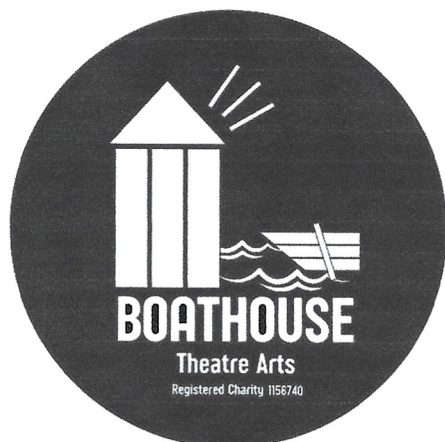


Boathouse Theatre Arts

Registered Charity Number 1156740

Annual Report

for the period Year Ending July 2025



**Boathouse Theatre Arts
Jackson Hall
Portland Place
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1QN**

Boathouse Theatre Arts

Organisational Information for the year ended 31st July 2025

Legal Form: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Governing Document: Constitution (Last amended in 2019)

Committee Members: Chair – Rachel Lowden
Treasurer – Nicola Rowland
Trustee – Felicity Parsons
Trustee - Sally Marchant
Trustee – Melissa Rowland
Trustee – Lawrence Jordon

Bankers **Melissa Rowland**
 Sally Marchant

Boathouse Theatre Arts

The report from the Chair and Trustee's for the year ending July 2025

The challenges in the current climate continue to be a concern for us as a small organisation. There is a high level of deprivation and poverty in Hastings, and we continue to try and be as inclusive as possible for those with different needs, who may experience more financial hardship and fewer opportunities.

This means we rely heavily on our volunteers to support paid practitioners to deliver workshops. We have had some new volunteers join this year as well as some constant stalwarts who support both adult and children's groups. Our CEO supervises the volunteers and continues to invest high levels of energy and commitment over and above in order to sustain us as an organisation.

Funding applications have been submitted for various organisations, and we have been unsuccessful in some but fortunate within the last month to be awarded £5000 from a funder with Sussex Community Foundation.

The need for groups continues and the waiting lists grows so we began a Tuesday evening added adult group in Ore which is in its embryonic stage but developing fast. We were awarded money from postcode lottery players in 2024, specifically to invest in a new project and decided it was best place here.

Unfortunately, the venue we were using for our adult group become too expensive and was inaccessible for some. We are trialling a new studio in the town which is at our limit in terms of payment for hiring but is run by another local charity of whom we have close bonds with, and are continuing to work in partnership with.

Our new website and Instagram page have been launched which will increase awareness and spread news of our upcoming shows and socials. We have invested in this with a view that we can attract more donations, of which during this financial year we haven't had any.

We welcomed a new trustee to the board in January who is a participant at Boathouse and wrote the fabulous pantomime we saw at Christmas. Lawrence has Autism and is a gifted writer and performer and we are so thrilled for the

skills he is bringing to the board and the voice of lived experience as an active member of the adult group.

It is a privilege to continue to work with a group of committed and passionate trustees, and to continue to work towards a sustainable robust financial structure that can scaffold the creative and powerful work our members and practitioners co create.

All our participants have learning difficulties to varying degrees, some are non-verbal and some have mobility challenges. Boathouse provides weekly sessions that engage people in singing, acting and performance.

R.A. Lowden

CEO report

Boathouse Theatre Arts continues to meet the needs and wants of our community through the deliverance of theatre workshops.

We now have 3 groups that each deliver weekly theatre workshop session during term time.

The Sunday Adult Group continues to meet the need of 25 members. They have recently relocated to purpose built, fully accessible theatre studio, built by our local Mencap. The cost remains the same as the previous venue. Over the past year, the group has welcomed a new member of paid staff and a volunteer. They have enjoyed several workshops from visiting artists, both building their skills and forging relationships within the community. One particular workshop was around comedy and was especially well received by many of our members!

The Children's Group continues to meet the need of 10 children and their families. One member has his siblings join in, which allows them build upon their family bond. We have two parents who choose to remain in the session and support the team and members in the workshop. Parents have access to a relaxed area, with hot drinks and biscuits, and this has been a vital lifeline for several, allowing them some respite and the chance to talk to similar families. Our new group is our Tuesday Adult Group. This is held Tuesday evenings at a local community centre with a hall and stage. This opened January 2025 and currently meets the needs of 8 members. It is run by one Lead Practitioner and supported by one paid support and one volunteer. As the group expands, we will adjust the staffing.

Last summer, we took our Singing and Signing Choir to a few local community events.

Last Christmas saw Boathouse Theatre Arts put on their first ever pantomime! This was a joint production of the Sunday and Children's Groups and was very well received. We packed the theatre for one afternoon and received many compliments on the professional deliverance of the panto.

