacy of undocumented changes and poor reporting of what they had actually done. Our own team getting involved with repairs means that the next time similar things go wrong we can deal with them quicker and better.

The Facilities Team meets every two weeks and organises their schedule of work and spending priorities. Team members undertake the unending tasks of maintenance on emergency lighting, toilets, plumbing, alarms, security systems, telephone systems, CCTV, electrical systems and a massive quantity of lifting equipment, together with our IT infrastructure. We also need to manage our Utility supplies and the impacts that neighbouring properties have on our buildings. A current major project for us is to build our own 'Building Management System' which is an IT system that manages/will manage many aspects of how our building works.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

As ever, we are grateful to Rob Mullins, as Caretaker, for undertaking a huge number of daily maintenance tasks that keep our building ready for the public. Our thanks also go to those volunteers who worked on the Facilities operating team through the year who in addition to Martin Scott as Facilities Trustee included Ian Connor, Simon Entwistle, Owen Lee, Sam Milton, Tim Neville and Pete Lowe.

Front of House (FOH)

Our FOH volunteers are coordinated by Fran Harris, our FOH Trustee, supported by Hilary Cooper and Pat Thompson. We are pleased to report that it has been a rewarding year for the Front-of-House team, receiving excellent feedback from our audience members for their efficiency and kindness. Each season, some older volunteers retire and new members need to be recruited and integrated with our teams. Most volunteer interest in Front-of-House roles come from the Tuesday Connections meetings held before each play.

Front-of-House teams are essential for each performance and these include a trained First Aider. We also have our Spektrix box office booking system live in the foyer for pre-performance ticket sales 'on the door' and volunteers serving on our Bar. 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. All FOH roles are critical to the successful operation of our Theatre and care of our audiences and they provide many opportunities for newer members to get to know our theatre and other members.

Our thanks go to the 57 volunteers who worked on the Front-of-House operating team through the year who in addition to Frances Harris as Front-of-House Trustee were:

Yasmina Abo-Hussin	Kane Gray	Ken Pigg
Lynne Audley	Patrick Holligan	Jeanette Robinson
Mike Batho	Teresa Heaps	Hilary Sanders
Connail Baum	Lance Huggett	Isabelle Sharman
Jenny Burdett	Teresa Jones	Helen Skemp
Jo Cain	June Kennell	Elizabeth Spendlove
Jackie Caunt	Trish Kenyon	Sue Stevenson
Keziah Caldwell	Alison Levy	Mia Stone
Geri Cawrey	Jasmine Lowen	Mary Sturgess
Karen Colvin	Vimal Manji	David Taylor
Val Concar	Nick McDonald	Pat Thompson
Hilary Cooper	Mahesh Mistry	Kay Thompson
Mollie Cooper	Sue Morrell	Maureen Vince
Sam Cooper	Charlie Mullins	Colin Wardle
Barbara Corker	Diane Murphy	Helena West
Kerry Cubin	Helen Musson	Val Westbrook
Hazel Curtis	Robert Parry	Kathy Williamson
Terrie Dodds	Steffi Parker	Clare Winfield
Linda Goode	Grace Phillips	Margaret Wolfe

Our thanks also go to the 41 volunteers who served our audiences behind the Bar through the year who were:

Connail Baum	Liz Kavanagh	Steffi Parker
Keziah Caldwell	Sam Kelly	Trisha Parker
Ross Cartwright	Ramona Kulak-Pop	Richard Payton

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Mrinmoy Deka	Paul Large	Grace Phillips
Aiden Davis	Kat Lenthall	Tom Preston
Rachel Draper	Darragh Logan-Davies	Amanda Sadler
Freddie Dobrijevic	Calum Lucas	Premila Shanmugabalan
Peter Duffin	Charlie Lyon	Helen Skemp
Andrew Fiol	Olivia Morrissey	Mary Sturgess
Diani Gatenby-Davies	Charlie Mullins	Ella Thomson
Kane Gray	Charlene Munday	Nisha Vegad
Tim Hogarth-Jones	Diane Murphy	Ben White
Darianne Hoyen-Chung	Misha Nguyen	Christine Wise
Ken Huggett	Richard O'Connor	

Box Office

Led by Carolyn Young, our Deputy Theatre Manager, we thank the following volunteers who ensured our customers were supported in booking tickets for our productions and shows during the 2023-24 season:

Yamina Abo-Houssin	Teresa Jones	Pauline Robertson
Connail Baum	Sue Morrell	Beulah Sell
Jackie Caunt	Jo Muggleton	Rodney Spokes
Kane Gray	Helen Musson	Pat Thompson
Ajni Haria	Steffi Parker	
Mary Jones	Jeanette Robertson	

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, our Head of Costumes, John Bale, has earned LDS £1,456.26 in costume hire fees.

