

**REGISTRAR**

Charity registration number 214249

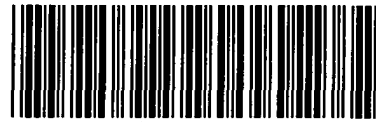
Company registration number 00268828 (England and Wales)

**THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 JULY 2025**

SATURDAY



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07/03/2026

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COMPANIES HOUSE

THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof J Harding (Treasurer)	
	Mr M Scott	(Appointed 18 August 2024)
	Ms J Caunt	
	Mr T Young	
	Mr P Beasley	
	Ms M Carberry	
	Ms S Nicholson	(Appointed 26 January 2025)
	Mr J Strack	(Appointed 27 April 2025)
Senior management	Mr G Muir	
	Mr J Bale	
	Ms C Young	
	Ms A Field	
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

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### Solicitors

Excello Law  
6 St Georges Way  
Leicester  
LE1 1QZ

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

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# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## CHAIRWOMAN'S STATEMENT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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It is with great pleasure that I present my report as Chair of the Leicester Drama Society (LDS) Board of Trustees for the year 2024 / 2025. We have had a full season of plays, musicals and 'specials' covering all genres of performance.

Our overall ticket sales remained consistent with our previous season, but Table 1 shows there were some particularly popular shows which recorded audience of over 80%. These included, ***Witness for the Prosecution, It Could Be Anyone of Us, The Vicar of Dibley and Brassed Off***. Our traditional Pantomime, ***Sleeping Beauty***, was once again a family favourite recording "full houses" for many performances and 96% overall sales. Our Youth Theatre, led by Andy Longley Brown and Kate Macintyre is operating at full capacity and has a waiting list of young people wishing to join. We were also able to run 2 popular "Play in a Week" sessions during the summer. Our Thursday Acting Workshops, led by Michael King also goes from strength to strength and attracts large numbers of members.

A New Directors Showcase was once again held in our Studio in November and in March, ***Lizzy, Darcy and Jane*** was a sell-out Studio production.

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 recognise their individual areas of work throughout this report.

In conclusion I would like to offer sincere thanks to the Trustees and Company Secretary 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 and Rob Mullins, our Caretaker. I also welcome and thank Anna Field, Production Manager and Dave Towers, Master Carpenter who joined our staff in January 2025.

Signed by:



74P1CF310A5C451.....

Ms S Nicholson

Front of House Trustee & Chairwoman of Board of Trustees

27-02-2026

Date: .....

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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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 2025.

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 and during this season, for the first time, hosted the semi-finals of this Festival.

# **THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

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A huge contribution as ever was made by the around 430 current LDS members who regularly volunteer and support for our Society by directing, acting and providing technical and front of house skills throughout the year. The valuable contributions made by our hard-working staff are also very much appreciated. LDS is a community and we wish to 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 thank everyone who has donated; joined our 200 Club; bought a "Star" or has remembered us by making a bequest in their will. This year we also introduced our "Give us a Little Lift" fundraising campaign to raise money to replace our audience lift.

#### 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 (103rd Season 2024-25)

We are proud to report on Leicester Drama Society's 103<sup>rd</sup> year. Our production year ran from September 2024 to July 2025 with the closed season in 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.

Our thanks go to those volunteers who worked on the Productions operating team to plan and implement these productions through the year. Our Productions Trustee, Paul Beasley was supported by members of the Productions team during this season including Simon Butler, Ruth Cheetham, Mary-Jayne Harding-Scott, Jon Worthy, Russell Hughes, Alfi Levy, Nadine Beasley, John Ghent, Jane Towers, Doreen Woolley and Jenny Page (Minutes Secretary).

The Little Theatre is busy throughout our production year and hosts many performances in addition to LDS productions. During this 103<sup>rd</sup> 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 total ticket sales increased slightly for LDS productions to 69% during this season. Audiences remain selective when buying tickets but it was pleasing to see that 4 productions achieved sales of 80% or more (as well as our popular pantomime). 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 2025

