Stourbridge Old Edwardian Club

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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1 Executive Summary

I will leave it to each of you to locate the origin of the expression “change and decay is all around I see”; to apply it to everyday situations with which you are familiar; and then to ask yourself three questions in the context of this wonderful Club to which we each belong.

- Does it apply to me?
- Should I feel it to do so?
- Might there be something I could do to make a difference?

Whilst you get over the shock of such a start to an Executive Summary with the resulting action already fermenting in your mind; may I express my thanks on behalf of us all to each of the officers who have so efficiently enabled us to enjoy the privilege and friendship embraced within our membership.

A huge amount of administrative and organisational effort is required to ensure that none of us has any apprehension about the affairs and management entrusted to them and to the General and other committees which support them.

Our finances are in excellent order under the constant and expert eye of David Burrows with Alan Roden being an ever-willing ear for me such that one always knows that “money and communication” are in excellent hands.

Our Stewards Tim and Tracy, supported by their excellent staff are a credit to the Club and to themselves, their devoted support being enfolded within their efficiency and commercial awareness.

Thank you on behalf of us all to everyone who has made a contribution toward our enjoyment and comfort over the last 12 months.

As to the questions posed at the outset of this report there will inevitably be change as our membership gets older; but whether it will be accompanied by decay is up to us all; such that any ideas or suggestions from amongst the membership will be welcomed by the Executive.

With my thanks for the unanimous support that I have received over the last year and my best wishes for that forthcoming .

Arnold J Homer.
President.

2 Membership

In Memoriam
Since the last AGM we report the passing of:

John Edwards, age 88, full Old Edwardian member, past president.
Robert Hill, age 76, full Old Edwardian member, past president.
Brian Hughes, age 86, full Old Edwardian member.
John Hand, age 81, associate member.
Roy Mucklow, age 93, full Old Edwardian member

Resignations
Between 1 October 2024 and 30 September 2025, we received eleven resignations.

New Members
For the same period, we have enrolled eight new members, there are two other applicants who have progressed through the application stage, but as yet have not paid the subs demanded, so as with last year they have not yet been added to the database.

Total Membership: Last year we reported a total membership of 214.

Making adjustments for deceased, new and resignations, we now have a membership total of 207 as at the end of the Club year.

Andrew Taplin (Hon. Membership Secretary)

3 Secretary

Some 90% of our members have given us their email addresses. This enables us to issue our regular email alerts on events, required actions and all kinds of news electronically and cost effectively. The only correspondences issued by post are the annual membership renewals and AGM material (including annual report) to those who have not opted to receive them by email only.

We use modern online email, web and "cloud storage" tools to access globally , secure and distribute (where appropriate) our vital information. This avoids any potential mishaps to individual computers or (otherwise) inaccessible physical information held in the Club. In short, I hope we are now out of the "quill pen" era with the means of providing the Club, its members and interested parties an optimal way of finding out about us and interacting with us.

Our interactive website is there for all to use. Its address is www.oldedclub.org.uk and it contains all relevant information about the Club, its history, facilities, rules, events, how to join, download forms and contact us for various reasons. We commend it and recommend that members "have a go" and enjoy!

Alan Roden (Hon. Secretary)

4 Events

Our traditional events were enjoyed by all who attended. These included the popular St. David's Day dinner and entertainment with Mike Lewis; the Charter Day lunch; the President's Evening (formerly the Ladies' Evening) with surprise special star guest Su Pollard who was delightful; the Annual Dinner with VIP guests from KEVI College, Old Foleyans Association and an excellent after dinner speaker Michelle Hickmott (previous England lioness and current Assistant Chief Fire Officer); and the Boar's Head supper which was held just before Christmas 2024 - we are still one of the few establishments to celebrate this ancient tradition.

A special event was held to mark the VE Day 80th anniversary celebrations which took the form of a sing-along of several war themed songs with the audience in excellent voice. This was led by our very own musical group "Trench Raiders Revival" which historically has raised considerable funds for War Charities.

Additionally, our "lunchtime talks with buffet" took place every few weeks and attracted huge audiences. We had professional speakers covering topics from the Zulu Wars to Shackleton's expeditions.

We continued to attract many external bookings to hire the facilities and catering – in the main, thanks to the considerable efforts of our stewards Tim and Tracey.

Many of these events would not have been possible had the Committee not historically taken the decision to remove two of the 5 lesser-used snooker tables to expand the banqueting area.

5 Sporting Interests

We have one Snooker team in the Stourbridge and District League, and our three quality snooker tables are available for the enjoyment of members.

There are an active Golf Society and a Rifle Club.

More details and the appropriate contacts are available on the website.

6 50-Club Lottery

Past President Clive Bowen-Davies has continued to manage this. Three numbers are drawn every month with one prize of £100 and two of £50 each. Full details are available on the website.

7 Treasurer's Report

STOURBRIDGE OLD EDWARDIAN CLUB

TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY 01 DECEMBER 2025

The committee report an operating surplus of £3,424 (2024 - £8,498) for the year. The overall surplus for the year is £5,135 (2024 - £10,809), after accounting for net bank interest of £1,711 (2024 - £2,311).

The results are in line with expectations and have allowed the club to spend more on maintaining the clubhouse and the surrounding car park and gardens. The club continues to benefit from a zero rates charge, but we are under presure from increases to most other expenditure. However, gas and electric prices are now fixed for at least the next twelve months and therefore we can budget with some certainty in this area. It is pleasing to note the increase in bar sales, partly due to price increases but also an increase in footfall from external bookings. Most other income is on a par with the previous year.