Marketing

Marketing continues to be a key focus for the theatre, and we are happy to see our effort and consistency starting to pay off. In two years, our average audience attendance has increased from 48% to 68%, and we hope this will continue to grow, as we aim to move back to pre-Covid levels. We are also pleased to see that we are retaining our existing audience base whilst also attracting a new, younger demographic that will help to sustain the theatre's long-term viability.

The marketing process during the 2023-24 season has involved building on the foundations laid in the 2022-23 season. The quality of our social media output has taken another step up, with directors and photographers becoming keener to get involved with the production of high-quality marketing content. This, along with the support of wardrobe, has helped to create more eye-catching, engaging posts, making it easier to keep the viewer's attention. It is a step that helps to present the theatre in a professional manner and make us a more attractive option to the person-on-the-street.

The season also saw our first post-pandemic sell-outs, with KPAOS's *Nativity! The Musical*, WAOS's *Grease*, and the LDS Youth Theatre's *Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass* all selling the maximum number of seats.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Some key marketing aspects this season included:

- A cover story in local B2B publication, Niche Magazine, which helped put new eyes on the theatre in the run up to our first play of the season
- A "behind-the-scenes of panto" video which got huge traction on social media, and advertised the many backstage roles for which we need volunteers
- A shopfront billboard outside City Hall promoted our spring/summer season
- Our bi-annual brochures continued to make a big impact, with 16.5k copies of each in circulation; the theatre's own stock of the spring/summer issue ran out twice, and required recalls from our distributor
- Leicester ice-rink once again had hoarding promoting our pantomime and Easter musical.

The impact of our marketing is clear and sales are up across the board, but there is still a long way to go. Consistency and quality are our watchwords, and continuing to ensure that we make the theatre as visible as possible – while investing our resources in the right opportunities – is what will get us back to the level we need to be on. Our thanks go to Emma Bamford who was an elected member of the marketing team for this season.

Membership

Membership of the Society increased over the year from 394 on 31st July 2023 to 400 on 31st July 2024. 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. All Members also pay reduced fees for Actors Workshop and receive 10% discount for purchases from the bar on non-performance days. Fully paid-up Members also receive discounts for tickets for most LDS productions. All new members are contacted through our successful Connections evenings (organised by our membership team) and by email.

The membership team is led by our Membership Trustee Jackie Caunt and thanks go to team members Kat Lenthall, Charlotte Brown, Carol Worthy, David Taylor and Freddie Dobrijevic.

Backstage Co-ordination

The backstage co-ordination team has responsibility for the stage crew, flying, set building and deconstruction, prompting, props, lighting and sound personnel for each fit-up, rehearsal and performance in the main house and the Haywood Studio, as well as for on-going training and maintenance work.

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	Karen Gordon	Sam Milton	Beulah Sell
Emma Bamford	Kane Gray	David Moore	Doug Simpson
Martin Bell	Nadine Hall	Jackie Moore	Sam Simpson
Noah Bentley	Jenny Harding	Dave Morris	Nikki Strickland
Tom Brooks	Mary-Jayne Harding Scott	Tim Neville	Fraser Tew
Sandra Brown	Denise Hargreaves	Andrew Northcote	Rob Thirlby
Katherine Burns	Mark Harrison	Daniel Northcote	Mohisha Thomas
Lucy Byrne	Darianne Hoyen-Chung	Raegan Oates	Alex Thompson
Mo Carberry	Russell Hughes	Alex Oldham	Andrew Thompson

