

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre

Unaudited Annual Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2025

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Company Number: 6054887

Registered Charity Number: 1119302

MED THEATRE

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre (MED Theatre)

Registered Charity no: 1119302, Limited Company no: 6054887

Registered Address:: 21 Fairy Lane, Buckfastleigh, TQ11 0DP

Studio/operating premises from July 2025: MED Theatre, The Square, Moretonhampstead, TQ13 8NF

About

MED Theatre is a youth and community theatre organisation working to help people who live in remote rural locations in Devon find new ways to raise their aspirations and make the best of where they live. We know that engaging in the performing arts in a way that is connected to their surroundings helps people see themselves and the world differently. The objects of the charity are: to improve, develop and maintain public education, creativity and wellbeing through the performance of original plays inspired by, and created for, the locality.

Co-Directors' Summary

The year between September 2024 and July 2025 saw us moving into our new studio in Moretonhampstead, a lovely space above a new cafe and in an easy location for our young people and community members to reach. Our future aspirations for the space include using it for intergenerational community play rehearsals, young people's performances, and for it to become a space that the local community is familiar with and comfortable in visiting. We are already using the studio to host a number of regular and one-off sessions for both young people and adults.

Now led by the three freelance Co-Directors - Abby Stobart, Gillian Webster and Helen Gilbert - MED Theatre continues to welcome young people through our doors weekly, and we are also delighted to have our adult provision seeing an uplift with a regular Impro Course happening run by our Associate Artist, Lucy Smart as well as other one-off workshops beginning to take place. MED Theatre also continues to work in local schools and in this year we were approached by many schools directly. Our Education programme is a legacy of Mark Beeson's time as Artistic Director that we feel is important for us to continue and is also a stream of income that often does not require additional funding.

We were incredibly pleased to receive a two-year grant of £20,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation this year for core costs (£10,000 for the calendar year Jan-Dec 2025 and the same in the following year), giving us crucial funds to fall back on for our day-to-day running costs and administrative work while other, project-based funding has become more difficult to obtain.

Finally, a notable thing to come out of this year has been the publishing of *Dartmoor Elements*, a collection of poetry by Mark Beeson. Dr Tom Greeves, Mark's literary executor, worked tirelessly with Gillian to put together the manuscript and to reach the stage of publishing, while Mark's family generously covered the costs of publishing and donated the finished product to MED Theatre. All proceeds of sales of the book will come to us as a charity and the book is now on sale to the general public via our website.

We look forward to the future and our plans for MED Theatre, while being quietly cautious regarding our financial situation and our ability to fulfil our charitable aims at a time when funding for the arts continues to be tricky.

ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

‘Devon’s War Girls’

Devised during the pandemic in 2020 and performed for the first time in 2021, ‘Devon’s War Girls’ is one of MED Theatre’s most popular offerings for both schools and community settings. We were pleased to be invited in Sept 2024 to perform this at Coldharbour Mill as part of their WW2 event day, and again in May 2025 in North Tawton Primary for years 5 and 6, accompanied by a workshop.

Museum Commission

In 2024 the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM) invited us to create a new piece inspired by their exhibition, *Dartmoor: A Radical Landscape*. In response, we adapted a section of our 2024 community play which explored the historic effects of human life on Dartmoor’s landscapes and the environment.

The show ‘Tilka’s Time’ was shared with three audiences in one day, combining to over 120 people, and was aimed at young people and families.

It has offered us a valuable opportunity to develop another two-hander production for performance in other libraries, museums, schools, and community spaces.

Helen and Abby perform ‘Tilka’s Time’ at RAMM and on Dartmoor



'Off the Page into the Body' - Newton Abbot Library

After applying for a pot of money to work closely with one of their libraries, Libraries Unlimited invited MED Theatre to carry out a long-term project in Newton Abbot. The aim of the project, 'Off the Page into the Body' was to increase footfall in the library, with a particular focus on young people.

