The Blewbury Players

Annual Report

of the Trustees

and

Financial Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2025

Independent Examiner
Mr Andrew Hewson BSc, MSc, MATT

BLEWBURY PLAYERS TRUSTEES REPORT – 2025

Blewbury Players is a registered charity (Reg No 271974), founded in 1976.
Correspondence Address: Old Malthouse Close, Chapel Lane, Blewbury, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 9PQ

The object of the Blewbury Players, as set out in the Trust Deed, is to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts.

The charity is committed to contributing to the quality of life of the people of Blewbury and neighbouring villages and towns by producing and involving them in interesting and exciting drama and performing arts events. An annual play in the Garden Theatre, Orchard Dene employs a professional director and designer and involves as many amateur volunteers from the locality as possible. Other events and sometimes other productions are organised through the year to develop acting and performing skills or to entertain or inform. The Trustees have considered the accessibility of the theatre performances not only to those who have a disability but also to those on lower incomes and have aimed to keep seat prices as low as possible.

Trustees.
There were five Trustees during the year. These were Trish Brooks, Nikki Gibson, Sheila Loy, Zillah Richards and Steve White.

The Trustees held 4 formal meetings this year and had other discussions as necessary. The Trustees have been kept up to date regarding information sent by The Charity Commission and at meetings they are reminded of their legal obligations. None of the Trustees receive remuneration or other benefits from their work with the charity. When the Trustees need to recruit another Trustee, they discuss the skills and experience required and agree on appropriate people who should be invited to join them.

Public Benefit
Summer productions are in the open-air garden theatre at Orchard Dene House, Blewbury, but others are in the village hall or church. The theatre is a major asset for the village and The Players have continued to invest in it and its facilities. During the year a new shed was built at Orchard Dene to store the auditorium's seats as well as props and scenery flats.

The year began with *Puss in Boots*, a pantomime performed in the village hall. This was written and directed Andy Jarvis and designed by Elphin Lloyd-Jones, both villagers. It was well received and made a surplus of £3,273.58, including income and costs incurred in 2024. The annual summer production in the open-air garden theatre was *A Monster Calls*. It was directed by Sabina Netherclift and designed by Lizzy McBain. The production was highly successful, mostly selling out for its evening performances and making a surplus of £1,749.71, including costs incurred in 2024. Both productions involved around 100 volunteers of all ages, in the cast, construction of set, front of house, backstage, costumes, lighting, sound, make-up, publicity and the box office.

The Players also have a Friends organisation in which, in exchange for an annual subscription, supporters of the Players can obtain preferential ticket purchases and an evening of entertainment. In March, the Friends attended a free rehearsed reading of *The Lost Art of Keeping a Secret* performed by Linnet Theatre, a young theatre company co-created by George Brooks, who had acted for the Blewbury Players before going on to train at the Guildford School of Acting.

In November, the Players held an Open Evening to inform the local community of their plans for their fiftieth anniversary in 2026 and to take feedback on what was good about the Players and what improvements could be made.

Income and Expenditure

Receipts were £31,022.68 and payments were £37,834.40. The latter included the cost of productions, the improvement of facilities, including the new shed, and donations of £500.00. The final reserve for the year is £11,746.44.

Financial Policies

We aim to keep our ticket prices as low as possible but increased the price of a child's ticket for the summer production to £9, keeping the price of an adult ticket to £16. A strict budget is drawn up for all the different areas of a production and team leaders are expected to stick within these guidelines. We aim, as a minimum, not to make a loss. Friends' evenings are free for Friends.

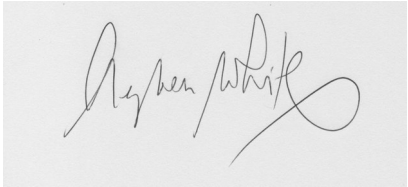
Risk Management

The Trustees have adopted a policy of maintaining a minimum reserve fund of around £12,000, to provide cover in the extreme event of an entire production being abandoned after expenditure has been committed. Reserves in excess of this are earmarked for investment in new facilities at the theatre and to support local events and causes consistent with our object.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records showing at any time the financial position of the charity. The Treasurer produces a periodic financial summary report which is discussed by the Trustees, as is the annual financial report. In addition, at the year end the spreadsheet showing all the financial transactions is sent to the Trustees for inspection and review. All payments are supported by receipts and all BACS payments or cheques are authorised by the Treasurer and a Trustee. The yearly financial details, with a large file of supporting receipts etc. are thoroughly examined by an independent examiner.

For all public events a risk assessment is produced. We keep up to date in maintaining the structure of the theatre, along with electrical installation, PAT and fire extinguisher testing. For each performance of the play and other events a named First Aider is present, and at each performance there is a named Trustee who oversees the proceedings, including health and safety arrangements. The Trustees review our safeguarding and data protection policies each year.

