

**THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND  
DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

**(Bury St Edmunds Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society,  
registered charity number: 278388)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

**THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Legal and administrative information	1
Report of the trustees	2 - 3
Trustees' responsibilities statement	4
Independent examiner's report	5 - 6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the financial statements	9 - 10

# **THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>CHARITY</b>	The Bury St Edmunds Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society. Charity number: 278388  Other name used: The Bury St Edmunds Operatic and Dramatic Society (BSEODS)
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	N Metcalfe (Chairman) A Thurkettle C Simpson A Self – appointed 7 April 2024
<b>SECRETARY</b>	N Metcalfe.
<b>TREASURER</b>	A Self
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	J Hughes – resigned K Metcalfe R Wilson-Lane J Haythornthwaite-Smith - resigned D Morris
<b>PRINCIPAL ADDRESS</b>	7 Rectory Gardens Thurston Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3TH
<b>BANKERS</b>	Natwest Bank plc 7 Cornhill Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 1BQ
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	Mrs Tania Jones FCCA ATT Warren Cottage Warren Lane Woolpit Suffolk IP30 9RT

## **THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The trustees present their annual report and the financial statements of The Bury St Edmunds Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 Jan 2015).

#### **Method of appointment or election of trustees**

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected under the terms of the governing document. At each annual general meeting half of the Trustees retire by rotation. Trustee vacancies are advertised to members and positions are voted on by the members so present. Where Trustee vacancies arise during the course of the year, new Trustees may be co-opted, in which case their election is considered at the annual general meeting.

The Trustees who served during the year, including appointments and resignations since the year end are shown on page 1. Committee members are elected at AGM and are also appointed during the year as vacancies arise. Committee members who are not trustees are shown on page 1.

#### **Constitution and principal objective**

The charity, whose full name is The Bury St Edmunds Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society, is constituted under a governing document dated 27 July 1971 and is a registered charity, number 278388.

The principal objective of the charity is to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and role in the said arts. To do so, the society promotes and performs plays, comedies, operas, operettas, concerts and other dramatic & operatic works.

#### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to hold sufficient general reserves to enable them to cover any losses on performances, and to maintain sufficient reserves to enable them to perform future productions.

As at 31 December 2024 the reserves stood at £33,821. The Trustees consider that the charity's reserves as at 31 December are sufficient but are aware of the difficulties presented by both the pressure on audiences and increasing costs.

# **THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

### **Review of Activities and Financial Overview**

Financial performance was much improved in 2024 with both productions generating a surplus. This has improved the Society's cash and overall reserve position. The Committee and Trustees are pleased to see audiences returning to the theatre following the pandemic, but are also of the view that the shows selected for 2024 had a strong audience appeal.

The first production was *Made in Dagenham* staged at the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds, in April. We sold 1,602 seats with total income of £35,446 against costs of £30,398, generating a surplus of £5,048. Our second show was *Allo Allo 2 – The Camembert Caper*. We sold 1,509 seats with total income of £31,285 and costs of £19,382, generating a surplus of £11,903. The trustees believe that the impact of the pandemic is lessening and seat sales have improved. *Made in Dagenham* sold at 83% of capacity, and *Allo Allo 2* sold at 70% capacity. Both shows in 2024 were very well received. *Made in Dagenham* was nominated for Best Musical and *Allo Allo 2* was nominated for Best Drama in the NODA Eastern Region awards. Announcement of the winner is due in May 2025.

The Society continues to face increased costs although it is hoped that popular shows will continue to attract higher audience numbers and deliver a surplus. The productions planned for 2025 are *Charlie* and *The Chocolate Factory* in May and *The Mirror Crack'd* in October.

The Friend's members have been diminishing and there has been small drop off in participants in the 500 Club.

During the year the Society received the very generous offer from Mr Nigel Smith to fund the Alan Holt Award for the next 10 years in memory of Jane Rutherford. The Society is pleased to rename the award The Rutherford Holt Award to recognise the donation and was pleased to present the first Rutherford Holt Award to Harvey Gould to assist him in continuing his education in the fields of drama and music at Mountview.

### **Public Benefit**

In the course of planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit. The charity relies on income from fees and charges and continues to give careful consideration to accessibility to all.

