

THE KALISHER TRUST
REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ending January 2025

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The Trustees are pleased to present their report of the work of the charity for the twelve months from:

February 2024 to February 2025

Reference and administrative details

Charity Name	The Kalisher Trust
Registered Charity Number	1062363
Registered Address:	c/o Foundry Chambers Quality House 5-9 Quality Court Chancery Lane London WC2A 1HP
Principal contact	www.thekalishertrust.org.uk administrator@thekalishertrust.co.uk
Charity's main agents and advisors:	
Accountants	Place Campbell, Chartered Accountants, First floor, Medway House, 18-22 Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 3BJ
Solicitors	Titmus Sainer Dechert, Sergeant's Inn, Temple London EC4Y 1LT
Bankers	HSBC Bank

The Kalisher Trustee Board

The Directors of the Charitable Company ('the charity') are its Trustees for the purpose of charitable law, and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The Trustees serving during the relevant year were as follows:

President	Dame Anne Rafferty DBE PC
Chair of the Board of Trustees	Dame Julie Maxton DBE
Vice Chairs	Leon Kazakos KC and Clare Wardell
Treasurer	Henrietta Paget KC

Trustees

HHJ Judy Khan KC
HHJ Angela Rafferty KC
Andrew Fisher KC
Michael Brady KC
Garry Green KC
Edmund Vickers KC
Max Hardy
Henrietta Paget KC
Merry Van Woodenberg
Danielle Manson
Rabah Kherbane

Patrons

HH Brian Barker CBE KC
Lady Chief Justice Carr DBE
The Hon. Mrs. Justice Cheema-Grubb DBE
Ray Fearon
Kim Hollis KC
HHJ Stephen Kramer KC
HHJ Richard Marks KC
Nicholas Purnell KC
Joshua Rozenberg KC (Hon)

Secretaries

James Gwatkin
Emma Fielding

Director of Education

John Dunston

Vice Chairs' Report

Aims and Organisation

The Kalisher Trust is principally designed to offer aspiring barristers funding and other support and guidance as they seek and/or embark on pupillage; and, secondarily, for practitioners during the early stages of tenancy. This is an intensely demanding period - both financially and practically - for those seeking to establish practice at the Bar. The Trust aims to make awards and provide support and guidance to those graduates of exceptional promise but modest social and economic background, who might not otherwise be able to pursue a career path to the Bar.

The Trust is primarily organised and run by practising members of the Judiciary and Bar on a voluntary basis, as well as members of the higher education sector and performing arts professions, together with the assistance of its volunteers. The Trust expresses its thanks for the services and time donated by these individuals. There are no employees but, since February 2016, the Trust has from time to time used part-time administrative support when necessary.

Overview of Effectiveness and Achievements

The Trust provides training and other guidance opportunities for aspiring barristers and funds placements with partner organisations in the legal sphere. In addition, the Trust takes on educational and outreach activities – usually in secondary schools – which provide young people with an insight into the Law and its applicability to society and gives them training in advocacy skills useful in many walks of life.

Events & Activities

Mock pupillage interviews

From 26th February 2024 to 20th March 2024, a programme of mock pupillage interviews took place over zoom. The team managed to offer all 39 persons who applied for a mock interview a time slot within the three week period. Each interviewee received 30 minutes of interview and feedback, usually with two interviewers (either practising pupils, barristers or members of the judiciary). All the interviewees who took part found the process useful as they prepared for their pupillage interviews in March and April 2024. Many have informed us that they received an offer of pupillage this year and wished to thank the Trust the opportunities offered to them.

Pre-loved Clothing Fair

The clothing fair went ahead on 25th March 2024 at Gray's Inn. It was a success and Gray's are willing to host another. In addition to the formalwear / suits that had been donated, we also had an unprecedented number (18) of wigs and gowns donated, which were dealt with by Gray's in the following way - Students were asked to complete an application form, similar to the one used in previous years. Each application was anonymised and a panel shortlisted the 86 applications received down to 30. After the initial sift, a further member of Gray's selected the final 18 recipients. Two collection days were organised and the individuals selected were invited to go into Gray's and try on the wigs and gowns available. Jasmine, from the Education Department at Gray's stated that it "*was a lovely opportunity to congratulate them again*". HHJ Richard Marks KC (the Common Sergeant) had also donated a wig and gown belonging to his late sister and was invited to personally select the recipient

Essay Prize 2025

The 2025 Kalisher Essay Competition, which carried a prize of £2,000 for the winner and £500 for the runner up, was open to all pupils undertaking a criminal pupillage and for the first time, those undertaking the Bar Training Course and those who had completed the Bar Training Course and were awaiting / applying for pupillage.

