

**THE COMPANY OF PLAYERS (HERTFORD) CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO

Contents

	Page
Trustees' Report	1—3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities	6
Statement of Financial Position	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8—12
The following pages do not form part of the statutory accounts:	
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	13

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO

Trustees' Report For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2025.

Objectives and Activities

Aims and Objectives

To put on theatrical productions throughout the year that the public will appreciate ensuring the meet a high standard of performance and to help younger members get involved in performing arts through our Youth Group.

Public Benefit

To educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and the further development of public appreciation and taste in said arts.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Main Achievements

It has been a very busy year for the Company.

We've enjoyed the usual five main season productions and for the first time in many years we saw the return of a Youth Group to our stage. Extensive repair and reroofing work have been completed and is still underway in the toilet and backstage block. We have continued to look for opportunities for guest productions, which will feature again in this new season. Our audience numbers are strong with a record number of new people discovering us for the first time this year. More detail on all of that to come but all in all, we're doing well.

For the second year running, we've been taking part in East Herts District Council's Arts in East Herts programme this autumn. We repeated last year's Open Day, which saw a healthy number of visitors, some of whom have since become members. We will be repeating this event next year - it is always a joy to show people around our lovely little theatre and given them the tour. Arts in East Herts gave us a springboard last year to launch our new Youth Group, in partnership with Mimic Theatre Company - a big thank you to Mimic's Kim and group leader George for supporting us with this important step. Grant funding from EHDC and the Arts Society of East Herts means we've been able to offer free introductions and ongoing bursary places, and the group has continued to grow over the year, bringing a new generation to the Company.

The season gone by kicked off in September last year with the "The Winslow Boy" by Terrence Rattigan. Another incredibly strong show saw the story of Ronnie Winslow played out for our audience. The eponymous role was shared by two members of our newly launched Youth Group at the time. The classic tale of right and justice was beautifully portrayed. A period-themed gala night performance was a particular highlight, with audiences dressing up to enjoy music, canapes and bubbles before the show.

Next up was "A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story" adapted from the Dickens by Mark Gatiss. The show was a huge box office success with many people disappointed not to obtain a ticket - the rapid ticket sales were record breaking. A cast of 21, yes 21, actors took us on a magical ride through the classic Dickensian tale, complete with mulled wine and mince pies in the foyer. It was a terrific show with clever use of the space and technical elements bringing all the ghosts "to life".

We followed the Ghosts of Christmas with another Ghost story, of sorts, in the shape of Henrik Ibsen's play. "Ghosts" was described in the review as "classy, clean, with a uniformly talented cast, flawlessly directed. This was a terrific evening of theatre. This production saw us trial allocated seating for the first time, which the vast majority of audience members received positively.

"Colder Than Here" written by Laura Wade was next. The show dealt with the lead character of Myra organising the arrangements of her own funeral, much to her family's distaste. It might sound miserable, but in reality it was a warm, funny, bittersweet tale that was deftly handled by the cast and director, described as a "cracking night at the theatre" by Ian Houghton in his review.

"Di and Viv and Rose" by Amelia Bullmore closed out the season for us. It was a lovely play full of humour, letting us see behind the curtains of the friendship of three women over time. Amongst the ups and downs there were also powerfully emotional scenes described by the reviewer as "heartbreaking".

As a nice dessert to the main course of the season, the Youth Group gave us "How to Survive Being in a Shakespeare Play" by Don Zolidis. This madcap romp through most of Shakespeare's work saw the young people involved performing multiple Shakespearian roles with great gusto and conviction. Rob Graham, who reviewed the show for us said it was, "a thoroughly entertaining evening." I wholeheartedly agree.

Thanks go to all involved in all the shows last season - onstage, backstage and front of house - there are far too many names to mention everyone.

The current season is already underway, with "Oleanna" having just closed and "And Then There Were None" in early rehearsals. Next year's Chairman's report will detail these and the upcoming shows in more detail.

All our productions are supported by The Monday Nighters, who design and build all our sets. The hours of work the team puts in is always evident in the finished product and this last season was no exception. From a box set for "The Winslow Boy" to a skeletal conservatory for "Ghosts" to stage spanning projection screens for "Colder Than Here" they have delivered again, thank you to all of you.

Many thanks to all our Front of House volunteers. Thank you to our House Keeping Team who tidy and clean the theatre before each show. Your work is greatly appreciated even if most don't see the work that is done.

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**The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025**

Main Achievements - continued

So, there is a theme emerging here. We need more people to keep this place running. We produce excellent theatre, far better than many newcomers expect. But all of it is dependent on the other stuff, the boring stuff, the difficult stuff, and there is only so much stuff we can each do. But if each of you were to do just one thing for us, with us, it would make a huge difference. It is all too easy to think everything is just fine when we routinely deliver season after season of quality drama, when in fact many of us are spread too thin and this cannot continue.

