

WACO Honorary Treasurer's Report to AGM 2015

This has been my first full year as Honorary Treasurer and I am pleased to report that the year has been problem free in the main.

From mid January, the process of consolidating the two previous Santander accounts into one Lloyds account was completed. We have no bank charges on this new Lloyds account whereas, you will remember, Santander was charging us £7.50 per month previously. In addition, we no longer needed a reserve/savings account as the interest was virtually none existent.

The bank balance at the end of our new financial year, 31st August, was £4865.36 and you will see from the Statement of Account that we had a surplus of £450.72 for the year. Committee expenses were kept under control at a total £1350.21 compared to £1921.43 for 2014.

One disappointment this year was our failure to persuade the Worcestershire Cricket Board to raise any of our match expenses for next year. We had opened negotiations in good time, before their budget cut off, but to no avail. The main reasons they gave was that the cost of motor fuel has reduced and no increases were being made in our local leagues. Rest assured though that I will be back to negotiations in June next year ready for the 2017 season.

On the other hand, we have had a commitment from the Board for guaranteed future payments to the Association for the work we do in administrating the MEO system for them. In total, more than £10,000 was paid out to Umpires and Scorers this season, and you will see that they paid us £750 towards this work. This is set to continue going forward. It is worth noting, however, that the figures do show a fall in payments to Umpires this year of £1913. This shows that the Board asked us to umpire at fewer matches this year and, given that the District competition is being changed next year, this fall is likely to continue. Fortunately, the Festival matches still seem to be increasing. At this point, I wish to thank Geoff Gilbert for his support in helping the MEO system run so smoothly and I trust that you all appreciate the prompt payment of your match expenses that his help facilitates. Alongside this payment, we also had an allowance of £400 from the Board, allocated through the MEO account, to pay expenses incurred in assessing umpires and in moving the Worcestershire umpire grading process forward.

I must also express my thanks to Mike Greenfield for his scrutiny of the accounts and the support he has given me in this.

One final point to make is that there was some discussion last year about moving the end of our financial year another month forward, to the end of September. However, we will not now be making this move, as I cannot see any great advantage from the accounting point of view and I am unwilling to ask you all to change your standing orders yet again!

In finishing let me assure you all that your Association remains in a healthy financial position with funds to meet our foreseeable future liabilities.