<b>Table 1: Main House Productions: 103<sup>rd</sup> Season (2024-25)</b>					
<b>Opening Night</b>	<b>Production</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Performances</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Audience %</b>
9 Sep 24	Witness for the Prosecution	Agatha Christie	7	1,973	81%
30 Sep 24	Relative Values	Noel Coward	7	1,431	59%
21 Oct 24	Gaslight	Patrick Hamilton	7	1,775	73%
11 Nov 24	Sheila's Island	Tim Firth	7	1,251	51%
13 Dec 24	Sleeping Beauty	John Bale	25	8,408	96%
20 Jan 25	It Could Be Anyone of Us	Alan Ayckbourn	7	1,969	80%
3 Feb 25	The Breath of Life	David Hare	7	1,012	41%
3 Mar 25	A Taste of Honey	Shelagh Delaney	7	1,029	42%
24 Mar 25	The Vicar of Dibley	Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer, adapted by Ian Gower and Paul Carpenter	7	2,182	89%
16 Apr 25	Macbeth	William Shakespeare	15	1,643	31%
16 May 25	The Wind in the Willows (LDS Youth Theatre)	John Marley & Kenneth Grahame	3	700	67%
16 Jun 25	Strangers on a Train	Craig Warner, based on the novel by Patricia Highsmith	7	1,618	66%
7 Jul 25	Brassed Off	Paul Allen based on the screenplay by Mark Herman	7	2,106	86%
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>27,097</b>	<b>69%</b>
	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>26,262</b>	<b>68%</b>
	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>23,249</b>	<b>61%</b>
	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>17,241</b>	<b>48%</b>

<b>Table 2: Studio Productions: 103<sup>rd</sup> Season (2024-25)</b>					
<b>Opening Night</b>	<b>Production</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Performances</b>	<b>Tickets Sold</b>	<b>Audience %</b>
28 Nov 24	New Director's Showcase	Various	4	120	86%
18 Mar 25	Lizzy, Darcy and Jane	Joanna Norland	6	178	99%
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>93%</b>
	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Table 3: Visiting Operatic Societies: 103<sup>rd</sup> Season (2024-25)</b>					
<b>Opening Night</b>	<b>Production</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Performances</b>	<b>Tickets Sold</b>	<b>Audience %</b>
8 Oct 24	The Wizard of Oz	IDOLS	6	1,430	68%
19 Nov 24	Beautiful: The Carole King Musical	KPAOS	6	1,733	83%
1 Apr 25	The Full Monty	LOP	6	1,706	81%
3 Jun 25	Footloose: The Musical	WAOS	6	1,665	80%
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6,534</b>	<b>78%</b>
	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>8,245</b>	<b>91%</b>
	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>8,811</b>	<b>66%</b>



# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Table 4: Special Events, Touring Productions & Fundraisers: 103 <sup>rd</sup> Season (2024-25)				
Date	Production	Performances	Tickets Sold	Audience %
17 Sep 24	Disney's Beauty and the Beast (KW Productions in support of The Little Theatre)	6	2,007	96%
27 Oct 24	Down for the Count: A Century of Swing	1	248	71%
30 Oct 24	The Carpenters Experience	1	309	89%
31 Oct 24	Celine Live: A Theatrical Experience	1	96	28%
1 Nov 24	The Queen Story	1	327	94%
2 Nov 24	Dad's Army Radio Show	2	293	42%
11 Jan 25	The Same Faces 2025	1	145	42%
9 Feb 25	Murder She Didn't Write	1	171	49%
10 Feb 25	Miles Jupp: On I Bang	1	271	78%
11 Feb 25	Jersey Beats – Oh What a Night! 2025	2	536	77%
13 Feb 25	LGS Big Band 2025	1	211	60%
15 Feb 25	The Fleetwood Mac Songbook	1	291	83%
16 Feb 25	Dazzling Diamonds	1	310	89%
19 Feb 25	West End Magic	1	176	50%
20 Feb 25	Primary School Assembly Bangers Live!	1	331	95%
21 Feb 25	The George Harrison Project	1	260	75%
22 Feb 25	Ultimate Classic Rock Show	1	331	95%
14 Mar 25	All England One Act Play Festival: Local Heats	1	55	16%
4 May 25	Night of the Stars	1	103	30%
8 May 25	The Sounds of Simon	1	168	48%
9 May 25	Supersonic Queen	1	116	33%
10 May 25	The Upbeat Beatles	1	228	65%
18 May 25	Art of Andalucia	2	361	52%
19 May 25	Manhunter and Mindhunter	1	89	26%
21 May 25	Legends of Motown	1	303	87%
24 May 25	All England One Act Play Festival: Semi-Finals 2025	2	63	9%
27 May 25	The Mumford & Sons Story	1	82	23%
28 May 25	Top Secret: The Magic of Science	1	313	90%
29 May 25	ABBA Sensation	1	106	30%
28 Jun 25	Elvis: Up Close and Personal	1	134	38%
13 Jul 25	Legion at The Little	1	113	32%
	TOTAL	40	8,547	61%
	2023-24 TOTAL	35	7,037	58%
	2022-23 TOTAL	32	6,238	56%