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Judy Chan	Mary Jones	Jenny Paige	Jeremy Thompson
Lydia Clemence	Aditi Katoch	Steffi Parker	Dave Towers
Andy Collins	Victoria Kirk	Grace Phillips	Jane Towers
Sean Collins	Gary Kramer	Tom Preston	Ed Turner
Amy Crighton	Alison Lee	Amanda Priestly	Anneke Van De Stege
Alex Crooks	Evie Lee	Ann Ratcliffe	Anouk Vidanage Serasinghe
Reema Crooks	Owen Lee	Neil Reece	Stew Wale
Simon Dickens	Kat Lenthall	Jill Reville	George Walker
Ollie Draper	Ali Levi	Tim Revitt	Erin Watkins
Simon Entwistle	Jean Lingham	Jane Rowland	Sian Williams
Alex Exton	Phil Liquorice	Georgia Russell	Clare Windle
George Faulkener	Tim Lovell	Amanda Sadler	Jon Worthy
Nikki Favell	Jacob Martin	Chris Sawicki	Darren Wright
Pete Flannery	Shelly Martin	Martin Scott	Tom Young
Diani Gatenby-Davies			

Archiving

The Society has a substantial archive which provides a very valuable history of LDS and the Theatre. The Society's Archivists work one day a week, usually Tuesdays, 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.

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. Scrapbooks have been created relating to key events of our history. The first 50 years of the Society's production records are now digitally available on the Theatre's website www.thelitttheatre.co.uk/AboutUs/LDSArchives. The digital repair of damaged photographs (of which there are many) is also an ongoing project. During this season and the next the pictures in the corridor's downstairs are being refreshed.

Our archivists also maintain the Memorial Books of members who have died. In the last year LDS has lost Lynne Audley, Mike Dack, Moira Finch, Pam Hall, John Hendrie, Fred Hyman, Elaine Moore and Darien D'Arcy Parkes (Darien Thomas).

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

Lisa Thirlby	Alan Freckingham	Diane Smith
Mavis Roper	John Ghent	
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 have also overhauled our CCTV systems to ensure better management and security of the Theatre premises. We wish to acknowledge the contribution made by Tim Neville in providing support and advice on our IT systems throughout the year.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The results for the year ended 31 July 2024 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 £715,183 (2023 - £672,291). The principal funding source was box office income. Total expenditure for the year amounted to £614,585 (2023 - £560,970). A breakdown of expenditure is set out in notes to the financial statements.

There was a surplus on general funds for the year totalling £78,054, a surplus on designated funds totalling £3,681 and a surplus on restricted funds totalling £18,863. This has resulted in a total increase in funds for the year of £100,598. The funds for the charity at the year-end totalled £1,136,931 which comprise general funds of £830,385, designated funds of £136,514 and restricted funds of £170,032.

The trustees have prepared forecasts for the period ended 31 July 2025 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 2024, unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets and amounts held in designated funds, which are freely available for the charity to use, totalled £329,579 (2023 - £217,718). 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.

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 LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

COVID and other potential epidemics and pandemics are still considered to be a risk to the charity because the general public continues to remain cautious.

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 2024-25 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.

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

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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	Mr S Dickens	(resigned 10 th April 2024)	
Honorary Secretary	Mr J Moulding	(elected 10 th April 2024)	2027
Honorary Treasurer	Prof J Harding		2025
Company Secretary	Mr D Moore	(co-opted as Trustee 30 th April 2023, resigned 10 th April 2024)	
Trustee for Productions	Mr J Middleton	(retired 10 th April 2024)	
Trustee for Productions	Mr P Beasley	(elected 10 th April 2024)	2027
Trustee for Marketing	Mr T Young		2025
Trustee for Facilities	Mr M Scott	(resigned 22 nd May 2024, co-opted 18 th August 2024)	2025
Trustee for Membership	Ms J Caunt		2025
Technical Trustee	Mr T Brooks	(co-opted 27 th August 2023, resigned 26 th November 2023)	
Trustee for Outreach	Mrs A Sadler	(co-opted 26 th November 2023, resigned 10 th April 2024)	
Trustee without special responsibility	Ms D Gatenby Davies	(co-opted 30 th April 2023, appointment terminated 25 th February 2024)	
Trustee without specific responsibility	Ms M Carberry	(elected 10 th April 2024)	2027
Trustee without specific responsibility	Mr S Wale	(co-opted 30 th June 2024)	
Trustee for Outreach	Ms V Flowers	(elected 10 th April 2024)	2027
Trustee for Front-of-House	Ms F Harris		2026

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.

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. The Company Secretary is a member of the Society but is not a company director or charity trustee.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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.
- **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 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. All Operating team members may stand for a second term.

