
The Bone Ensemble

Unaudited trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended

31 March 2025

The Bone Ensemble

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The Bone Ensemble

Trustees

Orit Azaz
Louisa Jane Davies-Foley
Frances Anne Johnstone

Senior Management Team

Jill Dowse
Adam Ledger

Charity registered number

1163178

Registered office

162 Addison Road
Kings Heath
Birmingham
B14 7EP

The Bone Ensemble

Trustees' Report year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of The Bone Ensemble for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Objectives and activities

To advance education for the public benefit by the promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively the art of drama.

Overview

This year was full of exciting developments and deepening relationships for *The Islander* project, which brings together a long-held love of islands with a desire to explore themes emerging from a beloved short story by Tove Jansson. Conversations with islanders gave greater depth and meaning and new artistic connections brought fresh thinking and creative imaginings into the company's ongoing exploration.

The Islander Project

A successful Arts Council bid, together with further funding from West Midlands Combined Authority and the University of Birmingham, enabled the company to further their research and development plans, with plans in place to finish this activity (including a photoshoot and the creation of a promotional trailer and tourpack) the following financial year.

The Co-Artistic Directors met many islanders during their two residencies - on beaches and boats, in cafes, in sheds, in squirrel territory, on a moose hunt, in the sauna... They recorded field sounds, filmed landscapes and shared 'thank you' gifts from one island to another island.

Jill & Adam learned more about the flora and fauna of these places, and how intensively climate and weather events impact upon these environments and the people who live there. As a case in point, the second residency in the Isles of Scilly was unfortunately postponed by bad weather - such is island life - but foundations were laid for meeting members of the community (including the Men's Shed on St Mary's with whom the company plans to co-design set elements), artists and potential programmers in early May.

A second visit to the Isle of Wight enabled them to meet local artist Teresa Grimaldi, who has become an important collaborator. They were also able to revisit Finland, where, in Pelling, songs were shared and tales told of meeting Tove Jansson and her partner Tooti. They were also shown the first Moomin she ever drew, scribbled into an outhouse wall. Via a smartphone filming initiative with young people on the Isle of Wight, the company met an exciting emerging film maker who they will bring further into the project.

In January, the company brought together the band of performer-musicians and worked intensively for two weeks in the studio experimenting with bringing together film, storytelling, song, soundscapes and puppetry. This time together culminated in an online 'fika' event which connected residents, artists and programmers from all three communities, including rural touring schemes and national partners.

Although the show will be suitable for touring to arts centres, the company is particularly keen to visit rural communities, which are often somewhat isolated, like islands themselves, as this feels like a good fit for the themes and values of the show.

The company are considering ways of extending our engagement with these communities beyond the show itself.

Livestreaming has begun to emerge as an important engagement and touring tool, particularly to more isolated people or communities.

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Trustees' Report cont... year ended 31 March 2025

Although the focus of the show has now pivoted towards expressing the joys and challenges of island life mostly by drawing on conversations and stories told to us by people in these three island communities, and weaving in Jill & Adam's own experiences in these unique habitats, the spirit of Jansson's tale and writing continues to inspire.

This year has laid strong creative and relational foundations for the touring performance, shaped deeply by place, people and sound.

Financial Review

The detailed figures are included in the financial statements.

The charity made a net surplus of £22,691 in the year under review (2024: deficit of (£6,804)).

Restricted and unrestricted funds at the end of the year were £26,395 and £28,038 (2024: £0 and £31,742)

By order of the Board



Orit Azaz
Trustee
27 November 2025

The Bone Ensemble

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees 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 income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and 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 business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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 applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 27 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Orit Azaz
Trustee

The Bone Ensemble

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of The Bone Ensemble

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts

The 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;
- 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 report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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 to indicate that:

- accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 130 of The Charities Act 2011
- the accounts do not accord with such records:
- attention should be drawn to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Joanne Watkin BA (Hons) FCA
Purple Cat Accountancy Limited

87 Highgate Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 3JA

The Bone Ensemble

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	General fund	Restricted fund	Total funds 2025	2024
Income	3				
Voluntary income		-	39,519	39,519	4,000
Charitable activities		-	-	-	2,683
Investment income			-	-	5
Total income		-	39,519	39,519	6,688
Expenditure on:	4				
Charitable activities		3,704	13,124	16,828	13,492
Total expenditure		3,704	13,124	16,828	13,492
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		(3,704)	26,395	22,691	(6,804)
Transfers		-	-	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) after transfers		(3,704)	26,395	22,691	(6,804)
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2024	8	31,742	-	31,742	38,546
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2025	8	28,038	26,395	54,433	31,742

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	6	214	374
Current assets			
Debtors	7	5,486	5,408
Cash at bank and in hand		49,356	26,770
Total current assets		<u>54,842</u>	<u>32,178</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(623)	(810)
Net current assets		54,219	31,368
Net assets		<u>54,433</u>	<u>31,742</u>
Represented by			
Funds			
Unrestricted general fund	9	28,038	31,742
Restricted fund	9	26,395	-
		<u>54,433</u>	<u>31,742</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 27 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by



Orit Azaz
Trustee

The Bone Ensemble

Notes to the accounts year ended 31 March 2025

1. Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011

2. Accounting policies

Recognition of income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure and it is probable that settlement is required and that the amount can be reliably measured.

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amount

Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount; subsequently they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in paragraph 1 schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or have been raised by the charity for specific purposes

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Notes to the accounts year ended 31 March 2025

3. Income

Voluntary income

Grants	39,519	4,000
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Charitable activities

Theatre tax relief	-	2,683
	-	2,683

4. Expenditure

Expenditure on charitable activities

Artistic director fees	7,283	6,552
Other freelance fees	3,750	1,662
Sets, props and costumes	80	-
Insurance	406	401
Bank charges	-	-
Printing and stationery	-	8
Software	413	485
Subscription	70	-
Travel	3,891	3,276
Miscellaneous expenditure	175	270
Accountancy fees	600	630
Depreciation	160	208
	16,828	13,492

5. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No amounts were paid to trustees in the year under review.

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Notes to the accounts year ended 31 March 2025

6. Fixed assets	Office equipment	Total
Cost		
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2024	830	830
Additions	-	-
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2025	<u>830</u>	<u>830</u>
Depreciation		
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2024	456	456
Charge for the year	160	160
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2025	<u>616</u>	<u>616</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	<u>214</u>	<u>214</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>374</u>	<u>374</u>
7. Debtors	2025	2024
Theatre tax relief	-	2,683
Other debtors	5,486	2,724
	<u>5,486</u>	<u>5,407</u>
8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
Accruals and deferred income	623	810
	<u>623</u>	<u>810</u>

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Notes to the accounts year ended 31 March 2025

9a Funds (current year)	Balance at 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
Total unrestricted funds	31,742	-	(3,704)	-	28,038
Restricted funds					
Island project	-	39,519	(13,124)		26,395
Total restricted funds	-	39,519	(13,124)	-	26,395
Total funds	31,742	39,519	(16,828)	-	54,433

9b Funds (previous year)	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
Total unrestricted funds	38,546	6,688	(13,492)	-	31,742
Restricted funds					
Total restricted funds	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	38,546	6,688	(13,492)	-	31,742

10. Fees for examination of the accounts	2025	2024
Independent examiner's fees	600	630