Charity registration number 508384 (England and Wales)

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Executive Committee	K Griggs	(Appointed 14 May 2026)
	A Ray	(Appointed 6 November 2025)
	L Smith	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
	L Langerhuizen	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
	G Grogan-Morrell	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
	B Dickson	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
Charity registration	England and Wales	508384
Principal address	7a Grange Road West Birkenhead Wirral CH41 4BY	
Independent examiner	Jean Ellis BA FCA CTA Castle Chambers 43 Castle Street Liverpool L2 9TL	

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

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CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The Executive Committee present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are to promote the advancement and improvements of the general education in relation to all aspects of the arts or drama and the development of public appreciation of such arts. This is achieved by the provision of Amateur Theatre for the benefit of the local community.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

Formed in 1930, the resident Theatre Group are the Carlton Players who presented four full-length plays and a Pantomime each season. Each play consisted of four performances from Wednesday to Saturday. The pantomime runs from Friday to Sunday with matinees on Saturday and Sunday.

The 2024/25 season was marked by the loss of two much valued members of the Society, both of whom had played significant roles in our annual pantomime productions. As a result, we felt unable to proceed with a pantomime that year. Instead we staged a one-night production of A Christmas Carol in our newly opened Studio Bar. We initially planned for an audience of 60, however, such was the level of public interest, the production was moved to the main auditorium where it was enjoyed by almost 200 attendees.

The Executive Committee extends its sincere gratitude to all the volunteers who generously give their time to support our Front of House operations. Whether serving as stewards, assisting with programme and raffle sales, or helping in the canteen, your contributions are invaluable. Quite simply, our shows could not go on without them.

Recognising the vital role volunteers play, we continue to host open days and evenings to engage the local community and encourage more people to get involved with their theatre. We are proud to say that a carefully selected programme of shows has also attracted younger, and very much active, members to the group.

Public Benefit

The Executive Committee have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding the activities undertaken by the charity during the year.

Financial review

The results for the year and the charity’s financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

The net deficit from charitable activities for the year was £12,408 (2024: £8,494). The unrestricted fund remains at an acceptable level to enable the Trust to operate.

Going concern

The trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements. In carrying out this assessment, the trustees considered the charity's current financial position, expected income and expenditure, available cash resources and anticipated income from fundraising activities and grant applications.

Although free reserves remain below the level set out in the reserves policy and the charity incurred a deficit during the year, the trustees have secured grant funding since the year end and continue to actively monitor the charity's financial position. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its obligations as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements and have therefore adopted the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves equivalent to between three and six months' operating expenditure in order to provide financial stability and sufficient working capital to support the charity's activities.

At 30 June 2025, the charity's free reserves, being unrestricted funds excluding those represented by fixed assets and the revaluation reserve, amounted to £6,207 (2024: £nil). This is below the trustees' target minimum reserve level of approximately £16,500, representing three months' expenditure.

The trustees are aware of this shortfall and continue to take steps to strengthen the charity's financial position through improved financial controls, careful cost management and the pursuit of additional funding opportunities. Since the year end, the charity has secured additional grant funding and the trustees remain committed to rebuilding reserves to their target level over time.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level sufficient to allow the charity to carry out its objectives.

Major risks

The Executive Committee have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Structure, governance and management

The charity's governing trust deed was adopted on 1st November 1978.

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The members of the Executive Committee, who are also the charity trustees, who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

L Ashdown	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 23 July 2025)
C Kirby	(Appointed 5 December 2025 and resigned 14 May 2026)
A Ray	(Appointed 6 November 2025)
L Smith	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
T Langerhuizen	(Appointed 17 October 2023 and resigned 24 July 2024)
L Langerhuizen	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
G Grogan-Morrell	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
B Dickson	(Appointed 23 July 2025)
S Haddock	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 23 July 2025)
M Latham	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 23 July 2025)
M McMullan	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 7 January 2025)
S McMullan	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 23 July 2025)
D Smith	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 28 October 2024)
B McNaught	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 1 December 2025)
E Youster	(Appointed 17 October 2023 and resigned 23 July 2025)
S Youster	(Appointed 24 July 2024 and resigned 23 July 2025)
K Griggs	(Appointed 14 May 2026)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The members of the Executive Committee administer the day to day affairs of the Trust. They also decide on the usage of the building and its annual theatre programme.

The Executive Committee report was approved by the Board of Executive Committee.

Mr B P Dickson
Trustee

9 October 2026

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The Executive Committee are responsible for preparing the Executive Committee Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Executive Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Executive Committee are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Executive Committee are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

I report to the Executive Committee on my examination of the financial statements of Carlton Little Theatre Trust (the charity) for the year ended 30 June 2025.

This report is made solely to the charity's Executive Committee as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Executive Committee those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Executive Committee as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Executive Committee of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Jean Ellis BA FCA CTA
DSG
Castle Chambers
43 Castle Street
Liverpool
L2 9TL

Dated: 9 October 2026

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	**3**	1,195	2,425
Charitable activities	**4**	32,534	38,713
Other trading activities	**5**	20,496	21,002
Total income		54,225	62,140
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	**6**	66,633	70,634
Total expenditure		66,633	70,634
Net expenditure and movement in funds		(12,408)	(8,494)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 July 2024		248,661	257,155
Fund balances at 30 June 2025		236,253	248,661

CARLTON LITTLE THEATRE TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		230,046		237,728
Current assets					
Stocks	**12**	3,238		4,809	
Debtors	**13**	2,636		1,493	
Cash at bank and in hand		9,803		12,523	
		15,677		18,825	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(9,470)		(7,892)	
Net current assets			6,207		10,933
Total assets less current liabilities			236,253		248,661
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	**15**		236,253		248,661
			236,253		248,661