The competition was launched in January 2025, inviting submissions of up to 2,000 words in answer to the following question:

The backlog of Crown Court cases serves no one. You are advising the Government as to what measures would alleviate if not remove the problem once and for all. You are to assume this to be achieved within current funding constraints.

Is jury trial to be abolished in a particular class of case/s?

If so, would that require justices to be given greater sentencing powers?

Importantly you must advise whether any reforms would likely lead to challenge on human rights grounds.

Would removing legal aid to bring a challenge be an option or might that result in a challenge on its own right?

You should identify any other proposals and advise whether they would survive judicial scrutiny.

Entries were assessed by Peter Doyle KC and HHJ Judy Khan KC. At a time of financial pressure experienced by the youngest members of the criminal bar this Essay prize is aimed at supporting and inspiring the next generation of the profession. The prize was won by Joshua Clements of 23ES, with Anjelica Smerin of Mountford Chambers a close runner up. The judging panel commented on the winning entry as follows:

"A very well researched piece of work. Their analysis was excellent and well-reasoned. Importantly, this candidate met the 'brief', which was to provide advice to the government."

Trust Composition

The trust composition did not change this year save for the addition (as volunteers rather than trustees) of Elspeth Windsor (who before becoming a tenant at her set of Chambers, was helped in her career by the Trust) and Dr Chris Whittaker who has worked in roles for many years across the charity and sports sectors with a track record in relationship management, strategic thinking and leadership.

The Trust wishes to record its sincere thanks to all those who have spent many years in position either as trustees or volunteers, and the hard work that they have all done in pursuit of the Trust's stated aims.

Internships, Scholarships

We work together with our prestigious partner organisations to appoint the brightest and the best to be interns and scholars. We value - and we have kept - the Trust's enduring eligibility criteria of '*exceptional promise and modest means*'.

- **JUSTICE** – Stephanie Needleman, Legal Director at JUSTICE, let us know (in October 2024) '*We had some really impressive applicants for the Kalisher scholarship*'. **Zahra Lahri**, the successful applicant who was appointed for this award, was on a strong trajectory to prepare for a career at the criminal Bar. In the preceding year, the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple had selected Zahra (one of 60 chosen scholars) to participate in the Inn's Pass Scholar Programme. Zahra thereby had benefited from this programme of advocacy skills development workshops, legal research workshops, and mini pupillage at a criminal law set.
- **CCRC** – In February 2024, the CCRC met with Leon Kazakos KC and Clare Wardell to consolidate arrangements for the Kalisher Trust to continue its support for the CCRC Intern programme. That month, **Emma Bean** started her internship. Lauren Sharkey, Senior Lawyer, CCRC, let us know (in May 2024), about this collaboration with the Trust, '*From our point of view, it continues to be a great success, and we're delighted with the calibre of candidates that we appoint.*' Representing the Kalisher Trust, Andrew Fisher KC, again, had been on the interview panel that convened to assess that Emma was the most suitable person to appoint.
- **AMICUS** – Two of our trustees, Max Hardy and Abigail Bright, together with Margot Ravenscroft, the Director of AMICUS, interviewed candidates. The pool of applicants was so strong that (in November 2024) that the Trust agreed, exceptionally, when AMICUS asked, to fund two internships rather than one. The Trust's relatively healthy financial situation permitted this. Making the case to do this to the trustee board, Max and Abigail wrote '*We encountered (not for the first time we appreciate) a real difficulty in deciding between the top two candidates both of whom had a great deal to recommend them and both of whom seem intent on the Criminal Bar.*' **Tayyaba Rafiq** and **William Lewis** were delighted to start their internships in the U.S.

