Annual Report and Financial Statement 2025

Vision

To be and be seen to be
the premier non-professional theatre group in Bristol

Mission

To create excellent theatre through the sharing and development of skills and expertise in all aspects of production and performance

Kelvin Players
253b Gloucester Road
Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8NY
www.kelvinplayers.co.uk
Kelvin Players is a non-professional drama company and is registered with the Charity Commission under Number 294367.

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page nine of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011, regulations applicable to that Act, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective from accounting periods commencing 1st January 2015 or later.

President – Milton Johns

Charity Trustees

The Management Committee of Kelvin Players are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as its trustees. The Trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Mat Rees	Chairman
Chris Hawkins	Secretary
Brendan O'Connor	Finance Director
Teri Mohiuddin	Artistic Director
Jacqs Graham	Director of Strategy
Miguel Garcia and Sarah Lawrence	Membership Director (joint)
Ex-officio (non-voting)	
Mary McCallum	Vice President
Richard Jones	Vice President

NOTE: *Mat Rees resigned as chairman from end February 2026; Chris Thomas co-opted by committee to step in as interim chairman+ from April 2026*

Legal Trustees

In addition to the above, Kelvin Players has four legal Trustees, Peter Almond, Richard Jones, Mary McCallum and Robin Turner, who would be responsible for winding up the assets of the club if it was ever dissolved.

Names and Addresses of Advisers

- Bank: Lloyds Bank plc, 15 High Street, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3DA
- Independent Examiner: Linden Accountants Ltd, Scrapstore House, 21 Sevier St, St Werburgh's, Bristol BS2 9LB

Structure, Governance and Management

- ***Type of governing document*** - The Rules (constitution) of Kelvin Players were adopted at the AGM of 26 September 1991 and amended at the EGM of 13 February 2000 (Second Edition), AGM of 23 September 2007 (Third Edition) and AGM of 25 September 2011 (Fourth Edition).

- ***How the charity is constituted*** - Membership is open to any person aged 16 or over who is interested in the art and practice of any branch of the theatre. There are currently 206 members (155 previously). Kelvin Players is run by a Management Committee of six comprising: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Artistic Director, Director of Strategy and Membership Director. The President and Vice-Presidents are ex-officio members of this committee but are not eligible to vote at its meetings.

- ***Trustee selection methods*** - Members of the Management Committee are appointed or re-appointed at the Annual General Meeting in September. The Management Committee has the power to co-opt members should a committee vacancy occur during the year.

Objectives and activities

The object of Kelvin Players is to educate the public in the arts, in particular the art of drama by the presentation of dramatic productions and its mission is to create excellent theatre through the sharing and development of skills and expertise in all aspects of production and performance.

Kelvin Players stages five main productions, one Black Box show and performs its entry in the Bristol One Act Drama Festival at its studio premises/other venues as agreed, as well as runs a range of social events.

Kelvin Players has no paid employees and the trustees acknowledge the considerable time and effort put in by members, not only in staging productions but also in maintaining and running the Studio premises.

Achievements and performance

The following productions were staged at the Kelvin Studio in 2025 – in order of performance. The Chairman's review on pages 5 and 6 give further details of activity during the year.

- The Weir
- What's Your Favourite Plimpadoo?
- The Pitman Papers
- Romeo and Juliet (Queer Edition)
- A Hero of the People
- Gone Dark: A devised ghost story
- The Tempest

Public Benefit

In setting the charity's objectives and planning its activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Kelvin Players' Studio premises are accessible for disabled patrons and ticket prices are set at levels designed to encourage the local community and those on low incomes to attend. In addition, schools in Bristol and the surrounding area are offered group discounts to enable students to experience live theatre at an affordable cost. The local community receive information about all productions and ticket sales and feedback confirms that there is a high level of local support for the broad range of quality theatre presented by the group during the year.

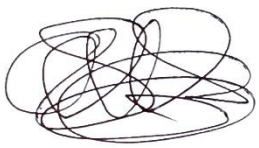
Financial Reserves Policy

Kelvin Players holds a minimum of £10,000 in reserve to cover any unforeseen production losses. Additional reserve funds are held in a Sinking Fund to cover possible emergency repairs to the Studios. Reserves of £10,000 are also held in a Studio Maintenance and Development Fund.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they approved the above report at their meeting on 11 October 2026.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Chris Thomas,
Interim Chairman

Chairman's review of the year - 2026

The Chairman's address this year is given in my role as Interim Chairman following Mat Rees stepping down as Chairman in February after four and a half years of dedicated service. Firstly, I must pay tribute to the extraordinary enthusiasm and effort that Mat Rees has put in during his time as Chairman. Mat has been an ever-present Chair, always there for show launches, production get-ins, social events, working behind the bar – in fact in every aspect of the work we do at Kelvin. During Mat's time as Chairman our membership has increased dramatically, and diversity and inclusion has been placed centre-stage in our agenda.

