



## **THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 509915

# **Annual Report & Financial Statements**

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

# **THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY**

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# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

## Legal and Administrative Information

### GOVERNING OFFICERS

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
1	Mr J M Fairfoot	President
2	Mr M Porter	Chairman
3	Mrs B Booth (FCCA)	Honorary Treasurer
4	Mr A Thomson	Honorary Production Manager
5	Mrs G M Ellis	Honorary Secretary

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

6	Miss N Brook
7	Mrs J D Page
8	Mr P Hopkins
9	Miss C Rowlands
10	Mrs S Crossley

### Method of appointment

The Society was governed by the above Officers, who are elected annually at the AGM, together with committee members, who are elected for three years, two of whom retire annually.

### Correspondence address

Mrs Beverley Booth (FCCA)  
3 Stratton Park  
Brighouse  
HD6 3SN

### Bankers

Santander  
Park Row  
Leeds  
Tel:- 0800 030 4321

### Governing document

The Leeds Amateur Operatic Society (LAOS) is a constituted organisation governed by the Rules of Membership dated 2020. It is registered with the Charity Commission number 509915. Rules revised 1966, amended October 1967, October 1976 and October 2005.

# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Trustee's report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

## OBJECTS AND POLICIES

The objects of the Society are to foster the public knowledge and appreciation of Music and Drama by means of public performances by voluntary but subscription paying members and to donate part of its production surplus to charitable purposes as the Trustees shall from time to time determine.

## ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Society was delighted to return to the Leeds Grand Theatre in April 2023 following the Covid19 pandemic restrictions, with a successful performance of Kinky Boots. This production reunited our members, production team, volunteers and stage crew, after a long-awaited return to the amateur stage.

After an unprecedented period in the Society's history, we saw production costs for Kinky Boots increasing by 22%, in comparison to those incurred previously by our pre-pandemic productions. This was largely due to the pass through of increased costs by scenery, props and lighting suppliers and the Leeds Grand theatre rental costs. We envisage these costs to continue to follow this upward trajectory at least in the short term, due to ongoing inflationary and economic pressures.

Ticket sales volumes for Kinky Boots were lower than previous productions at 54% theatre capacity sold, however due to an increase in ticket prices across all pricing tiers we were able to fully mitigate the increased production costs.

Despite the challenging economic landscape facing the performing arts industry post Brexit and the pandemic, the ticket sales revenue and the performances of Kinky Boots were strong and returned a small production surplus of £26k for the financial year. The Society's bank balances remain healthy.

We will continue to build on our financial position and we are looking ahead with cautious optimism to our next major production, Legally Blonde, to be performed at the Leeds Grand Theatre in 2024.

In April 2023 a much-loved, long-standing LAOS trustee and committee member, Richard White, sadly passed away. His contribution to the society and to amateur theatre spanned a period of forty years, for which he earned his NODA long service medal just prior to his passing. He will be sadly missed.

# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Trustee's report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 (continued)

## TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- 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 accounts on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the applicable laws and regulations. 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 LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Statement of Financial Activities for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023  
(including summary income and expenditure account)

	2023	2022
	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Donations	730	2,384
Interest Received	599	43
Members Subscriptions & Show Fees	4,481	1,575
Other Revenue	1,787	0
Programme Sales	3,255	0
Ticket Sales	177,449	0
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>188,301</b>	<b>4,002</b>
 <b>Resources expended</b>		
Audit & Accountancy Fees	619	411
Charitable Donations	500	100
Consulting Fees	2,895	1,930
Costumes	5,650	0
Depreciation	374	374
Insurance & Subscriptions	733	655
IT Software & Consumables	253	490
Marketing, Publicity & Programmes	16,056	0
Musical Director	6,112	500
Orchestra	6,824	0
Producer's Fee	5,500	0
Room Hire	2,248	1,234
Royalties	34,527	0
Scenery, Props, Sound & Lighting	25,425	824
Stage Manager's Fee	1,750	0
Stationery		
Sundry Expenses	2,589	287
Theatre Rent	52,082	0
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>(164,137)</b>	<b>(6,805)</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	<b>24,164</b>	<b>(2,803)</b>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>	<b>114,538</b>	<b>117,341</b>
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	<b>138,702</b>	<b>114,538</b>

# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	748	1,123
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<u>748</u>	<u>1,123</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	-	1,034
Prepayments	2,948	2,100
Cash at bank – 271	133,553	107,854
Cash at bank – 480	2,008	2,589
<b>Total current assets</b>	<u>138,509</u>	<u>113,577</u>
<b>Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year</b>	555	162
<b>Net current assets</b>	<u>137,954</u>	<u>113,415</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>138,702</b>	<b>114,538</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
Unrestricted funds before	114,538	117,341
Add surplus	24,164	-
Less deficit	-	(2,803)
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>138,702</u>	<u>114,538</u>

# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Notes to the accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

## Accounting policies

### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005), the Companies Act 2006 and Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

### Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources. Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

### Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources.

### Taxation

As a charity, the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows: Project and office equipment – 15%; Computing equipment – 25%

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.



# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

## Production Income & Expenditure Account

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Donations	325	2,172
Show Fees & Sponsorship	3,601	-
Programme Sales	3,255	-
Ticket Sales	177,449	-
	<b>184,630</b>	<b>2,172</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Costumes	5,650	
Insurance	55	
Marketing, Publicity & Program Printing	16,056	
Musical Director	6,112	500
Orchestra	6,824	
Producer's Fee	5,500	
Room Hire	2,097	728
Royalties	34,527	
Scenery, Props, Lighting & Sound	25,425	824
Stage Manager's Fee	1,750	
Sundry Expenses	2,134	120
Theatre Rent	52,082	
	<b>(158,212)</b>	<b>(2,172)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>26,418</b>	<b>0</b>

# THE LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

## General Expenses

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Donations	404	-
Interest Received	599	43
Other Revenue	121	-
Members Subscriptions	2,547	1,787
	<b>3,671</b>	<b>1,830</b>
 <b>Expenditure</b>		
Audit & Accountancy Fees	619	411
Charitable Donations	500	
Consultancy	2,895	1,930
Depreciation	374	374
Insurance & Subscriptions	678	655
Room Hire	151	
Stationery & IT	253	509
Sundry Expenses/Reimburse Officials	455	754
	<b>(5,925)</b>	<b>(4,633)</b>
 <b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	 <b>(2,254)</b>	 <b>(2,803)</b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF LEEDS AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY**

We report on the accounts of Leeds Amateur Operatic Society for the year ended 31 August 2023

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under sections 144 and 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- \* examine the accounts (under section 145(3) of the 2011 Act);
- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) of the 2011 Act; and
- \* to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - \* to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 and 131 of the 2011 Act; and
  - \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
**C W Dix Limited**

**Accountants & Business Advisors**

4 Silkwood Court

Wakefield

WF5 9TP

*6 February 2024*

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CWD