### **Committee Activity**

The Committee met regularly throughout the year to plan current and future shows. The annual report was approved by the Trustees on 27 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

N Metcalfe  
Chairman



## **THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

### **TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity 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.
- Make judgements and accounting 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 charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR**  
**ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 7 to 10.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 145(5)(b) of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work, for this report or the opinions I have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and they consider that an audit is not required for the year (under section 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements (under section 145 of the Act);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and;
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed:



Dated: 29.10.2025

**Mrs Tania Jones FCCA, ATT**

Warren Cottage  
Warren Lane  
Woolpit  
Suffolk  
IP30 9RT



**THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER**  
**2024**

		2024		2023	
<b>INCOME FROM:</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Performances (Charitable Activity)	2	66,731		51,234	
Fundraising	4	630		640	
Donations		112		330	
Interest received		98		30	
Other income	3	<u>4,733</u>		<u>2,372</u>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>			<b>72,304</b>		<b>54,606</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Performances (Charitable Activity)	2	49,780		55,177	
Donations		10		10	
Fundraising	4	271		240	
Other expenditure	5	<u>5,513</u>		<u>5,134</u>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>			<b><u>55,574</u></b>		<b><u>60,561</u></b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR</b>			<b>16,730</b>		<b>(5,955)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2024</b>			<b><u>17,091</u></b>		<b><u>23,046</u></b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024</b>			<b><u>33,821</u></b>		<b><u>17,091</u></b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

# THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	6	6,891	4,040
Cash at bank and in hand:			
- Current account		3,179	7,527
- Reserve account		19,088	240
- 500 Club account		7,973	6,988
- Petty Cash		19	1
		<u>37,150</u>	<u>18,796</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year:	7	(3,330)	(1,705)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>33,820</u>	<u>17,091</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>33,820</u>	<u>17,091</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>33,820</u>	<u>17,091</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 27 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



**Mr C Simpson**

Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

**THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR**

**ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**1.1 Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and in accordance with FRS 102.

**1.2 Income**

All income is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount is measurable.

**1.3 Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party. Expenditure includes irrecoverable VAT.

**2 PERFORMANCE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

	31 December 2024			31 December 2023		
Show	Income £	Expenditure £	(Deficit) /Surplus £	Income £	Expenditure £	(Deficit) /Surplus £
Made in Dagenham	35,446	(30,398)	5,048	-	-	-
Allo Allo 2	31,285	(19,382)	11,903	-	-	-
Shakespeare in Love	-	-	-	12,386	(19,269)	(6,883)
Oliver!	-	-	-	35,245	(33,605)	1,640
Other show income/(costs)	-	-	-	3,603	(2,303)	1,300
	<u>66,731</u>	<u>(49,780)</u>	<u>16,951</u>	<u>51,234</u>	<u>(55,177)</u>	<u>(3,443)</u>

**3 OTHER INCOME**

	£	£
Membership fees	863	1,075
Friends of the Society	455	390
Gift aid reclaim	407	701
Other	<u>3,008</u>	<u>206</u>
	<u>4,733</u>	<u>2,372</u>

**THE BURY ST EDMUNDS OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)**

**4 FUNDRAISING**

	<b>2024</b>			<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenses £</b>	<b>(Deficit) /Surplus £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenses £</b>	<b>(Deficit) /Surplus £</b>
500 Club Lottery	<u>630</u>	<u>(271)</u>	<u>359</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>(240)</u>	<u>400</u>
	<b><u>630</u></b>	<b><u>(271)</u></b>	<b><u>359</u></b>	<b><u>640</u></b>	<b><u>(240)</u></b>	<b><u>400</u></b>

**5 SUPPORT COSTS**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
General expenses	1,113	798
IT service and domain	52	89
Insurance and accountancy	1,442	1,366
Rent and rates for store	2,756	2,731
Rutherford Holt award	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>
	<b><u>5,513</u></b>	<b><u>5,134</u></b>

**6 DEBTORS**

Other debtors	2,457	710
Prepayments and Deposits in advance	<u>4,434</u>	<u>3,330</u>
	<b><u>6,891</u></b>	<b><u>4,040</u></b>

**7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year**

Fees in advance	-	1,108
Other creditors	<u>3,330</u>	<u>597</u>
	<b><u>3,330</u></b>	<b><u>1,705</u></b>