



Review 2019

noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre

Our team at Peterborough



Dale Freeman
Chief Operating Office

I'm so pleased to tell you that NODA continues to go from strength to strength, with a strong Head Office team and a fantastic array of volunteers throughout the UK without whom we could not function. Neither would we without the support of our 3000+ strong membership. One of my favourite aspects of the job is attending the many (and varied) regional conferences throughout the year, along with our National President and meeting so many of the inspirational and wonderful people! I am always happy to hear from the membership so feel free to drop me a line. Dale's email address is dale@noda.org.uk



Rob Williams
Marketing and Publishing Executive

Rob has been involved with theatre since being at school, first onstage, then technical design before finally moving into theatre management. Having worked in both professional and amateur theatres he brings a wealth of marketing experience to NODA. More recently he has worked in marketing with the UK arm of an agricultural machinery manufacturer (He does say that at times they were more dramatic than theatre people!) He is still heavily involved with his local amateur group both onstage and directing. Rob is responsible for the publication NODA Today and all things marketing within NODA. Rob's email address is rob@noda.org.uk



Beverly Clarke
Administrative Support

Another long standing member of the NODA head office team is Beverly Clarke who has also been with us for over 13 years as Finance Assistant. Following a staff restructure, Beverly's new post within NODA is to provide admin support to the Chief Operations Officer and Summer School. Beverly's email address is beverly@noda.org.uk



Chris Cotton
Finance Manager

Chris joined NODA in 2018, bringing with him 14 years experience working in accountancy practices. He is responsible for all financial matters from bookkeeping and credit control through to preparing statutory accounts. Chris's email address is chris@noda.org.uk



Richard Hutchinson
Membership Services

Richard is responsible for Membership Services which includes pantomime licensing, NODA Long Service Awards, new membership applications, general membership enquiries. Richard's email address is richard@noda.org.uk





President's Report

Christine Hunter Hughes

Well where to start? From September last year when I was so proud and privileged to be elected as your NODA President, until March of this year my husband David and I had the absolute pleasure of travelling the length and breadth of the country, so gaining the pleasure and privilege to join with NODA families,

share and enjoy their productions, meet all the various casts and committees and really just doing what we all do best and be absolutely passionate and 'inspired by amateur theatre'.

Then, like everyone else, nothing! My diary has never been so empty and I am sure it has been heart-breaking for everyone – all that planning and hard work by casts and committees, and the absolute commitment across each individual team is tremendous and oh so inspiring, then, well nothing – no show, no audience, no rehearsals! Are we down-hearted though? Well just a little bit perhaps, but many societies have been hugely innovative utilising the power of social media to meet virtually to sing together, arranged virtual quizzes, play-readings etc and generally kept in touch with their NODA family. With the result that they have been able to offer to many the continuation of all the social benefits that 'just belonging to an amateur theatre group' brings. The friendship, camaraderie, tolerance, the invaluable sense of belonging and community which have proved so vital in the dark 3 months from March.

NODA Council have also been engaged in developing and

implementing fresh thinking and initiatives. This includes putting together many on-line courses both theatrical and health and safety related and many of our members have taken the opportunity to brush up on skills over the period when we have been unable to meet. Likewise, the NODA Summer School Committee, led by their indomitable chairman, Jacquie Stedman, and Summer School Director, Sarah Osborne, have put together a brand-new innovation for a virtual Summer School for 2020. Perhaps not exactly what we would have wished for as NODA Summer School 'comes of age' but in line with so many of you making the best of what we can do rather than dwelling on what we can't.

As we have not been able to travel to see any shows I, like many grandmothers, have re-discovered (via Skype) the absolute pleasure of reading a bed-time story to my grandchildren every night and, as they live in London I have seen more of them since March than I was able to do before – again, just making the most of what we can do.

In these uncertain times I am convinced of one thing – that amateur theatre WILL survive, how could it not with SO many committed and passionate people? With that in mind, as you may already be aware, my term as President has been extended, and I will remain as President until September 2021. This will (hopefully) mean that I will still get in my full 12 months but taken over 2 years instead of one. Can I ask you then to remember, that any and every NODA Society, large or small, can invite the President to visit. Rest assured I will do everything possible to accept your kind invitations as we return to something approaching normality. I look forward to being able to share with you and celebrate our wonderful hobby and of course a huge thank you to all the societies that we were able to visit for your hospitality and wonderful entertainment.