The financial statements were approved by the Executive Committee on 9 October 2026

Mr B P Dickson
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Carlton Little Theatre Trust is an unincorporated charity. The principal address is 7a Grange Road West, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 4BY.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

In assessing going concern, the trustees have considered the charity's current financial position, cash resources, known commitments, expected income streams and funding secured subsequent to the year end. Having undertaken this review, the trustees consider that the charity has sufficient resources to continue its activities and meet its obligations as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. Accordingly, the trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Executive Committee in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

No amounts are included in these financial statements for goods donated or services donated by volunteers.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Support costs all relate to the provision of the charitable activity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land & Buildings	2% Straight Line
Equipment and wardrobe	15% Reducing balance
Lift	10% Straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	10% Reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Executive Committee are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024
	£	£
Donations and gifts	1,195	2,425

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income from charitable activities	32,534	38,713

5 Charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bar income	20,496	21,002

6 Charitable activities

	Property costs 2025	Production costs 2025	Trading costs 2025	Total 2025	Property costs 2024	Production costs 2024	Trading costs 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	-	-	10,253	10,253	-	-	13,376	13,376
Depreciation and impairment	7,682	-	-	7,682	7,759	-	-	7,759
Insurance	8,226	-	-	8,226	6,451	-	-	6,451
Rates	2,203	-	-	2,203	1,848	-	-	1,848
Maintenance	5,369	-	-	5,369	2,945	-	-	2,945
Light and heat	7,048	-	-	7,048	13,365	-	-	13,365
Cleaning	3,256	-	-	3,256	3,162	-	-	3,162
Theatre tickets, programmes and advertising	-	1,984	-	1,984	-	1,822	-	1,822
Photos, costumes, stage props and scripts	-	1,227	-	1,227	-	1,953	-	1,953
Subscriptions and licences	-	2,080	-	2,080	-	3,728	-	3,728
Catering expenses	-	36	-	36	-	188	-	188
Bar supplies	-	-	11,167	11,167	-	-	8,853	8,853
	33,784	5,327	21,420	60,531	35,530	7,691	22,229	65,450
Share of support costs (see note 7)	-	-	-	-	1,946	-	-	1,946
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	6,102	-	-	6,102	3,238	-	-	3,238
	39,886	5,327	21,420	66,633	40,714	7,691	22,229	70,634

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Office expenses	1,861	1,357
Sundry	701	590
Governance	3,540	3,237
	6,102	5,184

Governance costs comprise:	2025 £	2024 £
Legal and professional	3,540	3,237
	3,540	3,237

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiner of £3,120 (2024: £2,874) for examination fees.

8 Executive Committee

None of the Executive Committee (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits during the year.

The Executive Committee are considered to fulfil the definition of key management personnel. Remuneration due to key management personnel is therefore £nil (2024: £nil).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Employees	1	1

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	10,253	13,376

Wage costs includes payments to subcontractors of £nil (2024: £800).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Buildings	Equipment and wardrobe	Lift	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation					
At 1 July 2024	350,000	23,096	34,936	54,113	462,145
At 30 June 2025	350,000	23,096	34,936	54,113	462,145
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 July 2024	119,000	22,917	34,936	47,564	224,417
Depreciation charged in the year	7,000	27	-	655	7,682
At 30 June 2025	126,000	22,944	34,936	48,219	232,099
Carrying amount					
At 30 June 2025	224,000	152	-	5,894	230,046
At 30 June 2024	231,000	179	-	6,549	237,728

The revalued asset relates to freehold property transferred from the Birkenhead Repertory Theatre at a cost of £34,125. In 2007 the freehold property was revalued by Smith and Sons Property Consultants at £350,000. As permitted under FRS 102 the charity has elected to use this amount, less accumulated depreciation since the revaluation date, as deemed cost on transition to FRS 102.

As at 30 June 2025 the historical cost of the property was £34,125 (2024: £34,125) and accumulated depreciation on cost was £12,285 (2024: £11,602). Therefore, had the revalued asset been carried at historic cost less accumulated depreciation, the carrying value would have been £21,841 (2024: £22,524). Depreciation for the year on cost was £683 (2024: £683). The £6,318 (2024: £6,318) reduction in the revaluation reserve represents the difference between the annual depreciation charge on the valuation and that on cost, which is transferred to general unrestricted funds.

12 Stocks

	2025	2024
	£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale	3,238	4,809

13 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	2,000	-
Prepayments and accrued income	636	1,493
	2,636	1,493

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	9,470	7,892

15 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 July 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 30 June 2025 £
Revaluation reserve	208,473	-	-	(6,318)	202,155
General funds	40,188	54,225	(66,633)	6,318	34,098
	248,661	54,225	(66,633)	-	236,253

Previous year:	At 1 July 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 30 June 2024 £
Revaluation reserve	214,791	-	-	(6,318)	208,473
General funds	42,364	62,140	(70,634)	6,318	40,188
	257,155	62,140	(70,634)	-	248,661
	257,155	62,140	(70,634)	-	248,661

16 Related party transactions

During the year the charity employed Mrs L Langerhuizen. Mrs Langerhuizen was not a trustee during the year ended 30 June 2025 but became a trustee on 23 July 2025. During the prior year, Mr T Langerhuizen, the spouse of Mrs L Langerhuizen, was a trustee of the charity until 24 July 2024.

During the year the charity paid £1,908 to Mr Youster, a Trustee, to reimburse direct charitable expenditure of £1,908. The charity owed £nil to Mr Youster at the year end.

There were no other related party transactions in the year.