Outside of his Chairman role Mat's artistic contribution to the club has spanned many years and includes lead acting roles onstage and as a writer and director of some of Kelvin's most successful productions. We hope he will continue to build on these achievements. If I am elected and continue as Chair, I will have no better role model to look to than Mat Rees. Mat – we thank you for your service.

Next, I would like to note our achievements onstage, as this is fundamentally what we exist for in Kelvin Players. Since the last AGM we have completed five main stage productions, a black box production, a one-act festival entry and eighteen play-in-a-day rehearsed readings and an open-mic scratch-night.

First up in the season was the spooky comedy 'Gone Dark'. A devised play directed and augmented by Fran Lewis and Mat Rees. The play was a riot of perfectly timed slapstick combined with moments that were genuinely chilling. The structure switched between onstage action and video broadcast from around the building. It was technically precise, fun to watch and there was a lot of blood!

Next, Katie Kneen and Tim Whitten brought us an ambitiously lavish production of 'The Tempest'. This large cast production brought the audience in through a visceral storm then placed them with their feet literally in the sand of Prospero's magical island. The imagery, live music and dance combined to deliver a truly multi-sensory immersive experience.

In the New Year, 'The Long Road' directed by Fiona Morrison was a family drama where the family concerned are thrown into a situation of unimaginable tragedy. This very human scaled production, with intense but naturalistic acting, highlighted the vast emotions that can overwhelm a seemingly ordinary family.

Then there was 'The King'. My first time directing a main stage show for Kelvin. I was blessed with a creative team that fizzed with energy and an absolutely astonishing troupe of actors. They found meaning in my words that I could not have possibly imagined. The end result was, as I'd hoped: a quirky, challenging and melancholy little comedy.

The summer arrived and 'Brassed Off' brought together a film adaptation about community and collaboration, featuring our own community collaboration with award-winning local musicians Filton Concert Brass. A complex production with many moving parts was expertly brought together by Sam Grayston. The performances were filled with sadness and joy, while the music performed onstage added yet another emotional layer. Most recently we were treated to 'The Rabbit and the Rain' written and directed by Chris Hawkins. This modern fable tackled the difficult subject of depression but was never depressing to watch, as uplifting performances and joyful animal characterisations brought to life this 'black box' production. Never pretending to be something that it's not, this play delighted with its honesty and simplicity.

Our one act play entry ‘Three in a Lift’ was a physical and claustrophobic comedy about rising tensions in a confined situation. In the preliminary round of the All England Theatre Festival it won six awards and missed out on winning the regional final by just one point.

Throughout the year we had two seasons of rehearsed readings which provided a springboard for budding directors and a sandbox for more experienced practitioners to test run ideas.

When looked at as a whole, the breadth of styles and the ambition of storytelling in these plays paints an accurate picture of the health of our club at this moment – highly creative, technically ambitious, prepared to be challenging, but always entertaining. I see this year’s programme achieving the standard of theatre that many community groups can only aspire to.

It’s a good place to be, and the growth of our membership means that the pool of creative talent we can now draw upon is wide and deep. But new challenges arise from the expansion of our membership. In the coming year we will need to consider how we keep such a large and diverse group engaged and involved in every aspect of the running of the club.

This year has also seen us investing in the infrastructure of the club. We saw the implementation of our audience decking system including standard layouts for proscenium, thrust, promenade and in-the-round staging configurations.

In the technical area we have extended our lighting grid to cover the Gloucester Road end of the studio. To ensure the safety of those using the theatre, the entire lighting grid was professionally load certified and new support lines added where necessary. Electrical and signalling distribution was added to help make the job of rigging quicker and simpler. Also, we continued to invest in our incremental conversion to LED lighting fixtures, which will lower our energy costs and reduce auditorium heat during performances.

Outside the building we have added illuminated signage to better announce our presence on Gloucester Road and broadcast our branding.

In terms of membership development, we’ve seen the continuation of the Writers Group, the introduction of a Director’s Forum, and run workshops on acting and backstage topics.

To support the membership in understanding how we put together a production at Kelvin and provide a detailed definition of every role within that process, a new microsite has been added to the Membership pages of our website. It’s an incredibly detailed but easily navigable source of information and I would encourage all members, new or established, to make use of this new resource. And if you are thinking of taking on any backstage role that you haven’t done before, you can’t make a better start than looking into the relevant pages on the microsite. Big thanks to Teri and Sarah for taking on this huge task and delivering a truly valuable resource.