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		
Youth Theatre Staff			
Youth Theatre Leader (Andy Longley Brown)		1	
Youth Theatre Deputy Leader (Kate MacIntyre)		1	
Total	3	3	3.8

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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)
Jacob Martin (Scenic Designer)
Abby Glover (Scenic Designer)
Sophie Zielonka (Scenic Designer)
Jake Smart (Scenic Designer)
Dave Towers (Stage Carpenter)
Caroline Walsh (Choreographer)
Paul Timms (Musical Director)
Grace Bale (Musical Director)

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 400 members and many contribute to the work of two or three of the Theatre's 'departments', during daytime or evenings.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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.

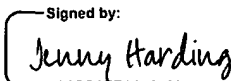
Auditors

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

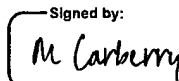
Funds held as custodian trustee

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.

Signed by:

C6CDB2FEA216460...
Prof J Harding (Treasurer)
Trustee

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

Signed by:

8922CB56C1764EE...
Ms M Carberry
Trustee

25-01-2025
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 2024 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 Financial Reporting Standard 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 2024 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 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 Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. 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

27 January 2025

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 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general £	designated £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from						
Donations and legacies	3	14,969	5,390	18,937	39,296	71,116
Charitable activities	4	639,100	1,900	-	641,000	575,011
Other trading activities	5	17,639	-	-	17,639	12,231
Investments	6	17,248	-	-	17,248	13,933
Total		<u>688,956</u>	<u>7,290</u>	<u>18,937</u>	<u>715,183</u>	<u>672,291</u>
Expenditure on						
Raising funds	7	2,457	3,609	-	6,066	7,453
Charitable activities	8	608,445	-	74	608,519	553,517
Total		<u>610,902</u>	<u>3,609</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>614,585</u>	<u>560,970</u>
Net movement in funds		78,054	3,681	18,863	100,598	111,321
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>752,331</u>	<u>132,833</u>	<u>151,169</u>	<u>1,036,333</u>	<u>925,012</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>830,385</u></u>	<u><u>136,514</u></u>	<u><u>170,032</u></u>	<u><u>1,136,931</u></u>	<u><u>1,036,333</u></u>

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 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		583,543		617,425
Current assets					
Stocks	15	5,962		4,547	
Debtors	16	29,013		28,170	
Cash at bank and in hand		740,125		598,928	
		<u>775,100</u>		<u>631,645</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(221,712)		(212,737)	
Net current assets			<u>553,388</u>		<u>418,908</u>
Net assets			<u>1,136,931</u>		<u>1,036,333</u>
Total funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	20		170,032		151,169
Unrestricted designated funds	21		136,514		132,833
Unrestricted general funds	21		830,385		752,331
Total charity funds			<u>1,136,931</u>		<u>1,036,333</u>

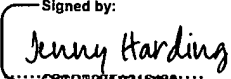
These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

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.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of trustees on 16-01-2025 and are signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

 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 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	27		136,418		216,584
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(12,469)		(2,988)	
Investment income received		17,248		13,933	
Net cash generated from investing activities			4,779		10,945
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			141,197		227,529
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			598,928		371,399
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			740,125		598,928

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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 2024

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 2024

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 2024

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 2024 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations including gift aid	4,969	5,390	9,133	19,492
Legacies receivable	10,000	-	-	10,000
Grant income	-	-	9,804	9,804
	<u>14,969</u>	<u>5,390</u>	<u>18,937</u>	<u>39,296</u>
	<u><u>14,969</u></u>	<u><u>5,390</u></u>	<u><u>18,937</u></u>	<u><u>39,296</u></u>
	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>
	<u><u>59,032</u></u>	<u><u>5,130</u></u>	<u><u>6,954</u></u>	<u><u>71,116</u></u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Box office LDS shows	408,711	-	408,711	346,562	-	346,562
Box office special shows & Comedy Festival	32,285	1,900	34,185	34,117	2,447	36,564
Front of house	51,857	-	51,857	44,947	-	44,947
Bar	91,228	-	91,228	85,933	-	85,933
Lettings and costume hire	55,019	-	55,019	61,005	-	61,005
	<u>639,100</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>641,000</u>	<u>572,564</u>	<u>2,447</u>	<u>575,011</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Membership income	<u>17,639</u>	<u>17,639</u>	<u>12,231</u>	<u>12,231</u>