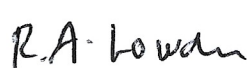
Through our public events and productions, we often see a rise in interest as to what we offer and donations. We have one family now donating monthly, and several people interested in us have joined our Tuesday Group.

We have since created our website, which we worked closely with local website builders, and this brings in extra interest. I aim to send out a quarterly newsletter to those signed up to it- generally a mix of family members and local community groups.

M Rowland



MILLIE ROWLAND



RACHAZ LOWDEN

18/10/2025



Nicola Rowland

18/10/2025



FELICITY PARSONS

18/10/2025

JORDAN LAWRENCE JORDAN

18/10/2025

Boathouse Theatre Arts

Year end 31 July 2025

Financials and Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Nicola Rowland
10th October 2025

Boathouse Theatre Arts
Treasurer's Report Year Ending 31 July 2025

Education and Administration

	Year ended 2025	Year ended 2024
Grants Received	10,000.00	8,080.00
Individual Donations (Direct Credit)	1,126.84	11,300.00
Friends of Boathouse	360.00	445.00
Income from Sessions and Shows	<u>7,449.14</u>	<u>6,512.67</u>
TOTAL FUND INCOME	18,935.98	26,337.67
EXPENDITURE		
Freelance Teachers	7,189.99	5,118.94
Venue Hire (Incl Hastings Centre Xmas Show)	3,100.00	2,710.50
P/T Administrator and Associated Costs	5,694.68	4,988.09
Printing and Publicity	282.21	1,864.49
Excursions	-	1,186.75
Insurances	162.76	139.60
Stationery and Sundry Expenditure	<u>333.00</u>	<u>460.00</u>
	16,762.64	16,468.37
EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION FUND TOTAL FOR THE YEAR	<u>2,173.34</u>	<u>9,869.30</u>
BALANCE AT BANK B/FWD	15,983.75	6,114.45
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	2,173.34	9,869.30
BALANCE AT BANK C/FWD	<u>18,157.09</u>	<u>15,983.75</u>
 RESERVED FUNDS	 7,500.00	 5,000.00
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	<u>10,657.09</u>	<u>10,983.75</u>
	<u>18,157.09</u>	<u>15,983.75</u>


 Nicola Rowland FCCA
 18/10/2025

R.A. Lowden
 18/10/2025

Boathouse Theatre Arts Treasurer's Report
Reporting period - August 2024 to July 2025

Income Overview

Grants and sessions have both increased in the year, however income from donations and Friends of Boathouse have decreased. If we can maintain a steady flow of grant and donation income, along with consistent session attendance, Boathouse will continue to thrive. 2024's donations were skewed by the £10,000 received from Gardeners Books.

Summary of Grants Received

Postcode Lottery	Designated to Children's Group	£4,000
Neighbourly Foundation	Undesignated	£1,000
Sussex Community Foundation	Undesignated	£5,000

Expenses Overview

Overall the expenses for the year have remained consistent between 2024 and 2025, however in the current year there has been increased spend in both wages and hall hire. In 2024 Boathouse Theatre Arts funded a trip to see Grease in London. There was also the cost of the website build in 2024 which has not been repeated in this year.

Cash position

The bank balance at the end of the year was £18,157. At the lowest point of the year it fell to £13,910 and peaked at £20,814.

Notes and Observations

I have increased the reserves to £7,500 from £5,000 which is enough to cover 6 months worth of wages and hall hire.

The Sunday and Tuesday groups are running at a loss. The Childrens group is in profit only due to the grant received from the Postcode Lottery.

Looking Ahead

We need to ensure that grants continue to come in regularly.

Is the Tuesday Group viable. Have numbers increased?

Are there opportunities to increase Friends of Boathouse or fundraising elsewhere?

Are the numbers at Children's group increasing?

	Year ended 2025	Adult Group	Children Group	Tuesday Group	General
INCOME					
Grants Received	10,000.00	-	4,000.00	-	6,000.00
Individual Donations (Direct Credit)	1,126.84	-	-	-	1,126.84
Friends of Boathouse	360.00	-	-	-	360.00
Income from Sessions and Shows	7,449.14	4,572.79	1,081.94	504.00	1,290.41
TOTAL INCOME	18,935.98	4,572.79	5,081.94	504.00	8,777.25
EXPENDITURE					
Freelance Teachers	7,189.99	4,074.99	2,010.00	1,105.00	-
Venue Hire (Incl Hastings Centre Xmas Show)	3,100.00	2,980.00	120.00	-	-
P/T Administrator and Associated Costs	5,694.68	-	57.84	14.75	5,622.09
Printing and Publicity	282.21	-	-	-	282.21
Excursions	-	-	-	-	-
Insurances	162.76	-	-	-	162.76
Stationery and Sundry Expenditure	333.00	-	-	-	333.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	16,762.64	7,054.99	2,187.84	1,119.75	6,400.06
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR EACH GROUP	2,173.34	(2,482.20)	2,894.10	(615.75)	2,377.19