As part of the project we ran:

10 sessions with local young carers (in partnership with the Devon Young Carer's Association)

10 sessions with local teenagers, open to everybody aged 12-16

4 community sessions (with local Youth Council, Guides, and Brownies)

3 in-school sessions



Abby performing 'Locked in the Library'

The final celebration of the project came in the form of a new show called 'Locked in the Library', devised with the young people's input and performed for the first time in Newton Abbot Library in April 2025. This show is also a legacy of the project and has since been performed in two more settings, and will be toured further in 2026 to celebrate World Book Day.

Libraries Unlimited 'Evolve' programme performances

Once again this year we applied and were accepted to be included in the Libraries Unlimited 'Evolve' menu for Devon libraries. This means that a performance or workshop we have on offer would be available to all libraries for a set fee if they choose MED Theatre from a list of activities. This year we have performed and run an accompanying workshop at Cullompton library, a short play and activities inspired by the Dartmoor folktale of 'Jan Coo'.

COMMUNITY AND ADULTS' ACTIVITIES

Circus show - co-hosted with Twinning Association

In October 2024 MED Theatre partnered with the Moretonhampstead Twinning Association to host a travelling french theatre company to our town. La Compagnie Artiflette led workshops in circus skills with the local primary school, and then performed their dynamic and comical show to a packed out audience in the parish hall. We were proud to champion a diverse arts and cultural activity for local audiences.

'Dream setting' - co-hosted with Sound UK

In June 2025, we were invited by Libraries Unlimited and Moretonhampstead Library to co-host 'dream setting,' a performance and creative workshop by musician Marco Woolf. A group of 8 community members, including five young people, joined Marco and his collaborators for a day of devising and then took part in the performance with Marco's team which was open to a public audience. It was a lovely partnering opportunity and incredibly enriching.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Tuesday groups in Moretonhampstead

MED Theatre's after school groups in Moretonhampstead continue as our main offer for young people living on, or near, Dartmoor.

Wild Nights Young Company performing in DartFest



Rising Lights (5-7s), Bright Nights (8-12s), and Wild Nights Young Company all take place on Tuesday afternoons/evenings during term time.

In November 2024 all of these groups took part in 'DartFest 2024', an opportunity to perform their work for a public audience on the stage in Moretonhampstead Parish Hall stage.

Chagford Youth Group (On The Edge) commissioned sessions

MED Theatre's Wednesday evening sessions in Chagford, paid for by CELT, also continued this year. The participants, who are members of the Chagford Youth Club, have made short films, written scripts, and developed performance and improvisation skills. This year, we expanded the group into two separate sessions for different age groups to accommodate more young people and offer the older members more of a creative challenge.

Monday Groups in Braunton (North Devon)

Our groups in Braunton have continued to take place but on a smaller scale, with just one group running now after school on a Monday.



Our freelance artists, Sam and Annie, have been doing a fantastic job and communications between them and the Co-Directors regarding planning, fundraising, and themes, means that the Braunton groups continue to be a valued part of MED Theatre's weekly activity.

They created their own play based on local myths which was performed in June 2025.

Tarka Drama group perform in the Valley of the Rocks

Home Education Groups

This year our activities for home educated young people have flourished, with two weekly groups now running, one in Buckfastleigh and one in Moretonhampstead.

Paid Young Assistants Scheme

This year for the first time we have been trialling a new Young Assistant scheme through which young members of our Wild Nights Young Company have been paid to assist with Bright Nights Drama for 8-12 year olds. This has been valuable for us as an organisation in terms of additional assistance, but also for the teenagers who are receiving some training and support into the world of employment.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

We have worked with a great number of schools this year, which has been a real boost to our earned income and is evidence of the reputation we have built over the years through our education work.