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Table 5: Total Performances & Seats Sold by Origin: 103 <sup>rd</sup> Season (2024-25)			
Origin of Production	Performances (23/24 in brackets)	Seats Sold (23/24 in brackets)	Seats sold % change
LDS Main House Productions	113 (111)	27,097 (26,262)	+3%
LDS Studio Productions	10 (9)	298 (308)	-3%
Friends of LDS: Visiting Societies	24 (26)	6,534 (8,245)	-21%
Special Events, and Touring Productions	40 (35)	8,547 (7,037)	+21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>187 (181)</b>	<b>42,476 (41,852)</b>	<b>+1%</b>

#### 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 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.

The Youth Theatre continued to offer in depth training to young performers that developed their skills and imaginations. In May 2025 the Senior and Junior groups presented a production of *The Wind in the Willows* 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. Two popular sessions of "Play in a Week" ran in August 2024.

#### 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 Facilities team has continued with the unending work to keep us in line with progressively rising standards for compliance in a public building.

We commissioned a full Fire Risk Assessment which brought many minor items to our attention and these have been resolved. There was also some new advice and a project is now underway to implement this. Our Fire alarm systems have been upgraded and many of our processes are being reviewed and revised including evacuation procedures, lone working, responsible person systems and fire door inspection and closing systems. Fire exits have been reviewed.

The fixed Electrical systems of the Theatre building have to be checked and certificated as part of the Fire Risk Assessment process and this has been satisfactorily completed for the first time since the pandemic. A collateral benefit has been that our electrical documentation is now better than it has been for many years.

## THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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Heating and Ventilation of the Auditorium has improved. We took expert professional advice and were told that no standard commercially available control system would be able to meet our needs and that we needed to build our own. That has been done by members of our team again with external advice and the situation is gradually improving. The obsolete hardware on the roof continues to work for the moment.

The lift has performed erratically and the decision has been taken to replace it.

The condition of 52 Albion St is a concern with the roof being beyond economic repair. The trustees are reviewing what we should do with that property.

Facilities Team members undertake the 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 continue to develop our Building Management System so that we can track what is going on with the building and its use.

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 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, Kane Gray, Owen Lee, Sam Milton, and Tim Neville.

#### Front of House (FOH)

Our FOH volunteers were coordinated by our FOH Trustee, Fran Harris (resigned January 2025) succeeded by Sue Nicholson (co-opted January 2025, elected April 2025), 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 volunteers retire and new members are recruited and integrated with our teams. Most volunteer interest in Front-of-House roles come from the Tuesday Connections meetings held before each play. FOH teams (including a trained First Aider) are essential for each performance and are critical to the successful operation of our Theatre and care of our audiences. We also have a Spektrix Box Office booking system live in the Foyer for 'On the door' ticket sales. FOH teams also keep visitors aware of forthcoming shows by giving out as many flyers as possible when the audience are leaving. Working on FOH provides many opportunities for newer members to get to know our theatre and other members.

Our thanks go to all volunteers who worked on the Front-of-House teams throughout the year, including:

Mike Batho	Kane Gray	Jeanette Robertson
Connail Baum	Julie Harrison	Helen Skemp
Ugo Boiardi	Teresa Heaps	Peter Smith
Jenny Burdett	Patrick Holligan	Elizabeth Spendlove
Ann Bywater	Lance Huggett	Sue Stevenson
Jo Cain	Gary Izzard	Mia Stone
Jackie Caunt	Teresa Jones	Mary Sturgess
Keziah Caldwell	Simmi Kapoor	Deborah Sutton
Geri Cawrey	June Kennell	Mary Sturgess
Karen Colvin	Trish Kenyon	Alisha Tayero

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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Val Concar	Alfi Levy	David Taylor
Hilary Cooper	Nick McDonald	Pat Thompson
Mollie Cooper	Mahesh Mistry	Kay Thompson
Sam Cooper	Ibrahim Muhamed	Colin Wardle
Barbara Corker	Charlie Mullins	Helena West
Angela Davies	Diane Murphy	Kathy Williamson
Nila Dickinson	Helen Musson	Clare Winfield
Anne Duff	Lazuli O'Neill	Carole Worthy
Karen Font-Garcia	Robert Parry	Charlie Wright
Trivesh Gandhi	Steffi Parker	Joanne Wright

