



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	04	2024		31	03	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name WHITLEY BAY PANTOMIME SOCIETY

Other names charity is known by WBPS

Registered charity number (if any) 1156038

Charity's principal address 19 Belmont Close

Wallsend

Tyne and Wear

Postcode NE28 9DX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Steven Linsdell-Bell	Chairman		Members
2	David Linsdell-Bell	Secretary		Members
3	Joanna Barrett	Treasurer		Members
4	Julie Smith	-		Members
5	Mark Robinson	-		Members
6	Georgia White	-		Members
7				
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15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Anthony Jones	34 Hascombe Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 9XQ
Lawyer	Hindle Campbell	8 Northumberland Sq, North Shields, NE30 1QQ
Bank	Lloyds Bank	Whitley Bay Branch

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

N/A

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Majority Vote of Membership

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

(I) TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THE ART OF THEATRE AND PANTOMIME AND THE ASSOCIATED SKILLS OF DRAMA, MIME, DANCE, SINGING AND MUSIC

(II) TO MAKE SUCH GRANTS AND DONATIONS FOR SUCH PURPOSES AS ARE CHARITABLE ACCORDING THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Charity's activities include the auditioning and recruitment of members from local communities for involvement in all aspects of production of our Pantomime show. Cast, crew and production team are primarily volunteers sourced from the local area who share an interest in the arts and community amateur theatre; particularly pantomime.

The Charity's main activity is the Pantomime, which provides a level of social inclusion for all involved; particularly throughout the rehearsal process. Members are encouraged to attend rehearsals regularly and have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the processes of producing a show whilst getting to meet new and old friends alike. The end result is a public performance showcasing our work to members of the general public.

Our members with greater ambition can gain involvement with technical aspects of the show learning skills in lighting, sound, stage management, directing, costume and make-up design, marketing etc with opportunities to participate in NODA's summer school.

Underlining the show and the Charity's fundraising efforts is the encouragement of a sense of community. Our members are encouraged to create a community feel within the Society, but also to participate in fundraising and events in the wider community. The Charity is often involved in smaller showcase performances at local events such as Christmas Markets, Fairs and Fetes and the local Rotary Club's Santa's Grotto which are all undertaken on a voluntary basis.

The Charity trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. Decisions are made taking into consideration our membership as well as the general public where necessary, proportionate and appropriate.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

At the end of each accounting period, our trustees agree the budget required for our next production. Surplus funds can be authorised for use as grants or donations to other charities in the form of cash awards or tickets for future performances.

Our policies outline that such cash award funds are to be donated based on nominations made and agreed at our Annual General Meeting.

Society participated in several community events including Whitley Bay late night shopping, and Whitley Bay Fiesta.

Our performing members subs were increased for the first time in many years. Our general membership subs cost was decreased.

Davie Linsdell-Bell was awarded honorary life membership.

Two Long Service Awards were given this year. 25 Year NODA Long Service Medal to our Treasurer Joanna Barrett, and a 15 Year NODA Long Service Award to our Secretary Dave Linsdell-Bell

The Society were deeply saddened at the loss of their long-serving member Lisa Bond.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

As a Society it was going to be hard to beat our 60th Anniversary year for both hype and production value of our show, but 2025's Sleeping Beauty stood its ground well and was a hit with our audiences. On top of this, our 60th Anniversary production Jack and the Beanstalk won us awards at the NODA North Awards in October 2024. This time we achieved awards not only for best show, but Best Dame in a Panto and Best Comic in a Panto.

Our shows continue to garner recognition in our field, and our charity continues to be given public recognition and award in relation to the work we do. We still have many areas that we can develop, with a keen interest and investigating 'relaxed' performances in the near future.

Financially, our accounts look like we made a considerable profit against usual years for us, however these figures are distorted due to an accounting delay against last year's accounts which seen that year appear to run at a considerable loss. This was caused by delays of unknown origin by our venue failing to pay our settlement figure by the close of our accounts.

Despite this, if our accounts are adjusted to reflect the external error, we still did achieve a profit this year. We would have substantially more if we had made progress in re-establishing our Theatre Tax Relief Claims through an accountant, however progress was halted mid-way when they stopped replying to us. We do intend to establish new contacts with charity accountants.

Restarted our 'video' nights, screening old shows for cast and crew to see.

ASM Global moved their ticketing agent, which seen an increase of booking fees through the new agent. ASM Global also announced that they were to start charging the Society a £1.95 fee on each ticket sold directly through the society from our 2026 show onwards. Unfortunately, this was not the only area of contention with the venue we use.

Despite the constant heavy increases in costs of using the venue, WBPS still decided to distribute a significant number of tickets free of cost to local organisations who deal front-line with disadvantaged families. This project is not advertised, so as to avoid any stigma or attention for the recipients. WBPS also donated £200 to a local charity who supply tents to the homeless during winter months.

We were awarded Corporate Livewire's SME Business Award – Best Local Pantomime Company 2024 Tyne and Wear.

After some time considering our ability, and months of planning, WBPS refurbished their storage unit to eliminate clutter and to catalogue the items remaining. It was a very successful project managed by our volunteers rather than outsourcing.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Whitley Bay Pantomime Society have no formal policy on reserves.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Principal funding is secured through ticket sales for our annual show. The great majority of our funding is sourced through this method, supported marginally by fundraising via membership fees, a tombola during show week, show programme sales and charity fundraising events.

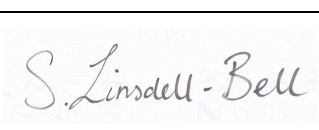
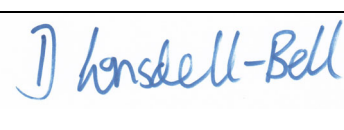
Section F Other optional information

WBPS have nothing to add to this section of the report.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Steven Anthony Linsdell-Bell	David Michael Linsdell-Bell
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Secretary
Date	18/05/2025	

WHITLEY BAY PANTOMIME SOCIETY
Balance sheet Year ending 31st March 2025
SLEEPING BEAUTY

Description Income		2024/25 Total
Ticket Sales (SMG £35,045/WBPS £9,243.07)		£44,288.07
Programme Revenue		£441.00
Tombola		£1,409.45
Fundraising		£1,098.71
Subs		£1,438.00
Theatre Tax Relief		£0.00
Miscellaneous		£4,816.35
Interest		£606.44
		<u>54,098.02</u>
Description Expenditure		Total
Theatre Hire (90% Bal 2025, Dep 2025)		£20,154.30
Room hire		£3,273.87
Storage		£586.87
Publicity		£1,674.52
Stage		£9,122.00
Wardrobe		£1,887.61
Music		£3,741.55
Insurance/membership/awards(NODA)		£1,826.46
TTR Professional Fees		£0.00
Donations		£570.00
Miscellaneous		£2,290.34
		<u>45,127.52</u>
Surplus/Deficit		<u>8,970.50</u>

WHITLEY BAY PANTOMIME SOCIETY - SLEEPING BEAUTY
YEAR END ACCOUNTS 31ST MARCH 2025

Balance Sheet

United Trust	15,906.92	b/fwd	20,651.59
Lloyds Bank	13,715.17	Surplus for year	8,970.50

<u>29,622.09</u>	<u>29,622.09</u>	0.00
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Date compiled 01/04/2025



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Whitley Bay Pantomime Society

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no (if any)	1156038
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Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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 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 statement

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

1. 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 comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Anthony Jones

Date:

28/01/2026

Name:

Anthony Jones

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

IER

Address: 34 Hascombe Close,

Whitley Bay,

Tyne & Wear, NE25 9XQ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

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