Some schools requested special celebration events of performances, such as Moretonhampstead Primary inviting us to be part of their VE Day 80th Anniversary event, while others have requested drama enrichment activities. The schools we have visited are:

West Exe College

Brunel School

Hatherleigh Primary

Kenn Primary

South Devon Community College

Princetown Primary

Tivington Farm School

Moretonhampstead Primary

Broadhempston Primary

Dunsford Primary

Dartmouth College

Spires School, Torquay

North Tawton Primary

University workshops

In May 2025 we once again hosted a group of students from Exeter University's MA Creative Education course for their end-of-year celebration. The students joined us in Moretonhampstead where we explored the local area and MED Theatre's method of working, through taking inspiration from the local history, ecology and landscape, and bringing together the human and non-human.

Holiday Clubs

Summer Play in 3 Days

MED Theatre engaged our theatre practitioner Abby Stobart to co-lead this summer intensive course alongside our resident dance and movement practitioner Jonny Hibbs. A group of 8-12yr olds co-created their own play... in just three days! Their story was inspired by a series of Dartmoor myths about witches, and involved dramatic and comical storytelling punctuated by song and dance influenced by the musical Matilda. This longer summer course proved a popular offering which brought in new participants that we hope to repeat in the future.

The Financial Situation

As noted in last year's report this has been a difficult period for fundraising from grant-making bodies and we have transitioned to a new model of working with reduced overheads. We have also been able to generate improved income from box office , schools and commissions

The move into our newly refurbished studio, conveniently situated in the centre of Moretonhampstead and generously provided to us by a local benefactor, has helped us reduce our overheads. We are expanding into new and exciting collaborations with other local artists and are looking forward to continuing our popular creative activities for both young people and adults, the majority of which are now held in our new premises.

These changes to our working model have involved the making of redundancy payments to the employed staff. This cost has been covered by the funds in the Employment Reserve, the balance in which has been transferred back into the General Reserve which closed the year at £35,213.

Board of Directors

Jess Wynn-Jones	Chair
Saul Jenner	Vice Chair from 13 Sept 2025
Heather Holcroft-Pinn	Hon Treasurer
Fiona Avis	
Allison Caverhill	
Kerry Chappell	
Rae Hoole	
Josh Levontine	
Sarah Pinn	from 18 July 2024
Julia Oliver	Vice chair to 10 July 2025, resigned
Olivia Young	Vice chair to 10 July 2025, resigned

Approved by the directors and signed on their behalf on 30 December 2025

Sarah Pinn

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre

Year ended 31 March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre for the year ended 31 March 2025 set out on pages 8 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 1475(5)(b) of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that

:

- Accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, 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; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102)

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.

J H Ison
21 Angel Hill
Tiverton
Devon

30 December 2025

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre
Statement of financial activities
Year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General	Designated			
	£	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and legacies					
Grants			22,880	22,880	107,438
Donations and membership	9,572			9,572	9,499
	<u>9,572</u>		<u>22,880</u>	<u>32,452</u>	<u>116,937</u>
Charitable activities:					
Box office and schools	31,358			31,358	17,300
Commissions	9,060			9,060	3,403
	<u>40,418</u>		<u>0</u>	<u>40,418</u>	<u>20,703</u>
Other trading activities					
Sales of merchandise and hire	180			180	993
	<u>180</u>			<u>180</u>	<u>993</u>
Investment income:					
Interest receivable	325			325	762
	<u>325</u>			<u>325</u>	<u>762</u>
Total income	<u>50,495</u>		<u>22,880</u>	<u>73,375</u>	<u>139,395</u>
Expenditure					
Charitable activities					
Production expenses	27,396	14,288	35,085	76,769	90,483
Depreciation	376		1,364	1,740	2,320
Support costs	16,672	5,420	15,318	37,410	51,335
	<u>44,444</u>	<u>19,708</u>	<u>51,767</u>	<u>115,919</u>	<u>144,138</u>
Total expenditure	<u>44,444</u>	<u>19,708</u>	<u>51,767</u>	<u>115,919</u>	<u>144,138</u>
Net surplus/ deficit for the year before transfers	6,051	-19,708	-28,887	-42,544	-4,743
Transfers between funds	3,642	-3,642		0	0
Net movement in funds	9,693	-23,350	-28,887	-42,544	-4,743
Fund balances brought forward	25,520	23,350	40,478	89,348	94,091
Fund balances carried forward	<u>35,213</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,591</u>	<u>46,804</u>	<u>89,348</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre
Statement of financial position
Year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3		5,218		6,958
Current assets					
Debtors	4	7,157		23,310	
Cash at bank		37,516		63,587	
		<u>44,673</u>		<u>86,897</u>	
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	<u>3,087</u>		<u>4,507</u>	
Net current assets			<u>41,586</u>		<u>82,390</u>
Net assets less current liabilities			<u><u>46,804</u></u>		<u><u>89,348</u></u>
 Reserves					
Restricted funds	6		11,591		40,478
Unrestricted funds					
General fund			35,213		25,520
Designated fund			0		23,350
Total income funds			<u><u>46,804</u></u>		<u><u>89,348</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP.