#### Bar

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

Connail Baum	Peter Duffin	Charles Moss
Ann Bywater	Andrew Fiol	Charlie Mullins
Ross Cartwright	Trivesh Gandhi	Charlene Munday
Vikas Chanhan	Kane Gray	Salim Noor
Erica Cross	Lilli Helps	Dom Nunn
Matt Darlaston	Tim Hogarth-Jones	Steffi Parker
Angela Davies	Darianne Hoyen-Chung	Richard Payton
Aiden Davis	Ken Huggett	Babu Sarasia
Jo de Klerk	Gary Izzard	Helen Skemp
Mrinmoy Dekka	Liz Kavanagh	Mia Stone
Nila Dickenson	Sam Kelly	Mary Sturgess
Freddie Dobrijevic	Paul Large	Alan Webster
Rachel Draper	Joe Lester	Ben White
Chloe Drury	Nat Maynard	Charlie Wright
Ann Duff	Joe Middleton	

#### 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 visiting shows:

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	Amanda Sadler
Mary Jones	Jeanette Robertson	Erica Cross

#### 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 £3,617.91 in costume hire fees.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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#### Marketing

After a couple of years of rapid growth as the theatre bounced back from Covid, our average sales percentage for 2024-25 showed only a small increase to 69%; this is despite several productions outperforming their previous year's counterparts. However, after various issues required a couple of late changes to the planned season, these productions underperformed in relation to their sales targets – not helped by the limited time we had to promote them. But... the show must go on, and go on it did!

The season saw a continued evolution of our social media output, making a concerted effort to put our community at the centre of our marketing. Photos of cast members in character remain a key source of content, and hopefully help community members to feel valued and included in the marketing process. This also helped to attract new engagement from the resultant "ooh, I know them" factor of people seeing their friends and family in our content. Our social media following has increased significantly, with 8.6k followers on Facebook (up from 7.7k last year) and 3.8k on Instagram (up from 2.9k). We've also launched a TikTok channel, which has already gained 320 followers, despite only producing content for a handful of youth-centric productions (panto, musicals, etc...) so far.

Our brochures have continued to grow. Our spring/summer issue set a new record with 60 pages, showing the diverse range of productions staged at our theatre. Our productions also appeared in various printed publications, including the Leicester Mercury, Niche Magazine, Primary Times magazine, and more. We've also invested in a billboard site on Vaughan Way ahead of the 2025-26 season, and are exploring other opportunities.

It is important to remember that while consistency and content quality are important aspects of marketing, the most important factor of all is reputation. Continuing to produce great quality theatre is an essential aspect of our efforts, though this must be counterbalanced with mainstream production choices to get the public through our doors! Without our audience, we are nothing, and we must not take them for granted.

#### Membership

Membership of the Society increased over the year from 400 on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 to 429 on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025. 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, David Taylor, Carole Worthy, Charlie Mullins, Joanne Wright and Andy Poulton.

#### 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.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Our thanks go to all our members who worked backstage through the year including:

Daisy Anderson	Doug Finlay	Shelly Martin	Martin Scott
Graham Austen	Pete Flannery	Lin Marvin	Nick Sheard
Emma Bamford	Lily Foley	Lorna McWhirter	Doug Simpson
Connail Baum	Karen Gordon	Andy Mear	Sam Simpson
Becky Bell	Kane Gray	David Moore	Richard Simmonds
Martin Bell	Debbie Gutteridge	Jackie Moore	John Smith
Noah Bentley	Isobella Hall	Dave Morris	Fraser Tew
Kerry Bishop	Nadine Hall	Abdul Naoui	Andrew Thompson
Mike Brash	Jenny Harding	Tim Neville	Jeremy Thompson
Tom Brooks	Pete Flannery	Andrew Northcote	Kit Thorley
Sandra Brown	Mary Jayne Harding Scott	Daniel Northcote	Dave Towers
Keziah Caldwell	Darianne Hoyen-Chung	Jenny Page	Jane Towers
Mo Carberry	Russell Hughes	Steffi Parker	Melissa Underwood
Andy Collins	Adam Jones	Courtney Perry	Anneke Van De Stege
Aj Collins	Mary Jones	James Phillips	Anouk Vidanage Serasinghe
Amy Crighton	Sam Kelly	Tom Preston	Nisha Vegad
Andy Crooks	Victoria Kirk	Amanda Priestley	Stew Wale
Alex Crooks	Sue Knapp	Ann Ratcliffe	Erin Watkins
Ketan Deogan	Paul Large	Neil Reece	Sian Williams
Firas Derman	Alison Lee	Tim Revitt	Clare Windle
Simon Dickens	Evie Lee	Jane Rowland	Carole Worthy
Louise Dormer	Owen Lee	Nicky Ruddock	Jon Worthy
Simon Entwistle	Rob Leeson	Pete Rushton	Darren Wright
Alex Exton	Alfi Levy	Georgia Russell	Jai Yingxu
Nikki Favell	Jean Lingham	Tim Stabler	Tom Young
Craig Flanagan	Sam Milton	Krzysztof Sawicki	

#### Archiving

Progress has been made this season with the digitising and archiving of production records and we are now working on the mid-1980s. Everything that is scanned is available for members and the public to view on the theatre's website by looking at the 'About' menu and selecting the final item, 'LDS Archives'.

