

## **The Book Society**

### **Treasurer's Report for 2024**

The result for the year is an operating surplus of £42 compared to a deficit of £1,564 in 2023 so an improvement in the operation of £1,606 over 2024.

At 31st December our cash reserves stand at £15,099 compared to £16,557 for the previous year as a result of the increased venue hire fees not being completely offset by increased ticket prices.

Subscription income increased from £9,230 in 2023 to £12,835 due to a reduction in outstanding subs from current members and a larger increase in new members (17 approved in the year). There were 241 paid-up members (2023 – 209).

Costs for the year were flat overall despite the increased hire fees for The Conduit with the move to Browns decided upon late in the year no new deposits were paid in the second half of 2024, and the Autumn drinks party was hosted for free at Goldsboro.

Average attendance at all events was 80 (flat on 2023) and at the dinners average attendance was 68 (flat on 2023). The best attended event was the Spring Party with 100 tickets sold. The cost of dinners increased to £74 per head in 2023 and drinks parties continued to be £45 for the majority of the year, but the Autumn party was reduced significantly to £20 and the first 2025 dinner was reduced to £60 due to the new venue of Browns, Covent Garden.

Jo Dawson has continued to handle subscriptions, deal with event administration and maintain the accounting records very effectively, for which the Committee and myself are grateful.

As in past years, we made a donation of £1,500 to The Book Trade Charity (BTBS) during the year, despite the small deficit after this donation, the committee felt the cash position of the Society and the 2025 outlook was enough improved to make the payment without any risk to the ongoing viability of the Society.

**Jonathan Paterson**

**Treasurer, April 2025**