Every year we thank Tim and Tracey Purslow for the efforts that they put in on our behalf, but we truly are indebted to the energy and enthusiasm that they display on a daily basis. Tim especially is always on the lookout to increase the use of the club and bring in more business.

Again, we mention mostly the same names year on year, but it is only right to do so. So, for the record we must thank:

- Alan Roden who undertakes his role as club secretary with professionalism and keeps the committee up to date with all important matters. Alan is also responsible, almost single handedly, for bringing the club into the digital age. He has greatly assisted Andrew Taplin in modernising the membership data base and this has made the membership secretary's job a lot more streamlined. It should also be mentioned that Alan, as editor and with the help of Mike Aston, is responsible for the hugely entertaining and informative newsletter that is distributed to members regularly throughout the year.
- Clive Bowen-Davies, now in his 99th year, is a true inspitation to us all. Not only was he club President last year but, as as has done for many years, continues to manage the Fifty Club which consistely contributes £3,000 per annum to club funds.
- David Trewin for managing the maintenance of the club. David puts in a lot of time and effort in ensuring that the fabric of of the club is maintained to a high standard.
- Jem Norris, although not now on the committee, continues to assist behind the scenes, in his role as chairman of the bar committee and also liaising on many aspects of the club functions.
- Andrew Taplin as both membership secretary and managing the letting of car park spaces to commercial tenants. These roles are a vital element of the club, as membership income and commercial car parking income make up a significant contribution to club revenue.
- Kenneth Wright, as our archivest, for ensuring that the history of the club is preserved for future generations.
- Mike Aston as chairman for the newsletter, and also for spearheading the extremely successful lunchtime talks. The quality of the speakers and Tim's high standard of buffet make these events very popular and usually sold out well in advance.

Without the efforts of these gentlemen, the club would quite literally grind to a halt.

There are also many others that should be thanked for their efforts. A very sincere thank you.

We should also record our thanks to Dave Harcourt and his team at Stourbridge in Bloom for maintaning the external garden area. They do a fantastic job and the area is no longer an eye sore but a pleasant open space as you gaze at it when driving round the ring road.

In summary, the club is on a sound financial footing which holds us in good stead to meet the significant challenges that may be ahead for us in the immediate and long term future.

David Burrows
Honorary Treasurer

8 APPENDIX - Financial Statements

STOURBRIDGE OLD EDWARDIAN CLUB

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	Year ended 30/09/25		Year ended 30/09/24	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Subscriptions		16,835		16,084
Bar takings	42,853		39,506	
Purchases	21,129		19,606	
Gross profit on bar		21,724		19,900
Snooker table receipts		2,219		2,143
Barrier card keys		12,228		11,360
Room hire		8,170		7,942
Letting of car park spaces		3,598		4,050
Fifty Club		3,000		3,000
Sundry receipts		1,997		1,055
		69,771		65,534
Less overheads				
Stewards remuneration and relief staff	26,530		25,833	
Rates, water and insurances	7,331		6,607	
Heating and lighting	13,381		11,710	
Telephone charges	822		846	
Postage, stationery and printing	1,187		853	
Cleaning expenses	558		489	
Sundry expenses	1,909		1,268	
Repairs and property maintenance	13,522		8,369	
Bank charges	477		461	
Honoraria	180		180	
Stocktaking fees	450		420	
		66,347		57,036
Operating surplus for the year		3,424		8,498
Bank interest received (net of tax)		1,711		2,311
Surplus for the year transferred to surplus account		5,135		10,809

STOURBRIDGE OLD EDWARDIAN CLUB

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	30/09/25		30/09/24	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets (Notes 1 and 2)				
Freehold premises, Drury Lane, at cost		127,622		127,622
Fixtures and fittings, at written down value		0		0
		127,622		127,622
Current assets				
Bar stocks	10,643		11,747	
Debtors and prepayments	189		271	
Cash at bank and in hand	106,302		98,133	
Steward's bond bank account	1,058		1,040	
	118,192		111,191	
Current liabilities				
Creditors and accruals	6,661		4,571	
Subscriptions received in advance	14,678		14,920	
	21,339		19,491	
Net current assets		96,853		91,700
Net assets		224,475		219,322
Represented by:				
Surplus account				
Balance brought forward	218,282		207,473	
Surplus for the year	5,135		10,809	
		223,417		218,282
Steward's bond		1,058		1,040
		224,475		219,322

Approved by the Club Committee on 29 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
ARNOLD HOMER
President

.....
DAVID BURROWS
Honorary Treasurer

STOURBRIDGE OLD EDWARDIAN CLUB

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

1 Freehold property

In the opinion of the committee no depreciation of freehold property is considered necessary. Also, the committee consider that the current value of our freehold property is in excess of cost but, in the absence of a current market valuation, is included in the balance sheet at cost.

2 Fixtures and fittings

The net book value of fixtures and fittings at 30 September 2025 comprised:

	£
Cost	
At 01 October 2024 and 30 September 2025	26,512
Depreciation	
At 01 October 2024 and 30 September 2025	26,512
Net book value	
At 30 September 2024 and 30 September 2025	0

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2025. In my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the club at 30 September 2025 and of the surplus for the year then ended.

Folkes Worton LLP

N Smith Bsc (Hons) FCA
FOR FOLKES WORTON LLP
Chartered Accountants
& Registered Auditors
15-17 Church Street
Stourbridge
DY8 1LU

29 October 2025