The archiving of production records takes up most of our budget, but this year some money was spent on extra archival boxes to store old minute books from the 1940s, 50s and 60s.

In March we put an exhibition in the Upper Foyer telling the story of the fire in 1955 and the rebuild of the theatre. In preparing this we gleaned some additional, interesting information.

We continue to work on picture frames for the lift corridor and some new ones will be going up before the start of the new season.

A few donations of programmes etc. have been received from former members and from former audience members.

A process of interviews with older and/or 'retired' members has begun. The resulting notes are intended for the archive, not for publication, but to be of interest to future generations. Interviewees are asked for reminiscences – the people they remember, the productions they remember, the things that have changed during their time at the theatre, the contribution they made.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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The Memorial Books will be brought up to date next month. This season, sadly, the theatre has lost the following members: Joan (Biddy) Baxter (in Junior Theatre in the 1940s), Colin Pollard, Tom Williams, Jeff Whitworth (all from the 1960s); Paul Whybrow and his wife Judy (1980s); Alex Briggs-Dolman, John Brooks, Anne Broughton-Taylor (1990s), Michael Bull, Bradley Varnam, Valerie Mary Hodgson and Lynette Watson.

The Archives Team was pleased to have Gavan Lennon as a new member back in the autumn. He was a great help, but sadly for us, has now found gainful employment.

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 continued to maintain and support the Theatre's IT systems, ensuring they remained reliable, secure, and fit for purpose. A key development was the introduction of a new cloud-based phone system for the Theatre office, improving resilience and call handling, as well as delivering cost savings compared to the previous system. We also strengthened the management and security of Society iPads, and continued supporting the Sign-In App, Microsoft 365, and other core systems to improve efficiency, collaboration and security across the Society.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

The results for the year ended 31 July 2025 are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 21. This, together with the balance sheet on page 22 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 £808,752 (2024 - £715,183). The principal funding source was box office income. Total expenditure for the year amounted to £649,791 (2024 - £614,585). A breakdown of expenditure is set out in notes to the financial statements.

There was a surplus on general funds for the year totalling £Nil, a surplus on designated funds totalling £153,902 and a surplus on restricted funds totalling £5,059. This has resulted in a total increase in funds for the year of £158,961. The funds for the charity at the year-end totalled £1,295,892 which comprise general funds of £830,385, designated funds of £290,416 and restricted funds of £175,091.

The trustees have prepared forecasts for the period ended 31 July 2026 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.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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#### 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 2025, unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets and amounts held in designated funds, which are freely available for the charity to use, totalled £318,481 (2024 - £329,579). The charity's reserves remained stable in this period due to tight cost management. The additional reserves are intended to be used as a contingency for future capital maintenance and development 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.

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 LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

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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 2025-26 has already been published and audiences are booking these. We are continuing to work on increasing audience numbers and 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  
Ms Anna Field, Production Manager (from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025)  
Mr Dave Towers, Master Carpenter (from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025)

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 6.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Table 6: Trustees			Retires
Honorary Secretary	Mr J Moulding	(elected 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024) (resigned 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2024)	
Honorary Treasurer	Prof J A Harding	(re-elected AGM 2025)	2028
Company Secretary	Mr D Moore	(appointed 27th March 2022)	
Trustee for Productions	Mr P Beasley	(elected 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024)	2027
Trustee for Marketing	Mr T Young	(re-elected AGM 2025)	2028
Trustee for Facilities	Mr M G Scott	(re-elected AGM 2025)	2028
Trustee for Membership	Ms J Caunt	(re-elected AGM 2025)	2028
Trustee without specific responsibility	Ms M Carberry	(elected 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024)	2027
Trustee without specific responsibility	Mr S Wale	(co-opted 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2024) (resigned 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2025)	
Trustee for Outreach	Ms V Flowers	(elected 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024) (resigned 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2024)	
Trustee for Front-of-House	Ms F Harris	(resigned 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025)	
Trustee for Front-of-House	Ms S Nicholson	(appointed 26 January 2025) (elected AGM 2025)	2028
Technical Trustee	Mr K Gray	(elected 7 April 2025) (resigned 30 July 2025)	
Trustee without specific responsibility	Ms E Bamford	(co-opted 1 June 2025)	
Trustee without specific responsibility	Mr S K Elliott	(co-opted 27 April 2025)	
Trustee without specific responsibility	Mr J Strack	(co-opted 27 April 2025)	

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 all aspects of the organisation and in particular the roles of the permanent staff. The Trustees review teams' objectives and budgets annually.