As a company we are amazing, I truly believe that. We punch above our weight on and behind the stage and give every audience a warm welcome as well as a great night of theatre. But our small company, however perfectly formed, is a fragile thing that needs more support. Every one of you is already a vital part of this fantastic family that we all love – let's all make sure we pitch in just a little bit more to take it into the future together.

Financial Review

Financial Position

The charity made a surplus of £5,704 (2024 - £8,524) made up of :

- Restricted theatre development £2,682
- Restricted 100 Club £692
- Restricted youth group £720
- General unrestricted £1,610

Reserves at the end of the year were £633,115 (2024 - 627,410).

Reserves Policy

The charity's minimum reserves will be calculated as the unrestricted funds needed to maintain 12 months of operation with no additional foreseeable income. Reserves in excess of the minimum can be considered for transfer to the restricted funds if the trustees are of the opinion that they are surplus to requirements for the ongoing operation of the theatre.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Mr C Janes - Chair
Ms H Leonard
Mr D Palmer
Mr A Lee
Mrs A Reiss
Mr J Wallis
Mr R Gill (appointed 16/10/2025)

Charity Number

1194040

Principal Address

6 Christchurch Place
Hertford
Hertfordshire
SG14 3BB

Independent Examiner

Beverley Turner FCA CTA ACG
The Accounts Factory Ltd
Chartered Accountants & Chartered Tax Advisors
30 The Avenue
Welwyn
Herts
AL6 0PP

**The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025**

The trustees' report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Mr C Janes

Trustee

8 December 2025

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 July 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and contents 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.

Beverley Turner FCA CTA ACG

8 December 2025
30 The Avenue
Welwyn
Herts
AL6 0PP

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

			2025	2024
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Donations and legacies	3	182	9,372	9,554
Charitable activities:				
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts		44,670	-	44,670
Investments	4	382	1,513	1,895
		<u>45,234</u>	<u>10,885</u>	<u>56,119</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Charitable activities:	6			
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts		(43,625)	(6,790)	(50,415)
NET INCOME		<u>1,609</u>	<u>4,095</u>	<u>5,704</u>
Transfers between funds	13	(2,452)	2,452	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(843)</u>	<u>6,547</u>	<u>5,704</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		68,044	559,366	627,410
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	<u><u>67,201</u></u>	<u><u>565,913</u></u>	<u><u>633,114</u></u>

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

		2024		
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Donations and legacies	3	863	4,155	5,018
Charitable activities:				
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts		38,247	17	38,264
Investments	4	525	205	730
		39,635	4,377	44,012
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Charitable activities:	6			
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts		(35,068)	(420)	(35,488)
NET INCOME		4,567	3,957	8,524
Transfers between funds	13	(1,200)	1,200	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		3,367	5,157	8,524
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		64,677	554,209	618,886
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	68,044	559,366	627,410

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Statement of Financial Position
As At 31 July 2025

				2025	2024
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	10	18,307	538,275	556,582	559,900
		18,307	538,275	556,582	559,900
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	5,041	800	5,841	5,027
Cash at bank and in hand		50,703	26,838	77,541	63,083
		55,744	27,638	83,382	68,110
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	12	(6,850)	-	(6,850)	(600)
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		48,894	27,638	76,532	67,510
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		67,201	565,913	633,114	627,410
NET ASSETS		67,201	565,913	633,114	627,410
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Funds				565,913	559,366
Unrestricted Funds				67,201	68,044
TOTAL FUNDS	13			633,114	627,410

On behalf of the board

Mr C Janes

Trustee

28 November 2025

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

1. General Information

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission, registered charity number 1194040. The principal address is 6 Christchurch Place, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 3BB.

2. Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

2.2. Incoming Resources

Income from donations and legacies comprises incomes generated from the following sources:

- gifts and donations received/receivable including legacies
- any tax reclaimed on amounts received under gift aid
- grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature
- gifts in kind and donated services and facilities

income from charitable activities includes:

- sale of goods or services as a charitable activity
- Membership subscriptions
- grants specifically for the provision of goods or services as part of charitable activities or services to beneficiaries (including performance-related grants)

2.3. Resources Expended

Raising funds includes expenditure on seeking donations and legacies for example donations, legacies, core funding grants and gifts in kind. The costs may include fundraising, advertising, marketing and direct mail materials, as well as any payments to an agent. They will normally include publicity costs but exclude the cost of educational material produced to promote the charity's work, which is classed as a cost of charitable activities.

expenditure on charitable activities comprises all the expenditure incurred in meeting the charitable objectives including amounts spent on:

- grants
- the direct provision of charitable service
- a proportion of the charity's support costs which, if allocated, will be explained in the notes to the accounts

They exclude:

- the cost of raising funds to finance these activities

2.4. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Land is not depreciated. The value of land is revalued every 5 years. Property is depreciated over its estimated useful lifetime of 50 years and is revalued every 5 years.