For the financial year ended 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 396 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 so far as applicable to the company.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 30 December 2025

Sarah Pinn

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre

Annual Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated.

Incoming resources

Incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the company is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Incoming resources from performances and related activities are included when performances are carried out and as goods and services are invoiced.
- Grants and donations are included when the conditions for receipt are met. Grant income is deferred when performance related grants are received in advance.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred.

- Charitable activities include all expenditure associated with the production of theatrical performances, including both direct and support costs.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory obligations of the charity, including examination fees.
- Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are included at cost and are depreciated on the reducing balance basis over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:-

Office Equipment	25%
Production Equipment	25%

2. Surplus for the Year

The surplus is stated after charging:-

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible assets owned by the company	1,740	2,320
Independent Examiner's fee	500	500
	=====	=====

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre
Notes to the accounts
Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant & equipment	Total
Cost	£	£
At 1 April 2024	52,010	52,010
Additions		0
Disposals		0
At 31 March 2025	<u>52,010</u>	<u>52,010</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024	45,052	45,052
Charge for the year	1,740	1,740
Eliminated on disposals		0
At 31 March 2025	<u>46,792</u>	<u>46,792</u>
Net book amounts		
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,218</u>	<u>5,218</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>6,958</u>	<u>6,958</u>

4. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	7,157	12,310
Restricted Fund	0	11,000
	<u>7,157</u>	<u>23,310</u>

5. Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

Trade creditors	1,389	799
Taxes and social security	0	1,485
Accruals	1,698	2,223
	<u>3,087</u>	<u>4,507</u>

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre

Notes to the accounts

Year ended 31 March 2025

6. Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	25,520	50,495	-44,444	3,642	35,213
Designated fund: Employment reserve	23,350		-19,708	-3,642	0
	48,870	50,495	-64,152	0	35,213
Restricted funds					
Grants for work with young people	0	5,030	-5,030		0
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	15,300		-15,300		0
D'Oyly Carte	3,000		-3,000		0
Albert Hunt Trust	1,500		-1,500		0
National Lottery Heritage Fund	4,889		-4,889		0
Garfield Weston Foundation	8,334	10,000	-10,834		7,500
Fullabrook Wind Farm	2,000		-2,000		0
Teignbridge Arts Project	0	7,850	-7,850		0
Equipment grants	5,455		-1,364		4,091
Total restricted funds	40,478	22,880	-51,767	0	11,591
Total funds	89,348	73,375	-115,919	0	46,804

Grants for work with young people. These donations support young people's groups in the Dartmoor area. The donors are The Claude and Margaret Pike Woodland Trust, Moretonhampstead Parish Council, DYS Space Ltd, Mothers Union Exeter, The Chagford Show.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation. A grant to help embed arts-based learning in Devon's rural schools.

D'Oyly Carte. For drama groups in North Devon.

Albert Hunt Trust. For a young people's mental health and wellbeing.

National Lottery Heritage Fund. A grant to support the 'What if....?' project

Garfield Weston Foundation. Grants to support core costs

Fullabrook Wind Farm. For drama groups in North Devon

Teignbridge Arts Project. A grant for weekly drama workshops in Moretonhampstead in Autumn 2024.