In their meetings, the Trustees were assisted by David Moore as Company Secretary. The Company Secretary attends Board Meetings but is not a company director or charity trustee.

#### 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 LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

#### 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 7(a) shows the employees in post at the start of the financial year.

<b>Table 7(a): Employees – at the start of the financial year</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time</b>	<b>Full-time equivalents</b>
<b>Administrative &amp; Box Office staff</b>			
Theatre Manager (Graham Muir)	1		
Deputy Theatre Manager (Carolyn Young)	1		
Caretaker / Handyman (Robert Mullins)		1	
<b>Production Staff</b>			
Costume Designer & Head of Wardrobe (John Bale)	1		
<b>Youth Theatre Staff</b>			
Youth Theatre Leader (Andy Longley Brown)		1	
Youth Theatre Deputy Leader (Kate MacIntyre)		1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3.8</b>

<b>Table 7(b): Employees – at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time</b>	<b>Full-time equivalents</b>
<b>Administrative &amp; Box Office staff</b>			
Theatre Manager (Graham Muir)	1		
Deputy Theatre Manager (Carolyn Young)	1		
Caretaker / Handyman (Robert Mullins)		1	
<b>Production Staff</b>			
Costume Designer & Head of Wardrobe (John Bale)	1		
Production Manager (Anna Field)	1		
Master Carpenter (Dave Towers)		1	
<b>Youth Theatre Staff</b>			
Youth Theatre Leader (Andy Longley Brown)		1	
Youth Theatre Deputy Leader (Kate MacIntyre)		1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.4</b>

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

#### Freelance staff

<b>Table 8: Freelance staff</b>
Gemma Greaves (Scenic Designer)
Abby Glover (Scenic Artist)
Sophie Zielonka (Scenic Designer)
Steph Nicholls (Scenic Designer)
Tristan J Knowles (Scenic Designer)
Matt Sykes Hooban (Scenic Designer)
Phil Newman (Scenic Designer)
Anita Adams (Show Ready) (Scenic Designers)
Dave Towers (Stage Carpenter)
Caroline Walsh (Choreographer)
Paul Timms (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 supporting the management and organisation of a busy venue and with recruiting, retaining, training and encouraging new members. The Society has about 430 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 LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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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:  
  
C8CDB2FEA216460...  
Prof J Harding (Treasurer)  
Trustee

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

Signed by:  
  
74F1CF310A5C451...  
Ms S Nicholson (Chairwoman)  
Trustee

05-03-2026  
Date: .....

## THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Leicester Drama Society Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 July 2025 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 2025 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

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#### **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 pages 16 and 17, 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

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- 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

6 March 2026

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 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general £	designated £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	19,403	5,290	7,510	32,203	39,296
Charitable activities	4	712,546	2,394	-	714,940	641,000
Other trading activities	5	21,048	-	-	21,048	17,639
Investments	6	40,561	-	-	40,561	17,248
<b>Total</b>		<b>793,558</b>	<b>7,684</b>	<b>7,510</b>	<b>808,752</b>	<b>715,183</b>
<b>Expenditure on</b>						
Raising funds	7	3,855	3,721	-	7,576	6,066
Charitable activities	8	639,764	-	2,451	642,215	608,519
<b>Total</b>		<b>643,619</b>	<b>3,721</b>	<b>2,451</b>	<b>649,791</b>	<b>614,585</b>
<b>Net income</b>		<b>149,939</b>	<b>3,963</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>158,961</b>	<b>100,598</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	21	(149,939)	149,939	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>153,902</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>158,961</b>	<b>100,598</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		830,385	136,514	170,032	1,136,931	1,036,333
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>830,385</b>	<b>290,416</b>	<b>175,091</b>	<b>1,295,892</b>	<b>1,136,931</b>

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 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		601,994		583,543
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	15	5,738		5,962	
Debtors	16	37,818		29,013	
Cash at bank and in hand		830,229		740,125	
		<u>873,785</u>		<u>775,100</u>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(179,887)		(221,712)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			693,898		553,388
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>1,295,892</u>		<u>1,136,931</u>
<b>Total funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted funds	20		175,091		170,032
Unrestricted designated funds	21		290,416		136,514
Unrestricted general funds	21		830,385		830,385
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<u>1,295,892</u>		<u>1,136,931</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 2025 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.

