

Director's Report

For the period 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025
Sabotage Theatre Company CIO

1. Introduction and Charitable Purposes

Sabotage Theatre Company CIO is established “*to promote, maintain, improve and advance education and appreciation of the art of theatre for the public benefit by providing original, contemporary live shows and arts-related educational activities.*”

The Trustees confirm that, in planning and delivering our activities during the year, they have *given due consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit* as required by the Charities Act 2011. All activities undertaken this year were designed to further our charitable purposes and provide clear, measurable public benefit, particularly for children and young people with limited access to the arts.

2. Governance

This year marked a significant stage in our organisational development as Sabotage Theatre transitioned from a Community Interest Company (CIC) to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This shift strengthens our long-term governance, legal structure and financial resilience. Trustees were appointed through professional connections to the company and form the founding Board.

Throughout the year, the Trustees worked to establish clearer systems for oversight, decision-making and risk management as the charity grows. The Board met regularly and undertook the development of new governance documents, including collaborating with an Environmental Sustainability Expert to formalise our Environmental Policy.

The Artistic Director also undertook professional development supported by a DYCP grant, advancing skills in wooden puppet carving, leather mask making and performance—enhancing the creative quality of future charitable activities.

3. Artistic and Educational Activities for Public Benefit

The Púca – Development Phase

A major focus of the year was the development of *The Púca*, a new performance-workshop designed to build mental health resilience in young people. The end of this financial year we started our tour, which continued into the Summer term. By the end of March 2025 we had reached 84 participants. This project directly furthers our charitable purpose by using theatre, puppetry and creative learning to support emotional wellbeing and enrich artistic education.

During the reporting year, we completed:

- workshop design and development

- a devising-led creative process
- creation of new puppetry and mask-based learning activities
- collaboration with a mental health supervisor to ensure safe practice
- preparation for delivery in secondary schools from April 2025

The Púca enriches cultural learning by exposing young people to a range of specialist art-forms—such as mask work (full face and half leather mask), puppetry, clowning and imagination exercises. Alongside this artistic exposure, the workshop models practical emotional resilience tools (including visualisation, self-compassion and temporal distancing), helping participants better understand and manage their inner emotional world.

The project was designed in consultation with Arts Partnership Surrey (APS). Working with APS, we prioritised schools in areas of significant deprivation, ensuring that financial and geographical barriers to arts access were removed by providing the workshop entirely free of charge.

Public benefit delivered includes:

- enhancing creativity and confidence through hands-on engagement with theatre arts
- supporting emotional resilience in young people at a crucial developmental stage
- addressing reduced arts access following the pandemic
- offering culturally enriching, curriculum-linked learning opportunities

Funding from Arts Partnership Surrey and Arts Council England supported the development period and enabled us to prepare for further touring in Surrey in the Spring and Summer term, expanding our touring network into a new region.

4. Touring and Performances: After the Rain

In addition to new project development, we continued touring *After the Rain*, our children's puppet show about natural habitats. Touring this work continues to advance our charitable purpose by providing high-quality, accessible theatre to families, schools and communities.

During the year, performances took place at:

- Brighton Fringe
- Norwich Puppet Theatre
- Into the Trees Festival
- The Applause Rural Touring Network (including The Lighthouse, Deal, and East Sussex Libraries)
- JimJam Arts, Folkestone (Christmas programme)

In total these performances reached 424 audience members.

These bookings demonstrate ongoing demand for our work and reflect our growing regional reach. The production teaches children that insects, plants and animals need to have homes too, while fostering appreciation for puppetry and live theatre—core aspects of our charitable service.

Audience feedback

"I have never seen my child enjoy a show as much as this. He loves nature and crows are his favourite, so we were happy to know the crow didn't end up being the bad guy like in a lot of fiction. Thank you for such a wonderful show that kept his attention the entire time. The activity pack is also wonderful."

"Really high-quality puppet show. Highlight of the Living Advent Calendar."

5. How Our Activities Further Our Charitable Purposes

Across all programmes this year, Sabotage Theatre furthered its charitable aims by:

- delivering and developing arts-based educational activities
- providing accessible theatre to underserved communities
- enriching cultural appreciation among children and young people
- Creating bold original work with puppetry, mask-making and devised performance
- reducing financial and geographic barriers to arts participation

Our work continues to prioritise public benefit by bringing high-quality, imaginative theatre directly into community settings—schools, libraries, halls and rural venues—where children and families might otherwise have limited access to the arts.

6. Financial Review

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity remained financially stable throughout the reporting period and ended the year in a strong position to continue delivering its charitable activities.

Total income for the year amounted to **£35,543. £26,141** of which was derived from grants from Arts Council England and **£5901** Surrey Arts Partnership Fund, both in support of *The Púca*.

