**IPSWICH G&S Financial Report 2024-25**

Once again this year has been very financially successful for the society.

We began the year with a balance of almost £32,000, and by the end of the year our balance was £38,843, an increase of over £6,843.

This year we changed the model for our concerts. Whereas in previous years we have been engaged by various charitable entities to perform at their events and received a fixed fee, we decided instead to focus on a series of three showcase concerts staged over a weekend for our own benefit. In order to continue with our charitable aims we would also perform at least one concert at a charitable event.

This model proved successful, and the Showcase concert was very popular with the audience and fun for us. Overall , our concert season raised £818, after our expenses and rehearsal costs had been covered. (This is a considerable improvement on recent years when we have regularly made a loss on concerts).

The Iolanthe show was well supported, although not so well as the previous show, HMS Pinafore. We sold 849 tickets in advance, with approximately 20 sold on the door, giving 869 over the 5 performances for Iolanthe. This was less than the tickets sold for previous show (1000). However , because this year we arranged that the theatre charged the audience a booking fee we did not have to pay any ticket sales costs. This meant that our actual ticket income (£17,260) remained broadly similar to last year (£17,351).

Show costs remained fairly similar to last year, Iolanthe £20,761, HMS Pinafore £21,076. But it should be noted that the hire of the theatre was less this year, because we had paid a deposit of £989 for the theatre in 2023-24, thus keeping our costs down.

During the year we were very grateful to receive two large donations , £2000 for set costs and £282 from our photographer.

As a result of the above our profit on the show was an impressive £4,260.

Our patrons have generously donated £250 to support us, and we have been able to claim £1,376 in gift aid thanks to donors, patrons and members who have agreed to gift aid their donations and subscriptions.

During the year we also ran two workshops, which raised a small profit

* Owen Butcher who helped the members to improve our singing
* Introduction to Yeomen of the Guard, which encouraged some new members to join.

Overall then we have seen a profit of £6,843 for the year, and a final balance of £38,843.