05-03-2026

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

Signed by:

*Jenny Harding*

Prof J Harding (Treasurer)

Trustee

Company Registration No. 00268828

The notes on pages 24 - 37 form part of these financial statements.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	27		94,355		136,418
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(44,812)		(12,469)	
Investment income received		40,561		17,248	
<b>Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities</b>			(4,251)		4,779
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			90,104		141,197
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			740,125		598,928
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			830,229		740,125

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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### 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.

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.

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 2025

### 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. 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 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 2025

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### 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 lights.

#### 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 2025

#### 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 2025 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Donations including gift aid	4,403	5,290	7,510	17,203
Legacies receivable	15,000	-	-	15,000
	<u>19,403</u>	<u>5,290</u>	<u>7,510</u>	<u>32,203</u>
	<u><u>19,403</u></u>	<u><u>5,290</u></u>	<u><u>7,510</u></u>	<u><u>32,203</u></u>
	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>

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted general funds 2025 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Box office LDS shows	457,543	-	457,543	408,711	-	408,711
Box office special shows & Comedy Festival	47,596	2,394	49,990	32,285	1,900	34,185
Front of house	54,004	-	54,004	51,857	-	51,857
Bar	99,607	-	99,607	91,228	-	91,228
Lettings and costume hire	53,796	-	53,796	55,019	-	55,019
	<u>712,546</u>	<u>2,394</u>	<u>714,940</u>	<u>639,100</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>641,000</u>

### 5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted general funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Membership income	<u>21,048</u>	<u>21,048</u>	<u>17,639</u>	<u>17,639</u>

### 6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted general funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Car park and rental income	13,460	13,460	13,276	13,276
Interest receivable	27,101	27,101	3,972	3,972
	<u>40,561</u>	<u>40,561</u>	<u>17,248</u>	<u>17,248</u>



# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted general funds 2025 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted general funds 2024 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Membership schemes	3,855	-	3,855	2,457	-	2,457
Fundraising expenditure	-	3,721	3,721	-	3,609	3,609
	<u>3,855</u>	<u>3,721</u>	<u>7,576</u>	<u>2,457</u>	<u>3,609</u>	<u>6,066</u>

### 8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly Note 9 £	Support Costs Note 10 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Production	361,553	140,443	501,996	478,633
Front of house	22,898	15,427	38,325	36,100
Bar	51,316	28,454	79,770	72,228
Lettings and costume hire	6,756	15,368	22,124	21,558
	<u>442,523</u>	<u>199,692</u>	<u>642,215</u>	<u>608,519</u>
Unrestricted general funds			639,764	608,445
Restricted funds			2,451	74
			<u>642,215</u>	<u>608,519</u>

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 9 Expenditure on activities undertaken directly

	Production	Front of house	Bar	Lettings and costume hire	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	168,451	-	-	6,756	175,207	147,828
Depreciation	22,407	-	-	-	22,407	41,752
Box office admin	30,346	-	-	-	30,346	28,563
Direct production costs	87,729	-	-	-	87,729	90,956
Special show artistes	8,633	-	-	-	8,633	612
Marketing of shows	43,987	-	-	-	43,987	49,936
Front of house supplies	-	22,898	-	-	22,898	21,427
Bar supplies	-	-	51,316	-	51,316	46,414
	<u>361,553</u>	<u>22,898</u>	<u>51,316</u>	<u>6,756</u>	<u>442,523</u>	<u>427,488</u>

### 10 Expenditure on support costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	3,954	4,599
Repairs and maintenance	48,467	28,614
Rent and rates	3,501	3,628
Light & heat	34,643	41,714
Cleaning and hygiene	32,004	30,437
Administrative expenses	18,857	17,715
Insurance	14,720	13,308
Irrecoverable VAT	33,247	31,225
Audit, legal & professional	7,200	7,520
Other costs	3,099	2,271
	<u>199,692</u>	<u>181,031</u>
Allocated to:		
Charitable activities	<u>199,692</u>	<u>181,031</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 £6,325 (2024 - £6,025).

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

- statutory audit £6,325 (2024 - £6,025)
- other services £937 (2024 - £975)

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 11 Impairments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
In respect of:		
Freehold land and buildings	-	15,689

In 2024, an impairment loss of £15,689 was 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 £552 (2024 - £2,942) for the purchase of scripts and refreshments;

Mr M Scott was reimbursed £898 (2024 - £1,068) for materials for repairs and decorations;

Mr K Gray was reimbursed £203 (2024 - £Nil) for training and workwear;

Mr S Wale was reimbursed £112 (2024 - £Nil) for sound costs;

Ms F Harris was reimbursed £Nil (2024 - £37) for returned panto tickets;

Former Trustees were reimbursed £Nil (2024 - £279) for stage microphones.