**Report of the Trustees for the Annual General Meeting
of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Charity No. 1171216**

This Report covers the 12 months to 31 December 2019. The over-riding strategy in the year has been to be proactive in making contact with members, to offer and provide increased direct support as well as continuing to explore opportunities for mutually beneficial joint working arrangements.

Vision

The vision for the National Operatic and Dramatic Association is that amateur theatre is successful and sustainable, providing a range of opportunities for people to develop their skills, and enjoy taking part in theatre, at all levels.

Mission

NODA's mission is to support the education and information needs of individuals and organisations with high quality services and products that contribute to the success of amateur theatre as well as encouraging appreciation of the sector by participants and audiences alike.

We aim to:

- Give a shared voice to the amateur theatre sector.
- Help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance.
- Provide leadership and advice to enable the amateur theatre sector to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

NODA structure

NODA has an elected council, comprising 11 councillors, the Chairman and President and two life members, who have been Past Presidents. Each councillor represents a region, and each region has a committee which through its network of Regional Representatives provide a vital link to the associations grass roots working with societies to sustain and promote amateur theatre in their part of the country. There are five staff members at our Head Office based in Peterborough.

Be inspired by amateur theatre

Founded in 1899 'to protect and advance the interests of operatic and dramatic art and of societies engaged therein', our membership continues with 2147 society members and 872 individual enthusiasts staging musicals, operas, plays, concerts and pantomimes in venues ranging from the country's leading professional theatres to village and community halls and many other performance areas.

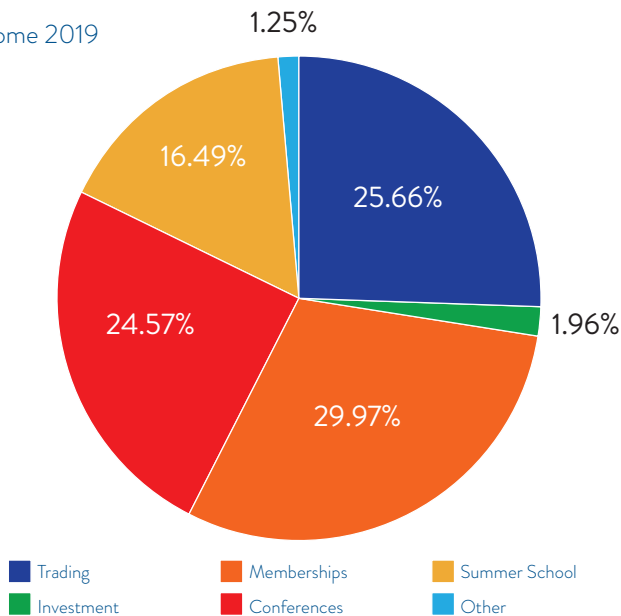
Highlights

The Chairman's Report details many of the highlights of these last 12 months, the effect of COVID-19 and the Finance Report details our Financial position.

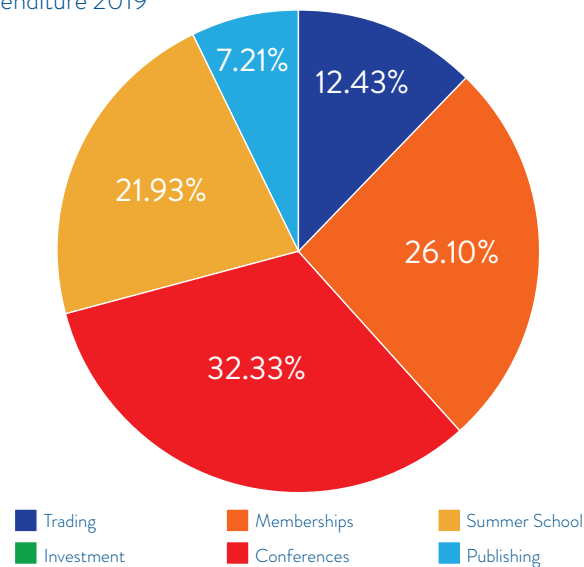
Income and Expenditure

This chart shows how income and expenditure were allocated in 2019

Income 2019



Expenditure 2019



National Operatic and Dramatic Association

Summary consolidated statement of Financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 December 2019 (for the year ended 31 December 2018)