Equipment grants. Grants for fixed assets are credited to this fund and depreciation on the fixed assets financed with this funding is charged to the fund.

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre
Notes to the accounts
Year ended 31 March 2025

7. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,127	34,086	35,213
Designated fund		0	0
Restricted funds	4,091	7,500	11,591
	<u>5,218</u>	<u>41,586</u>	<u>46,804</u>

8. Employee information

	2024/2025	2023/2024
	Number	Number
The average number of full time equivalent employees during the year was	2	4
	£	£
Staff costs were:		
Wages and salaries	42,606	98,109
Redundancy payments	19,708	0
Social security costs	0	2,396
Pension payments	782	1,942
	<u>63,096</u>	<u>102,447</u>

9. Transactions with directors

No directors received any remuneration from the company during the year (2024: nil)

The following director received payment for services provided to the company as permitted by Clause 5(b) of the Memorandum of Association.

Sarah Pinn £1,430 for bookkeeping services

Manaton and East Dartmoor Theatre
Detailed income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds General	Restricted Funds	Total	2024
Income				
<u>Grants and donations</u>				
National Lottery Heritage Fund			0	22,000
Garfield Weston Foundation		10,000	10,000	20,000
Historic England			0	1,500
Paul Hamlyn Foundation			0	42,075
Moretonhampstead Parish Council		470	470	500
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust			0	4,000
Albert Hunt Trust			0	2,000
Claude and Margaret Pike Woodland Trust		1,500	1,500	1,400
DYS Space Ltd		1,200	1,200	0
Fullabrook Wind Farm			0	2,750
Teignbridge District Council		7,850	7,850	0
Mothers Union		1,500	1,500	
Chagford Show		360	360	
Theatre Tax Credit	1,817		1,817	9,725
Donations	5,066		5,066	5,524
Membership	2,689		2,689	3,975
	<u>9,572</u>	<u>22,880</u>	<u>32,452</u>	<u>115,449</u>
<u>Productions and workshops</u>				
Performance fees and box office	12,739		12,739	7,616
Schools and education	18,619		18,619	9,684
Commissions:	9,060		9,060	3,403
	0		0	0
	<u>40,418</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>40,418</u>	<u>20,703</u>
<u>Other income</u>				
Sales of merchandise and hire	180		180	993
Access to Work grant			0	1,488
Interest	325		325	762
	<u>505</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>3,243</u>
Total income	<u>50,495</u>	<u>22,880</u>	<u>73,375</u>	<u>139,395</u>
Expenditure				
<u>Production expenses</u>				
Staff wages and fees	71,719		71,719	82,666
Props, set, costumes, lighting, sound	155		155	240
Travel	2,178		2,178	2,730
Research and development	800		800	192
Marketing and publicity	452		452	1,781
Venue hire	1,465		1,465	2,874
Less allocated to restricted funds	-35,085	35,085	0	0
	<u>41,684</u>	<u>35,085</u>	<u>76,769</u>	<u>90,483</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>376</u>	<u>1,364</u>	<u>1,740</u>	<u>2,320</u>
<u>Support costs</u>				
Staff wages and fees	27,205		27,205	30,734
Training and recruitment	350		350	1,828
Bank charges	168		168	194
Insurance	1,731		1,731	1,747
Postage and stationery	146		146	636
Telephone	996		996	866
Heat, light and water	256		256	1,387
Rent	2,890		2,890	6,636
Equipment and IT repairs and renewals	334		334	2,870
Miscellaneous	383		383	699
Governance	2,951		2,951	3,738
Less allocated to restricted funds	-15,318	15,318	0	0
	<u>22,092</u>	<u>15,318</u>	<u>37,410</u>	<u>51,335</u>
Total expenditure	<u>64,152</u>	<u>51,767</u>	<u>115,919</u>	<u>144,138</u>
Surplus/deficit for the year	<u>-13,657</u>	<u>-28,887</u>	<u>-42,544</u>	<u>-4,743</u>