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Car park and rental income	13,276	13,276	12,653	12,653
Interest receivable	3,972	3,972	1,280	1,280
	<u>17,248</u>	<u>17,248</u>	<u>13,933</u>	<u>13,933</u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Membership schemes	2,457	-	2,457	2,803	-	2,803
Fundraising expenditure	-	3,609	3,609	-	4,650	4,650
	<u>2,457</u>	<u>3,609</u>	<u>6,066</u>	<u>2,803</u>	<u>4,650</u>	<u>7,453</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly Note 9 £	Support Costs Note 10 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Production	353,657	124,976	478,633	424,391
Front of house	21,427	14,673	36,100	33,101
Bar	46,414	25,814	72,228	70,513
Lettings and costume hire	5,990	15,568	21,558	25,512
	<u>427,488</u>	<u>181,031</u>	<u>608,519</u>	<u>553,517</u>
Unrestricted general funds			608,445	553,443
Restricted funds			74	74
			<u>608,519</u>	<u>553,517</u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

9 Expenditure on activities undertaken directly

	Production	Front of house	Bar	Lettings and costume hire	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	141,838	-	-	5,990	147,828	129,938
Depreciation	41,752	-	-	-	41,752	25,850
Box office admin	28,563	-	-	-	28,563	29,237
Direct production costs	90,956	-	-	-	90,956	70,574
Special show artistes	612	-	-	-	612	409
Marketing of shows	49,936	-	-	-	49,936	55,639
Front of house supplies	-	21,427	-	-	21,427	19,109
Bar supplies	-	-	46,414	-	46,414	43,764
	<u>353,657</u>	<u>21,427</u>	<u>46,414</u>	<u>5,990</u>	<u>427,488</u>	<u>374,520</u>

10 Expenditure on support costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	4,599	4,562
Repairs and maintenance	28,614	37,929
Rent and rates	3,628	3,844
Light & heat	41,714	36,474
Cleaning and hygiene	30,437	25,914
Administrative expenses	17,715	16,202
Insurance	13,308	14,374
Irrecoverable VAT	31,225	24,882
Audit, legal & professional	7,520	8,920
Other costs	2,271	5,896
	<u>181,031</u>	<u>178,997</u>
Allocated to:		
Charitable activities	<u>181,031</u>	<u>178,997</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 £6,025 (2023 - £5,740).

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

- statutory audit £6,025 (2023 - £5,740)
- other services £975 (2023 - £1,029)

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

11 Impairments

Impairment tests have been carried out where appropriate and the following impairment losses have been recognised in profit or loss:

	2024	2023
	£	£
In respect of:		
Freehold land and buildings	15,689	-
	<u>15,689</u>	<u>-</u>

An impairment loss of £15,689 has been recognised in respect of the lift held within freehold land and buildings due to it no longer being fit for use and therefore it has a residual value of £Nil.

12 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 £2,942 (2023 - £665) for the purchase of rights to backing tracks for a performance and merchandise to be sold in the Kids Panto Bar;
 Mr M Scott was reimbursed £1,068 (2023 - £1,931) for materials for repairs and decorations for the Kids Panto Bar;
 Ms F Harris was reimbursed £37 (2023 - £28) for returned panto tickets;
 Mr T Brooks was reimbursed £279 (2023 - £Nil) for stage microphones;
 Mr J Middleton was reimbursed £Nil (2023 - £91) for scripts, Facebook ads and licences;
 Mr T Young was reimbursed £Nil (2023 - £19) for materials for Sooty's Ceremony;
 Former Trustees were reimbursed £Nil (2023 - £878) for stage lighting materials, properties for LDS productions, hospitality for the LTG conference and properties for LDS productions.

At the year-end, £42 was owed to 1 trustee (2023 - £Nil).