Educational Outreach

- **19th March 2024** The Lady Chief Justice, The Right Honourable Baroness Carr of Walton-on-the-Hill DBE, gave the annual Kalisher Lecture at the Central Criminal Court. The title of the lecture was: "To Know The Law And Observe It Well – Magna Carta And Criminal Justice". This was a well selected tribute to our past and lamented President, Igor Judge, whose family were in attendance to hear a resolute defence of the justice system. Ann-Marie Pinkney a stalwart member of the Early Career Group gave a composed vote of thanks.

- **27th March 2024:** A successful Mock Trial was held at **Harris Academy South Norwood**. Max Hardy led a team of Abigail Bright; James Meredith; Keren Weekes; Brittany Buckell; Elspeth Windsor; and Nifemi Makinwa (attending and taking part during a week of work experience with Max Hardy). Over a hundred Year 10 students (age 14-15) attended from several Harris Academies. After the event, Dill Anstey, Vice-Principal, Harris Federation Sixth Forms, summed up her appreciation: *I can only add my thanks. I love those Kalisher events – nothing better to remind us all of the worth of what we do with these young people. We couldn't do it without Kalisher's generosity of time and expertise. Please thank everyone involved from me.*
- **19th April 2024:** Another Mock Trial was held at **Harris Academy St John's Wood**, who have hosted us before. Five Academies attended, bringing a total of around 65 Y10 students. The team assembled by Max Hardy consisted of Anarkali Musgrave; Annie Davis; Keren Weekes; Jessica Lee; Muhammad Udin. Once again, the students clearly relished the coaching and the way in which the team members involved them all in the task while making the experience both fun and – importantly – challenging.

Sir Dan Moynihan, Chief Executive of the Harris Federation, commented after Kalisher's Mock Trial in March: *Thank you. I cannot emphasise enough what a difference these kinds of activities make to our youngsters.*

- **St Francis Xavier Sixth Form College (SFX), Clapham. 2nd July 2024.** A half day mock trial was arranged for around twenty sixth form students, led by James Gwatkin, with "barrister input" from Ibe Amogbe, Selda Krasniqi and Ann-Marie Pinkney. Afterwards we received the following note from the college: *Thank you for facilitating Tuesday's event. I can honestly say that of all the events or outside speakers that I have been part of at SFX, this was the most engaged and enthused that I have ever seen our pupils – especially so given that this class is not one that is naturally enthusiastic! Many have said that based on this they would be interested in a future career in the law.*
- **Whitefield School, London. 5th September 2024.** Through a contact of Rabah Kherbane's, we received an invitation to give a school assembly on aspects of the life of a criminal barrister. Max Hardy kindly took this on and generated much interest from the pupils.
- **Kalisher in the UK.** With the assistance of Leon Kazakos KC, Leader of the South Eastern Circuit, we approached the Circuit Leaders of the Western and Wales & Chester Circuits to see if links can be established there through members of the respective circuits who may be enthusiastic to support similar educational initiatives.

Creative Education Trust

The Creative Education Trust (CET) is a network of seventeen academies across England. Kalisher was invited once again to contribute to the Trust's Public Speaking Competition. Individual barristers and pupil barristers (provided one-to-one online coaching to Year 12 students. Feedback was universally positive, the impact of the coaching evident in the early rounds held at individual schools and in the Finals Event held in the medieval Leicester Guildhall. Marc Jordan, CEO of the Trust, John Dunston and Ann-Marie Pinkney were the judges on that occasion. Ann-Marie gave an address on her route to a career at the Criminal Bar.

Manchester. Mike Brady KC and David Temkin KC have been promoting Kalisher in the Manchester area. David Temkin KC has already been involved with local schools and was able to use the Kalisher video *Crown v Goldilocks* on a visit to Armitage C of E Primary School.

Leeds University Leon Kazakos KC attended the first Pupillage Fair North, held at Leeds University and organised by the Bar Council on behalf of Kalisher – to address prospective applicants to the Bar about the opportunities available through the Trust.

Review of Financial Activities and Affairs Henrietta Paget KC, Treasurer.