At the year-end, £Nil was owed to trustees (2024 - £42 owed to 1 trustee).

### 13 Employees

#### Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Management and administration	5	4
Youth theatre	2	2
	7	6

#### Employment costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	166,241	141,135
Social security costs	6,058	4,261
Other pension costs	2,908	2,432
	175,207	147,828

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 2025

### 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Assets under construction £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 August 2024	621,513	239,461	606,766	1,467,740
Additions	23,289	-	21,523	44,812
At 31 July 2025	644,802	239,461	628,289	1,512,552
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>				
At 1 August 2024	350,678	-	533,519	884,197
Depreciation charged in the year	6,294	-	20,067	26,361
At 31 July 2025	356,972	-	553,586	910,558
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 31 July 2025	287,830	239,461	74,703	601,994
At 31 July 2024	270,835	239,461	73,247	583,543

Within freehold land and buildings, the cost is made up of land of £179,718 and buildings of £465,084.

### 15 Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Bar	4,548	4,698
Front of house	707	1,107
Pantomime lights	483	157
	5,738	5,962

### 16 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	2,091	70
Prepayments and accrued income	35,727	28,943
	37,818	29,013

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		7,410	5,156
Deferred income	18	140,447	182,081
Trade creditors		8,922	12,971
Accruals		23,108	21,504
		<u>179,887</u>	<u>221,712</u>

### 18 Deferred income

Deferred income included within note 17 above is as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Advance ticket sales	130,023	157,017
Membership subscriptions	3,673	3,378
Unrefunded cancelled tickets	-	14,922
Customer credits	1,988	2,409
Gift vouchers and order deposits	4,763	4,355
	<u>140,447</u>	<u>182,081</u>

### 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 £2,908 (2024 - £2,432), 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 2025

### 20 Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 1 August 2024	Movement in funds		Transfers	Balance at 31 July 2025
	£	Income £	Expenditure £	£	£
Improvements for the benefit of the audience	39,266	-	-	-	39,266
Building fund - cash	77,459	7,483	-	-	84,942
Building fund - assets	43,471	-	-	-	43,471
LCC Business Development & Diversification grant	32	-	-	-	32
UKSPF Community Digital Grant	9,804	-	(2,451)	-	7,353
Lift fund appeal	-	27	-	-	27
	<u>170,032</u>	<u>7,510</u>	<u>(2,451)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>175,091</u>

	Balance at 1 August 2023	Movement in funds		Transfers	Balance at 31 July 2024
	£	Income £	Expenditure £	£	£
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	-	-	-	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>

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.

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.

Lift fund appeal - this fund represents donations specifically given towards the future cost of the new lift required.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 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 2024	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 July 2025
	£	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	£
Designated funds:		£	£	£	
Building fund - cash	136,514	7,684	(3,721)	149,939	290,416
General funds	830,385	793,558	(643,619)	(149,939)	830,385
	<u>966,899</u>	<u>801,242</u>	<u>(647,340)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,120,801</u>

	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	(610,902)	-	830,385
	<u>885,164</u>	<u>696,246</u>	<u>(614,511)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>966,899</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 £418,829 (2024 - £257,444) of which £43,471 (2024 - £43,471) has been spent on planning, professional fees and archaeological investigations, leaving a balance carried forward to spend of £375,358 split between restricted and designated funds.

# THE LEICESTER DRAMA SOCIETY LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

### 23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	designated 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Fund balances at 31 July 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	511,904	-	90,090	601,994
Current assets/(liabilities)	318,481	290,416	85,001	693,898
	<u>830,385</u>	<u>290,416</u>	<u>175,091</u>	<u>1,295,892</u>
	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>

### 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:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	<u>4,551</u>	<u>872</u>

Lease payments totalling £1,550 (2024: £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 2025

### 25 Related party transactions

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	125,538	98,865

#### Transactions with related parties

During the year, expenses were paid to 3 (2024 - 1) members of key management personnel:  
Mr J Bale was reimbursed £1,642 (2024 - £1,541) for costume expenses and script hire;  
Mr G Muir was reimbursed £246 (2024 - £Nil) for bar stock;  
Ms AL Field was reimbursed £566 (2024 - £Nil) for set expenses.

### 26 Control relationship

The charity is under the joint control of the trustees.

### 27 Cash generated from operations

	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus for the year	158,961	100,598
Adjustments for:		
Investment income	(40,561)	(17,248)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	26,361	46,351
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	224	(1,415)
(Increase) in debtors	(8,805)	(843)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(41,825)	8,975
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<b>94,355</b>	<b>136,418</b>

### 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.