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 Total £
	for the year ended 31 December 2018			for the year ended 31 December 2019		
Income from						
Donations and Legacies		1,075	1,075		974	974
Other trading activities (including subsidiary)		207,845	207,845		220,976	220,976
Investments		17,525	17,525		16,930	16,930
Income from Charitable activities						
Membership		251,821	251,821		258,037	258,037
National conference		13,823	13,823		14,262	14,262
Regional events		205,986	205,986		197,348	197,348
Summer school		140,114	140,114	3,250	139,682	142,932
Other incoming resources		13,663	13,663		9,821	9,821
Total incoming resources	0	851,852	851,852	3,250	858,030	861,280
Expenditure on						
Raising funds						
Trading subsidiary costs		89,851	89,851		98,384	98,384
Charitable activities						
Membership services		209,052	209,052		206,607	206,607
National Conference		25,479	25,479		34,565	34,565
Regional events		233,274	233,274		221,390	221,390
Summer school		177,012	177,012		173,991	173,991
Publishing		63,554	63,554	3200	57,061	57,061
Total resources expended	0	798,222	798,222	3,200	788,398	791,598
Net income before other gains and losses	0	53,630	53,630	50	69,632	69,682
Gains/losses on revaluation of fixed asset investments		-36,156	-36,156		41,201	41,201
Net movement in funds	0	17,474	17,474	50	110,833	110,883
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds at 1 January 2019	1,927	940,178	942,105	1,927	957,652	959,579
Total funds at 31 December 2019	1,927	957,652	959,579	1,977	1,068,485	1,070,462

Summary balance sheet

As at 31 December 2019

	The group 2018 (£)	The charity 2018 (£)	The group 2019 (£)	The charity 2019 (£)
Fixed Assets				
Intangible assets	32,000	32,000	28,000	28,000
Tangible fixed assets	145,855	145,855	144,923	144,923
Investments	636,954	637,054	678,155	678,255
	814,809	814,909	851,078	851,178
Current assets				
Stock	19,438		19,276	
Debtors	196,960	203,133	229,003	215,962
Cash at bank and in hand	282,764	224,918	343,589	303,423
	499,162	428,052	591,868	519,385
Creditors				
Amounts falling due within one year	-354,392	-305,697	-372,484	-322,416
Net current assets/liabilities	144,770	122,355	259,190	196,969
Creditors due after more than one year				
Net assets	959,579	937,264	1,070,462	1,048,147
Funds				
Restricted funds	1,927	1,927	1,977	1,927
Unrestricted funds	957,652	935,337	1,068,485	1,046,170
Total funds	959,579	937,264	1,070,462	1,048,147



Chairman's Report

Michael Hastilow

The report for 2019 is for a twelve months period.

The staff at Head Office are unchanged this year, both Chris Cotton and Rob Williams are now well settled in and with Bev Clarke and Richard Hutchinson form a great team under the capable leadership of Dale Freeman our Chief Operating Officer.

Achievements and Performance

- The benefit of Social Media was utilised to cover all aspects of NODA's activities in promoting Summer School, Badges and awards, shows and events and the hit rate continues to rise steadily on all fronts.
- Members continued to use the Legal Helpline to their advantage
- NODA Safe advice line continues to be utilised by members for both specific and general health and safety issues.
- Fact Sheets are still a sound source of information for members.
- Newsletters are circulated at regular intervals
- NODA TODAY has expanded and the format of articles from Regions being incorporated into the whole has made for more interesting reading.
- Improvements to our website are almost complete.
- We have reviewed our Pantomime portfolio, removing many outmoded scripts and introducing new ones. We shall shortly be launching revamped pantomime pages .

Membership

At	31/12/19	31/12/18
Societies/Associates	2147	2123
Individual/Joint/Life	872	970

In a bid to promote our many youth and youth oriented societies we appointed Mike Mullen as our Youth Co-ordinator . We can look to reporting advances in this area in future years.