The Trust was glad to build on its long-established relationships with partner institutions by funding internships at Justice, Amicus and the CCRC and making an MA funding award in partnership with the Criminology Department and Wadham College, Oxford.

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, even with the marked expansion of our outreach programme, associated costs were kept to a minimum.

This year, the Trust's valued income from its regular benefactors (both corporate and individual) was enhanced by two substantial memorial funds.

In the Summer of 2024, the profession suffered the loss of two well-known and much loved figures: Mat Hardyman, who practised from Chambers at 15 New Bridge Street and was known to and admired by many of us and Paul Darling KC, OBE, who – although a specialist in Construction Law – was a special friend to the Trust and staunch supporter of the Criminal Bar. The trust is especially grateful to the families of both Mat and Paul, who chose to honour their memory by inviting donations to the Kalisher Trust. The money raised through these memorial funds will make an enormous difference to the Trust's work going forward and the Trustees record their thanks to all who so generously contributed.

Conclusion

The Trust continues to drive forward a fresh educational outreach approach in tandem with the Trust's traditional activities.

The Trust is very grateful to all our many donors. We would particularly like to thank those who regularly give by standing order. Regular donations, even in modest amounts, make an enormous difference and this continuing support of the Trust's work is deeply appreciated. A great deal of gratitude is owed to our larger benefactors, whose generosity and support makes the funding of our larger projects possible.

Plans for Future Development

The Trustees remain engaged in an ongoing review of the Trust's core activities, monitoring the effectiveness of the Trust's work and ensuring that the benefit of Kalisher support and funding continues to be focused on those aspiring to practice at the criminal bar.

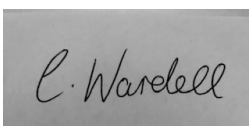
The fundraising successes have meant that the Trust can pursue with increased vigour its educational outreach program, as well as building on its core activities. The Trust aims to provide a greater range of support for first time (and repeat) pupillage applicants as well as driving engagement into the Old Bailey Apprentice program. We now have advocacy programs reaching wider student bodies across England and Wales. The links with the Circuits of England and Wales will, we trust, see the gradual and prudent expansion of the Trust's work across England and Wales.

Due to the Trustees' desire to spread the benefit of the charity widely as possible, the Awards Committee continues its work in generating Internships and other placements and selecting the recipients for such awards.

Thanks

The Kalisher Trust is grateful to Place Campbell, Chartered Accountants (particularly Elize Stoneham), for their continuing work *pro bono* for the Trust.

Further information is available on our website: www.thekalishertrust.org.

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature, 'C. Wardell', on a piece of paper.

Clare Wardell Vice Chair

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature, 'Leon Kazakos', on a piece of paper.

Leon Kazakos KC Vice Chair



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
06/04/2024

To

Period end date
05/04/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations and fundraising	53,874	-	-	53,874	43,307
Interest on deposit account	4,328	-	-	4,328	3,900
Book Royalties	54	-	-	54	94
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	58,256	-	-	58,256	47,301
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	58,256	-	-	58,256	47,301
A3 Payments					
Cost of Fundraising events	1,867	-	-	1,867	1,549
Grants and donations paid	32,829	-	-	32,829	38,024
Bank charges	205	-	-	205	62
Website	2,656	-	-	2,656	2,124
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	37,557	-	-	37,557	41,759
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	37,557	-	-	37,557	41,759
Net of receipts/(payments)	20,699	-	-	20,699	5,542
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	260,440	-	-	260,440	254,898
Cash funds this year end	281,139	-	-	281,139	260,440

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Current and deposit accounts	281,139	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Total cash funds	281,139	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
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B2 Other monetary assets

Details			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Henrietta Paget KC</i>	Henrietta Paget KC	28.1.26
		28/01/2026



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
The Kalisher Scholarship

On accounts for the year
ended

5 April 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1062363

Set out on pages

1 of 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 05/04/2025.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts 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 accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

22 January 2026

Name:

Elize Stoneham

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Chartered Certified Accountant

Address:

First Floor, Medway House

18-22 Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead

West Sussex, RH19 3BJ

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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