Finally, I’d like to thank each and every one of our Kelvin membership for the contributions you have made towards the success of our productions and the running of the club. Our esteemed Directors have already had a mention here, but not one of them could have put on a show without every cog in every wheel working together to make it happen on the night. It is an enormous logistical challenge to pull off and not a single person gets paid, but we do it because we love it. And we are good at what we do.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees of Kelvin Players (Charity no. 294367) on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out on pages 8 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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 accounts 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 examiner's report

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 the seeking of explanations from you as 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 accounts 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, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met.

Signed:



Steven Baptiste ACPA
Linden Accountants Ltd
Scrapstore House
21 Sevier St
St Werburghs
Bristol

BS2 9LB

08 October 2026

Statement of Financial Activities - for the year ended 31 Dec 2025

(All funds are unrestricted)

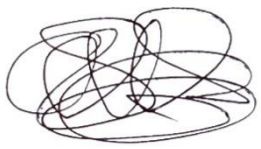
	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
Box Office Receipts	34,560	37,037
Lettings	12,736	19,231
Subscriptions	7,436	13,359
Bar Sales	16,107	18,633
Donations, Training and Fund Raising	3,222	554
Merchandise	-	1,385
Other income	722	1,440
Gift Aid Receipts	-	-
Interest	427	908
Equipment Hire	-	-
Total incoming resources	**75,210**	**92,547**
Resources Expended		
Direct Charitable Expenditure		
Cost of Theatrical Productions	18,387	15,759
Storage Rental	-	-
Studio Expenses:		
Cleaning	4,814	6,579
Gas and Electricity	4,500	13,788
Insurance	3,495	3,973
Rates and Water	994	1,646
Waste disposal; security alarm etc.	2,843	4,652
Studio Maintenance and Development	11,708	10,012
Marketing	5,788	4,737
Bar Costs, Equip, Licence and Refurbishment	7,334	7,752
Subscriptions & Donations	169	911
Depreciation	4,645	5,830
Sub total	64,677	£75,639
Governance Costs		
Accountancy and Professional Fees	1,694	1,824
Bank and Credit Card Charges	50	3,564
Postage, Stationery, Photocopying	18	10
Sundry Expenses - theatre	3,088	1,089
Sundry Expenses - other	2,487	3,563
Internet/Telephone/Zoom	1,207	1,308
Sub total	8,544	11,358
Total resources expended	**73,221**	**86,997**

Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		
Net movement of funds	**1,989**	**5,550**
Total funds brought forward	**1,063,508**	**1,057,958**
Total funds carried forward	**1,065,497**	**1,063,508**

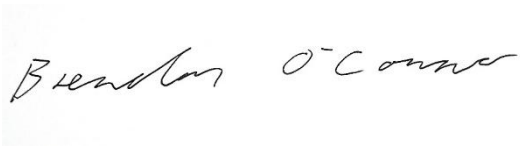
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Fixed Assets (note 2)	**1,008,209**	**985,922**
Current Assets:		
Debtors	570	679
Bar Stock	537	775
Gift aid debtor	-	1,325
Cash at bank and in hand	67,126	75,206
	68,233	77,985
Prepayments	-	4,033
	68,233	82,018
Creditors	10,945	4,432
Total net current assets	**57,288**	**77,586**
Total funds *(all unrestricted)*	**1,065,497**	**1,063,508**

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Chris Thomas
Interim Chairman



Brendan O'Connor
Finance Director

11 October 2026

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 December 2025.

The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2 February 2016, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. The date of transition to the Charities SORP FRS 102 was 1 July 2014.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Depreciation is provided on Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment at 10% (on reducing balance basis) depending on estimated life.

2 FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Freehold Property	Freehold Improvements to Property	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost:				
At 1 January 2025	129,057	876,458	81,760	1,087,275
Additions during the year	26,932	-	-	26,932
	155,989	876,458	81,760	1,114,207
Depreciation:				
At 1 January 2025	93,135	8,218	-	101,353
Charge for the year	4,645	-	-	4,645
	97,780	8,218	-	105,998
Net Book Value at 31 Dec 2024	35,922	868,240	81,760	985,922
Net Book Value at 31 Dec 2025	58,209	868,240	81,760	1,008,209

At 1 August 2022	87,305	8,218	-	95,523
Charge for the year	5,645	-	-	5,645
	92,950	8,218	-	101,168
Net Book Value at 31 July 2023	39,849	868,240	81,760	989,849
Net Book Value at 31 Dec 2024	35,526	868,240	81,760	985,526