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

13 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Management and administration	4	4
Youth theatre	2	2
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	141,135	124,591
Social security costs	4,261	3,171
Other pension costs	2,432	2,176
	<u>147,828</u>	<u>129,938</u>

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

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Assets under construction £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 August 2023	621,513	239,461	601,187	1,462,161
Additions	-	-	12,469	12,469
Disposals	-	-	(6,890)	(6,890)
At 31 July 2024	<u>621,513</u>	<u>239,461</u>	<u>606,766</u>	<u>1,467,740</u>
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 August 2023	323,010	-	521,726	844,736
Depreciation charged in the year	11,979	-	18,683	30,662
Impairment losses	15,689	-	-	15,689
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	-	(6,890)	(6,890)
At 31 July 2024	<u>350,678</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>533,519</u>	<u>884,197</u>
Carrying amount				
At 31 July 2024	<u>270,835</u>	<u>239,461</u>	<u>73,247</u>	<u>583,543</u>
At 31 July 2023	<u>298,503</u>	<u>239,461</u>	<u>79,461</u>	<u>617,425</u>

Information on the impairment arising in the year is given in note 11.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

14 Tangible fixed assets

(Continued)

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

15 Stocks

2024
£

2023
£

Bar	4,698	4,016
Front of house	1,107	391
Pantomime lights	157	140
	<u>5,962</u>	<u>4,547</u>

16 Debtors

2024
£

2023
£

Amounts falling due within one year:

Trade debtors	70	2,596
Prepayments and accrued income	28,943	25,574
	<u>29,013</u>	<u>28,170</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Note

2024
£

2023
£

Other taxation and social security	5,156	5,711
Deferred income	182,081	160,773
Trade creditors	12,971	25,612
Accruals	21,504	20,641
	<u>221,712</u>	<u>212,737</u>

18 Deferred income

Deferred income included within note 16 above is as follows:

2024
£

2023
£

Advance ticket sales	157,017	134,707
Membership subscriptions	3,378	3,543
Unrefunded cancelled tickets	14,922	14,922
Customer credits	2,409	2,800
Gift vouchers and order deposits	4,355	4,801
	<u>182,081</u>	<u>160,773</u>

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

19 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 £2,432 (2023 - £2,176), 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.

20 Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 1 August 2023	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2024
	£	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	£
Improvements for the benefit of the audience	39,266	-	-	-	39,266
Building fund - cash	68,326	9,133	-	-	77,459
Building fund - assets	43,471	-	-	-	43,471
LCC Business Development & Diversification grant	106	-	(74)	-	32
UKSPF Community Digital Grant	-	9,804	-	-	9,804
	<u>151,169</u>	<u>18,937</u>	<u>(74)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,032</u>

	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>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,169</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.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

20 Restricted funds

(Continued)

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.

UKSPF Community Digital Grant - this fund represents amounts received from Leicester City Council to purchase IT equipment to improve volunteers' experience.

21 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 2023 £	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2024 £
		Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	
Designated funds:					
Building fund - cash	132,833	7,290	(3,609)	-	136,514
General funds	752,331	688,956	(595,213)	-	846,074
	<u>885,164</u>	<u>696,246</u>	<u>(598,822)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>982,588</u>

	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>

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

22 Building fund

The cumulative amount raised on the Building fund net of expenditure incurred increased to £257,444 (2023 - £244,630) of which £43,471 (2023 - £43,471) has been spent on planning, professional fees and archaeological investigations, leaving a balance carried forward to spend of £213,973 split between restricted and designated funds.

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 July 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	500,806	-	82,737	583,543
Current assets/(liabilities)	329,579	136,514	87,295	553,388
	<u>830,385</u>	<u>136,514</u>	<u>170,032</u>	<u>1,136,931</u>
	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 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>

24 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:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	872	1,727
Between two and five years	-	872
	<u>872</u>	<u>2,599</u>

Lease payments totalling £1,727 (2023: £1,727) 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 2024

25 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	98,865	93,793

Transactions with related parties

During the year, expenses were paid to 1 (2023 - 2) member of key management personnel, J Bale, for costume expenses and script hire amounting to £1,541 (2023 - £2,298).

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 £Nil (2023 - £235).

Expenses were paid to the husband of a former Trustee, for stage carpentry and set construction amounting to £Nil (2023 - £3,780).

Expenses were paid to the son of a former Trustee, for lighting materials amounting to £Nil (2023 - £69). Additionally, he was paid £Nil (2023 - £741) for assisting the crew with theatre productions.

26 Control relationship

The charity is under the joint control of the trustees.

27 Cash generated from operations

	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus for the year	100,598	111,321
Adjustments for:		
Investment income	(17,248)	(13,933)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	46,351	30,412
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in stocks	(1,415)	(261)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(843)	1,604
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	8,975	87,441
Cash generated from operations	136,418	216,584

28 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.