NODA Theatre Summer School

To many this is the jewel in our crown, it provides the Association with a vehicle with which to meet its educational objectives. The residential theatre summer school was held from 27th July to 3rd August 2019 at the Yarnfield Conference Centre, Stone, Staffordshire. Sarah Osborne in her second year as Schools Director oversaw 13 courses covered acting, direction, musical theatre story-telling and a practical course on set building. Bursaries are available to make the school more affordable to all members of member societies.

National Conference

NODA's National AGM & Presidential Gala took place at The Floral Hall, in Southport on 28th September 2019 during which Christine Hunter Hughes was installed as President. We welcomed Seamus Powers, President of the Association of Irish Musical Societies (AIMS) and the Annual meeting of the Regional Committee members took place.

Regional Conferences

In 2019, each region held their own conference, all different both in their format and length. Many now hold workshops or other training events, to hone the skills and techniques of society members. Many invite the theatrical traders to support with displays of their offering. A number incorporate an awards event. Wherever possible, the President will be in attendance along with a staff member from head office.

Advice, representation and recognition

NODA continues to provide advice both on a one to one basis or through its published fact sheets. The NODA Legal helpline is provided by Counterculture LLP and Health and Safety Advice by NODA Safe. All are used on a regular basis by members. 1,252 long service awards, including youth awards and certificates were made in 2019, compared with 1,424 in 2018. NODA awards are in recognition to service in the dramatic arts and are available to all members of NODA affiliated societies. For those who do not meet the criteria for a long service award, such as paid officials, NODA does offer a Commendation award.

Website

The website continues to be developed and offers access to an increasing range of information and services, including online access to pantomime scripts, membership renewals, online booking for Summer School and the National AGM and Presidential Gala.

The website had 385,217 visits in 2019 compared with 329,800 visits in 2018. The number of individual visitors was 236,913 in 2019 compared with 188,804 in 2018.

Programme and Poster Competition

Each Region holds its own Programme and Poster competition, all to the same rules as published on the website, with the winning entry in each category going forward to the national competition. The national winners and runners up for 2019 will be announced at the National AGM in September 2020.

COVID-19 and 2020

The Pandemic did not affect the operations of the Association or its trading subsidiary in 2019. However, since March of this year it has overshadowed everything and has resulted in a different way of working. Our AGM this year (2020) will be held as a webinar and not in Durham as planned. Our President and Vice President will continue in office until September 2021. The celebrations being deferred for a year, 2021 Conference is now planned to take place in Durham on 11th September 2021. Many of our Regional Conferences have been “virtual” conferences and our member societies have been unable to rehearse or perform. Our very own Summer School due to be relocated to the Performance Hub of the Walsall Complex of the University of Wolverhampton this year has been cancelled to be replaced by an e-Theatre Summer School covering a more limited range of topics. We have nearly all learned how to “Zoom”. To assist members in lockdown we introduced a series of training videos presented mainly by our Summer School Tutors and these have been widely viewed, a number are still available to view on our Website. We made digital perusal scripts of our pantomimes available to all enquirers without charge and this has proved popular. NODA Insurance came up trumps for many and we are grateful to our brokers for the way they have attended to claims, regrettably, in line with the wider insurance market, cover for pandemics will not be covered from the renewal date of policies.

The position for 2021 and going forward is not so clear. We have proposed extending the subscription period for 2020 Subscriptions by 3 months, without charge, making general renewals not due until 31 March 2021 and thereafter annually in that month, a break with the Calendar year. It is proposed that subscription bands and rates for 2021/22 will remain unchanged but with reduced or no production income we know that the income from this source will be reduced. Trading income will also be affected. We can expect the effect to be felt for at least 2 years.

Fundraising

No national fundraising initiatives were undertaken in 2019



Finance Report (2019)

The Consolidated Accounts (audited by MHA Macintyre Hudson) have been prepared in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The audited accounts were approved by Council on 26th June 2020, copies are available from the Peterborough Head Office. The Accounts cover the twelve months to 31 December 2019, the comparative figures cover the twelve months to 31st December 2018

Income for the year (including £16,930 from investments) is £861,280 compared to £851,852 for 2018. The cost of running the Association amounts to £791,598 (2018 £798,222) giving a surplus before Gains or losses in investment values of £69,688 (2019 £53,630). At 31st December 2019, a revaluation of our Investments showed an unrealised gain in value of £41,201 (2018 a loss of £36,156)

Profit from NODA Ltd was £122,592 for 12 months to 31 December 2019 compared with £117,992 in 2018. The Profits of NODA Ltd are donated via gift aid to NODA (the charity).

