

Report from the Chair of Trustees

SaTG AGM, 9th October 2024

As everyone here knows, this year's incredibly successful production of Hamlet was the final one we'll perform in the wonderful, atmospheric courtyard of The George Hotel, Huntingdon.

I'm not going to pretend that was top of my 'wish list' for this venerable organisation, and nor was it easy to accept that our home since 1959 was no longer available to us. It was really quite emotional and whilst it remains so, over the last few weeks and months, those emotions have changed.

Whereas I was shocked and greatly saddened when I was given the news, I'm now genuinely excited at the opportunity to create a new and even more successful chapter in the story of SaTG.

Not only that, I remain incredibly proud of how we handled the whole thing – from our classy response to the news, the wonderful comments we got from our loyal supporters, to the work the Trustees have put into finding our new partners here at Buckden Towers.

So at this AGM I am eager that our focus is to look ahead, ensuring that we continue to build on our legacy and add to the area's cultural and social life for at least another 65 years.

I'm under no illusions that it is going to be (and has already proved) a challenging task but the last few months has convinced me that we are up to the challenge of putting on an amazing show at this incredible venue. Sure, it'll be a steep learning curve and it will require lots of work to make it happen but I know we will deliver.

I also wanted to take this opportunity look at how we find ourselves as a trust in a slightly broader capacity than simply the production we put on every year.

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of one of our patrons - Frank Brudenell – we have significant funds (a legacy of over £22,000) to ensure that we can future-proof what we do from a financial point of view.

I'm also eager that the future -proofing extends to what we can do to bring in a younger audience and new people to work with the company.

I genuinely believe that our new location will help in both respects, especially as it allows us to better connect with Hinchingsbrooke School as well as developing a relationship with the Buckden Community.

However, as it is our AGM and the single most important thing we do every year is put on our open air Shakespeare production, I want to say a huge thank you to this year's director, Lynne Livingstone, the company and the entire Hamlet production team for creating and then delivering a hit show – and one that was also a financial success.

I'd also like to say thanks to my fellow Trustees. SaTG is fortunate to have an incredible group of Trustees who have stepped up to the challenge of not just finding a new home but also ensuring that all the while, we are able to put on a final production that meets the insanely high standards you would expect from one of our shows.

My heartfelt thanks go to Lynne, James, the Chris' (Thompson and Turner), Ashton, John and the two Phils (Barrett and Leverett) – with a special shout out to John Secker for all the work he put into to the new home project.

My thanks now turn to Fr Paul and all his Team at Buckden Towers for hosting SaTG – now of course proudly going by the name of SatT!

On that note, thanks also to all the other venues who put themselves forward as hosts – the response from the wider community was humbling.

As always, Dame Norma Major has been a stalwart supporter as our Patron – not just throughout the search but when we did our big launch last month. Additional thanks to Kate Hempshall for all her work in the publicity for that as we had incredible results.

I have already mentioned him as one of the Chris' but a second thanks to Chris Turner who has stepped in as our new Treasurer, which leads me to my final honourable mention.

Thanks to Phil Leverett who has been treasurer for 7 years. Phil has done an excellent job keeping our account in good stead. He cleaned up the records and put us in a good Place financially.

Phil has also been nominated as a Lifetime Friend of the charity as it recognises that you have gone above and beyond the requirements of a Trustee role – something which he has most certainly done.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Shakespeare at the George Trust

**On accounts for the year
ended**

30 September 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

270546

Set out on pages

4-5

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 September 2024

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

26/07/2025

Name:

Helen Jones

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA

Address:

Gregory Wildman,

The Granary, Crowhill Farm, Ravensden Road, Wilden

Bedford MK44 2QS



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

SHAKESPEARE AT THE GEORGE TRUST 270546

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	1-Oct-23	To	30-Sep-24
------------------------	----------	----	-----------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Box office and programmes	41,553	-	-	41,553	32,815
Advertising and sponsorship	2,450	-	-	2,450	2,270
Sales	524	-	-	524	753
Book sales	-	-	-	-	38
Interest received	354	-	-	354	174
Sundry income	-	-	-	-	510
Donations	300	-	-	300	887
Bequests	-	-	-	-	22,147
Grant	500	-	-	500	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	45,681	-	-	45,681	59,594
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	45,681	-	-	45,681	59,594
A3 Payments					
Production costs	20,371	-	-	20,371	17,038
Publicity and programmes	2,968	-	-	2,968	1,916
Assets - Light desk/radios/lamps	3,127	-	-	3,127	-
Production insurance	4,085	-	-	4,085	3,861
Premises cost	5,040	-	-	5,040	4,429
General admin/other	487	-	-	487	570
Bursaries	1,750	-	-	1,750	1,250
Merchandise	582	-	-	582	595
Travel	123	-	-	123	-
Independent examination	780	-	-	780	1,320
Donations	18	-	-	18	280
Sub total	39,331	-	-	39,331	31,259
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	39,331	-	-	39,331	31,259
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,350	-	-	6,350	28,335
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	58,832	-	-	58,832	30,497
Cash funds this year end	65,182	-	-	65,182	58,832

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Current account	2,447	-	-
	Building fund account	40,588	-	-

Bequest account	22,147	-	-
Total cash funds	65,182	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £

B2 Other monetary assets

Details			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

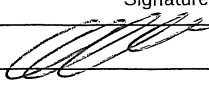
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Sound equipment	Unrestricted	10,932	-
Lighting Equipment	Unrestricted	11,699	-
Other equipment	Unrestricted	9,499	-
Sound and lighting equipment	Unrestricted	15,000	-
Staging	Unrestricted	35,546	-
Sound and lighting equipment	Unrestricted	3,127	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Chris Turner	26/07/25