Freehold	50 years
Plant & Machinery	5 years

2.5. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to a known amount of cash with insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts.

3. Income from Donations and Legacies

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds
	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	182	8,572	8,754
Gift aid	-	800	800
	182	9,372	9,554

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	215	4,155	4,370
Gift aid	648	-	648
	863	4,155	5,018

4. Investment Income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds
	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	382	1,513	1,895

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	525	205	730

5. Net Income/(Expenditure)

The net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned	6,202	-

6. Analysis of Expenditure

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 7)	2025 Total
	£	£	£
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts	28,941	21,474	50,415

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

		2024
	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 7)
	£	£
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts	27,493	7,995
	<u>27,493</u>	<u>7,995</u>
		<u>35,488</u>

7. Support Costs

	2025
	to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts
	£
Premises expenses	17,791
General administration	3,683
	<u>21,474</u>
	<u>21,474</u>
	2024
	to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts
	£
Premises expenses	4,938
General administration	3,057
	<u>7,995</u>
	<u>7,995</u>

8. Independent Examiner's Remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examination of the financial statements	600	600
	<u>600</u>	<u>600</u>

9. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees during the year was: NIL (2024: NIL)

10. Tangible Assets

	Land & Property		
	Freehold	Plant & Machinery	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
As at 1 August 2024	539,900	20,000	559,900
Additions	-	2,884	2,884
As at 31 July 2025	<u>539,900</u>	<u>22,884</u>	<u>562,784</u>

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The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

Depreciation

As at 1 August 2024	-	-	-
Provided during the period	1,625	4,577	6,202
As at 31 July 2025	1,625	4,577	6,202
Net Book Value			
As at 31 July 2025	538,275	18,307	556,582
As at 1 August 2024	539,900	20,000	559,900

11. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Due within one year		
Other debtors	5,841	5,027

12. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	6,850	600

13. Movement in Funds

	As at 1 August 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 31 July 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
General unrestricted fund	68,044	45,234	(43,625)	(2,452)	67,201
Restricted funds					
Theatre Development Fund	558,001	8,040	(5,357)	4,251	564,935
100 Club	1,365	1,125	(433)	(1,799)	258
Youth Group	-	1,720	(1,000)	-	720
Total restricted funds	559,366	10,885	(6,790)	2,452	565,913
Total funds	627,410	56,119	(50,415)	-	633,114

	As at 1 August 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 31 July 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
General unrestricted fund	64,677	39,635	(35,068)	(1,200)	68,044
Restricted funds					

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The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

Theatre Development Fund	552,080	3,221	-	2,700	558,001
100 Club	2,129	1,156	(420)	(1,500)	1,365
Total restricted funds	<u>554,209</u>	<u>4,377</u>	<u>(420)</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>559,366</u>
Total funds	<u>618,886</u>	<u>44,012</u>	<u>(35,488)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>627,410</u>

14. Transactions with Trustees

None of the trustees received any remuneration or any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity during the current or previous year.

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

15. Related Party Disclosures

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31 July 2025

	2025	2024
	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and gifts	3,200	3,210
Donations from organisations	4,354	-
100 club	1,200	1,160
Gift aid	800	648
	<u>9,554</u>	<u>5,018</u>
Charitable Activities:		
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts		
Income from charitable activities	319	-
Member subscriptions	7,864	6,295
Youth group subs	1,810	-
Production income	34,677	31,969
	<u>44,670</u>	<u>38,264</u>
Investments		
Bank interest receivable	1,895	730
	<u>1,895</u>	<u>730</u>
	<u>56,119</u>	<u>44,012</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:		
Charitable Activities:		
to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts		
100 Club prizes	(488)	(445)
Direct production expenditure	(14,678)	(10,123)
Theatre running costs	(6,907)	(6,326)
Purchases Type C	-	(9,617)
Printing, postage and stationery	(666)	(982)
Depreciation of plant and machinery	(4,577)	-
Depreciation of freehold land and property	(1,625)	-
Direct theatre development costs	(7,091)	(300)
Light and heat	(4,450)	(3,853)
Repairs and maintenance	(6,250)	(785)
Insurance	(2,928)	(2,223)
Independent examiner's fees	(600)	(600)
Subscriptions	(105)	(234)
Charitable donations	(50)	-
	<u>(50,415)</u>	<u>(35,488)</u>
	<u>(50,415)</u>	<u>(35,488)</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>5,704</u></u>	<u><u>8,524</u></u>