£3501 came from fees collected from performances of *After the Rain*.

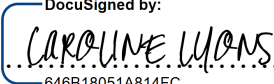
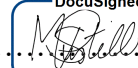
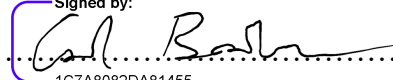
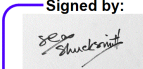
The charity's expenditure on charitable activities was **£17,817**, covering performer fees, costumes and props, rehearsal and workshop space, technical costs, venue hire, training, travel, and essential safeguarding checks. These costs reflect direct investment in delivering high-quality artistic and educational work for public benefit.

Expenditure on overheads and governance—including freelance administrative support, marketing and publicity, accountancy, insurance, motor expenses, website costs and office-related expenditure—totalled **£1,544**. These are necessary costs to ensure the sustainable and compliant operation of the charity.

After accounting for all expenditure, the charity recorded an in-year surplus of **£4,619**. This surplus strengthens our reserves and supports the continuity of our activities into the next financial year.

The year-end balance carried forward was **£25,303**, represented by **£24,803** held in the bank, **£800** in debtors, and **£300** in accruals. The Trustees consider this level of reserves appropriate for the size of the charity and necessary to support cash flow, maintain stability during project-based grant funding cycles, and enable forward planning of artistic and educational work.

This report has been reviewed and approved by the undersigned Trustees at the board meeting on Sunday 14th December 2025.

Name	CAROLINE LYONS	
Signed	Signed by:  646B18051A814FC...	12/15/2025
Name	Penelope Mustill	
Signed	Signed by:  B612E362B2554D9...	12/9/2025
Name	Carl Boardman	
Signed	Signed by:  1C7A8082DA81455...	12/12/2025
	Sea Shucksmith	
	Signed by:  610FB58257F34FB...	12/8/2025

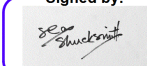
SABOTAGE THEATRE

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2025

Charity Registration Number : 1207426

Sea Shucksmith

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12/8/2025

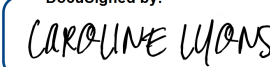
Carl Boardman

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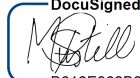
12/12/2025

CAROLINE LYONS

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12/15/2025

Penelope Mustill

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12/9/2025

SABOTAGE THEATRE

TRUSTEE REPORT
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS
TRUST DOCUMENT

The Trust is a Registered Charity governed by the Trust Deed dated 13 March 2024

Charity Number : 1207426

TRUSTEES

Penny Mustill
Caroline Lyons
Carl Boardman
Clare Shucksmith
Caroline Bowman

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The power of appointing a new trustee is vested in the existing Trustees.

CORRESPONDENT

Zoe Hinks
Flat 3, Holland Road
HOVE
East Sussex
BN3 1JE

ACCOUNTANTS

EJP Accounting Services Ltd
95 Priory Way
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 3NS

BANKERS

HSBC
153 North Street
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1SW

SABOTAGE THEATRE**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	<u>Note</u>	<u>£</u>	2025	<u>£</u>
<u>Balances b/f</u>				
Bank balance				20,364
Debtors				320
				<u>20,684</u>
<u>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</u>				
Performances		3,501		
Grants		32,042		
Total Income				<u>35,543</u>
<u>Less: Charitable activities expenditure</u>				
Performers' fees		12,275		
Costumes and props		860		
Rehearsal space		750		
Light and sound		312		
Workshop space		300		
Venue hire / box office		300		
Performers' training		633		
Travel and subsistence		2,181		
DBS checks		206		
				<u>17,817</u>
Profit before Overheads				<u>17,726</u>
<u>Less Overheads</u>				
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
Freelancers (Zoe)		7,930		
Publicity and marketing		3,633		
				<u>11,563</u>
<u>Governance</u>				
Accountancy		300		
Insurance		231		
Motor Expenses		377		
Website costs		296		
IT costs		48		
Printing, postage and stationery		55		
Repairs and renewals		177		
Bank charges		60		
				<u>1,544</u>
TOTAL GOVERNANCE				<u>1,544</u>
TOTAL				<u>13,107</u>
Surplus / deficit in year				<u>4,619</u>
Balance c/f				<u>25,303</u>
<u>As represented by:</u>				
Bank			24,803	
Debtors			800	
Accruals			(300)	
Balance c/f				<u>25,303</u>



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Sabotage Theatre

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1207426

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended *31/03/2025*.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination ~~(other than that disclosed below *)~~ which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content 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.

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

Signed:

Emma Pryor

Date:

8.12.2025

Name:

EMMA PRYOR

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ACMA

(if any):

Address:

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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