- Trading Subsidiary (NODA Ltd). The Profit achieved in the year is more than the amount budgeted.
- Insurance Commissions of £152,584 were received in the year.
- Investment income of £16,930 is marginally below our

budgeted expectations for the year.

- Governance Costs, although no longer require to be shown separately, were £43,287. (In 2018 £31,737).
- National Conference in 2019, the net cost was £20,303 (2018 £11,656)
- Regional Conferences/events. This category includes Regional conference, regional and district awards, regional workshops and district meetings. The overall net cost for 2018 was £24,042 and compares with £27,288 for 2019.
- Summer School, the net costs of Summer School £30,659 (2018 £36,898),
- Publishing Print and Electronic Newsletters and Magazine spend was £57,061 (2018 £63,554.)

The "Summary Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities" and the "Summary Balance Sheet" included in this Review for the year ended 31 December 2019 are extracted from the NODA Consolidated Accounts, copies of which may be obtained from the NODA Head Office in Peterborough.

Council are therefore reporting that at the 31 December 2019 the net consolidated worth of NODA CIO, your Association, was £1,070,462 (2018 £959,579) and Council recommend the adoption of these accounts at the AGM on 19th September 2020.

Council propose that this report will be taken as read at the AGM but that questions will be invited to be submitted either prior to the AGM (preferred) or from the floor at the AGM.





*Roger Williams - Genie in St Faiths Players Brentford 2018 pantomime Aladdin.
Photo by Henry Vincent*

National Operatic and Dramatic Association - 1171216

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisors for the Period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

Trustees

Christine Hunter Hughes, President, (appointed 28 September 2019)	Tessa Davies, Regional Councillor , East (appointed 19 May 2019))
Jacqueline Stedman, President, (resigned 28 September 2019)	Don McKay , Regional Councillor, East (resigned 25 April 2019)
Gordon Richardson, Vice President, (appointed 28 September 2019)	Nanette Lovell, Regional Councillor, East Midlands
Christine Hunter Hughes, Vice President, (resigned 28 September 2019)	Andrew Rogers, Regional Councillor, London
Michael Hastilow, Chairman	Gordon Richardson, Regional Councillor, North
Ian G. Cox, Vice Chairman (appointed 28 September 2019)	Leslie Smith, Regional Councillor, North East
John Barnes, Life Member representative	Andy McNicholas, Regional Councillor , North West, (appointed 28 September 2019)
Nick Lawrence, Life Member representative, (appointed 28 September 2019)	Christine Hunter Hughes, Regional Councillor, North West, (resigned 28 September 2019)
Jacqueline Stedman, Immediate Past President, (appointed 28 September 2019)	Stuart McCue Dick, Regional Councillor, Scotland.
Nick Lawrence, Immediate Past President, (resigned 28 September 2019)	Kay Rowan, Reginal Councillor, South East.
	Graham Liverton, Regional Councillor, South West.
	Jordan Spencer, Regional Councillor, Wales and Ireland.
	Ian G. Cox, Regional Councillor, West Midlands

Principal Staff

Dale Freeman - Chief Operating Officer	Beverly Clarke - Administrative Support
Chris Cotton - Finance Manager	Richard Hutchinson - Membership Services
Robert Williams - Marketing and Publishing Executive	
.....	
National Youth Co-ordinator	Honorary Solicitor
Mike Mullen (appointed August 2019)	Christopher Harper (retired 28 September 2019)

Principal Office - 15 The Metro Centre, Peterborough, Cambs, PE2 7UH
Auditors- MHA MacIntyre Hudson Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors, 1 The Forum, Minerva Business Park, Peterborough,PE2 6FT
Bankers - Unity Trust Bank, 4 Brindleyplace, Birmingham,B1 2HB
Patrons - The Lord Lloyd-Webber, Connie Fisher

NODA Limited

NODA Ltd (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Association) - Registered Number 241572
Registered Offices 15 The Metro Centre , Peterborough, PE2 7UH
Directors - Eric Smart(Chairman), Fred Piggford, Neil Maidman, Christine Hunter Hughes, Ian G Cox, Michael Hastilow



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