An income and expenditure statement for 2025 is attached.



Mr Stephen White (Trustee) Date: 28 July 2026

CAF BANK Ltd ACCOUNT No. 00006258 & CASH

	01-Jan-25	31-Dec-25	
CafCash Account	£18,258.16	£11,446.44	
Cash in hand	£300.00	£300.00	
Total	£18,558.16	£11,746.44	

THE BLEWBURY PLAYERS	(Registered Charity No 271974)		
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2025		as at	31-Dec-25
Receipts & Payments Account			
	B/F bank	£18,258.16	

Receipts			
Other sources			
General Donations & Sales	£99.30		
Friends of The Blewbury Players subs+GA	£1,979.65		
Bank Interest	£27.18		
subtot		£2,106.13	
Plays & Events			
Summer Play (AMC)	£18,004.05		
Friends of Blewbury Players Evening	£39.82		
Music Quiz (moved to 2026)	£0.00		
Panto	£10,872.68		
subtot		£28,916.55	
Income from Assets etc.			
Total Receipts		£31,022.68	

Payments			
Direct Expenditure			
Donations	£500.00		
subtot		£500.00	
Plays & Events			
Summer Play (AMC)	£15,654.34		
Next Summer Play	£1,002.00		
Friends of Blewbury Players Events(s)	£176.60		
Open Evening only	£315.31		
Music Quiz (moved to 2026)	£42.11		
Panto	£8,693.86		
subtot		£25,884.22	
Projects & Items of Equipment			
Lights/Sound Equipment	£50.58		
Equipment Purchases	£175.82		
Information Technology (IT)	£643.75		
subtot		£870.15	
Other Expenditure			
General Publicity	£195.00		
General Administration & charges	£11.52		
Bank Charges	£75.18		
Insurance	£1,203.70		
Orchard Dene + New Shed	£8,344.77		
Electrical Test & Fire Ext Maintenance	£663.16		
Miscellaneous Items	£86.70		
subtot		£10,580.03	
Total Payments		£37,834.40	

Excess of Receipts over Payments		-£6,811.72	
Total Balance Now		£11,446.44	
Statement of Assets & Liabilities			
Monetary assets			
CAF BANK Ltd Account No. 00006258		£11,446.44	
Cash		£300.00	

Totals		£11,746.44	
Other Assets - See Asset List			
Other Liabilities - None			

Karen Marsden, Treasurer

Note that the figures below include payments and receipts from calendar year 2024 as well as 2025

Summary of Plays & Events			
	Receipts	Payments	Net
Summer Play (AMC)	£18,004.05	£16,254.34	£1,749.71
Friends of Blewbury Players Event(s)	£39.82	£274.32	-£234.50
Music Quiz			
Panto	£12,557.68	£9,284.10	£3,273.58

Independent Examiner's report on the financial statements of the Blewbury Players.

To be added

CAF BANK Ltd ACCOUNT No. 00006258 & CASH

	1-Jan-25	31-Dec-25	
CafCash Account	£18,258.16	£11,446.44	
Cash in hand	£300.00	£300.00	
Total	£18,558.16	£11,746.44	

THE BLEWBURY PLAYERS	(Registered Charity No 271974)		
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2025		as at	31-Dec-25
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subtot		£28,916.55	
Income from Assets etc.			
Total Receipts		£31,022.68	

Payments			
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Equipment Purchases	£175.82		
Information Technology (IT)	£643.75		
subtot		£870.15	
Other Expenditure			
General Publicity	£195.00		
General Administration & charges	£11.52		
Bank Charges	£75.18		
Insurance	£1,203.70		
Orchard Dene + New Shed	£8,344.77		
Electrical Test & Fire Ext Maintenance	£663.16		
Miscellaneous Items	£86.70		
subtot		£10,580.03	
Total Payments		£37,834.40	

Excess of Receipts over Payments		-£6,811.72	
Total Balance Now		£11,446.44	
Statement of Assets & Liabilities			
Monetary assets			
CAF BANK Ltd Account No. 00006258		£11,446.44	
Cash		£300.00	
Totals		£11,746.44	

Other Assets - See Asset List			
Other Liabilities - None			

Karen Marsden, Treasurer

Note that the figures below include payments and receipts from calandar year 2024 as well as 2025

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Music Quiz			
Panto	£12,557.68	£9,284.10	£3,273.58

Includes shed storage and tree surgeon
Includes electricity contribution

Independent Examiner's report on the financial statements of the Blewbury Players.

I report on the Financial Statements of the Blewbury Players for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that the requirement:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met.

I confirm that there are no matters to which attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Andrew Hewson BSc, MSc, MATT
Independent Examiner
11 October 2025