

Registered Number: 01787316
Charity Registration Number: 289644



FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Registered Office Address:

*First Floor, Pintail House,
Duck Island Lane,
Ringwood, England,
BH24 3AA*

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees	Ms. S Fullerlove (Chair) Ms. V Briggs Ms. L Smith-Head Mr. M Wilson Mr. J Swyer Mr. DMS Waugh Ms. J Taylor
Secretary	Ms K Whenray
Charity Registration Number	289644
Company Registration Number	01787316
Principal Address	First Floor Pintail House Duck Island Lane Ringwood Hampshire BH24 3AA
Registered office	First Floor Pintail House Duck Island House Ringwood Hampshire BH24 3AA
Accountant	Cloud Eleven Accountants 12A Stanford Rd Lymington Hampshire SO41 9GF
Independent Examiner	Tee accounts T/A On the Spot Tax Rosehill House St Austell Cornwall PL26 7BA

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TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Forest Forge Theatre Company's charitable objective is to produce and tour theatre productions and to provide a comprehensive participatory programme, to advance education or to encourage involvement in the arts.

Forest Forge's mission is:

Forest Forge uses theatre to find the extraordinary in the ordinary. Based in the New Forest, our work across touring productions, participation and artist development helps make and build connections between people, sparks joy and encourages personal shifts in perspective and experience.

The company achieves its charitable objectives and lives up to its mission by delivering three strands of work:

- Touring Theatre

Forest Forge creates flexible theatre productions that can be enjoyed in a range of venues from village halls to studio theatres, non-theatre spaces and outdoors. All touring productions celebrate the tradition of oral storytelling and engage audiences regardless of their background or experience.

- Participation

Forest Forge's successful participation programme (previously Creative Learning) allows people living within the New Forest the opportunity to take part in theatre making activities. Working with people of all ages, backgrounds and levels of experience, the programme shares and celebrates Forest Forge's ethos and practice.

- Artist Development

Forest Forge's Artist Development programmes exist to develop and support the future of theatre making in the New Forest.

Forest Forge delivers its mission and charitable objectives through the delivery of a Business Plan has been developed by the trustees, leadership team and with careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

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Review of the Year: 2024-25

Touring

Our touring work and how we approach it, became a focus for the company throughout the year. We spent time discussing and planning how to re-engage with the touring networks and creating fleet of foot theatre for the region.

- A Christmas Carol – produced, created and toured 25 dates in the New Forest, Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset, in co-production with BumbleFly Theatre and Mischievous Theatre.

“Your inventiveness and creativity in retelling this classic story were moving and inspiring. Each time I experience A Christmas Carol, I find something new to appreciate, and your rendition was one of the best. The puppetry and shadows, combined with the tender storytelling, moved me to tears. Thank you for bringing such magic and joy and useful lessons for us all.” Audience member

- Suitcase Stories – Jack and the Beanstalk – produced, created and toured our new fleet of foot one person show to 15 shows to libraries and schools.

“captivated the audience. pitched just right. professional performance”

Participation

Our participation programmes continued to be a key focus and ran throughout the year in Ringwood and across the New Forest. All our participatory work is based on our inclusive, ensemble theatre approach where every participant is equally valued, shares collective ownership and where the success of the whole is prioritised over the success of the individual. It is underpinned by our heartfelt, playful approach, informed and underpinned by a commitment to telling stories and celebrating the New Forest. The programme included:

- Forest Forge Youth Theatre

In 24-25 we engaged 64 children and young people in 30 weekly youth theatre sessions. These sessions focus on ensemble theatre and use our artistic ethos, to enhance and enrich the lives of participants. Feedback from sessions included:

“Dedication, passion, overarching care of the students and creating an incredibly rich, knowledgeable and boundless space for the kids to be included, nurtured and supported, create the most wonderful plays and memories for beyond that, friendships are made and lives enhanced” Youth Theatre parent

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In July all the participation groups performed Tales from the Forge in the gardens at the Waldorf School, featuring around 100 performers from our Saturday Drama Clubs, Youth Theatre, Act Your Age, Branching Out, Young Company and Waterside Drama Club. There was a guest performance from Tales for an Unruly Audience by Lung and a Half Full.

“Big thanks to everyone for the stupendous organisation involved in the day. Of the performances I saw, all were wonderful, the scripts, the choreography, the skills of the youngsters. That didn't just happen by itself but through the amazing foresight of Lucy, Jo and all the backup team.” participant and performer

- Waterside Drama

Waterside Drama includes two weekly drama sessions at the British Legion in Fawley and are targeted to those living on lower incomes and with a particular focus on engaging the settled traveller community in the district. Sessions are delivered for free thanks for funding from Children in Need. This funding finished in March 2025. Discussions about the way forward are underway.

- Act Your Age

Act Your Age is our weekly drama sessions for adults age 55+. In 24-25 we held 30 sessions and engaged 15 individuals. They were working towards an Improv performance. Feedback from the group included:

“It's the highlight of my week”

Piloted Waterside Act Your Age for 5 weeks with between 4 and 10 participants. To continue in summer 2025.

- Game

Game is a weekly session for adults, offering the opportunity to engage in joyful, active drama games. Within the year we held 30 sessions and achieved a footprint of 200 participants.

- Branching Out

Branching Out, weekly drama session for adults with learning difficulties, in partnership with Blue Apple Theatre, we delivered 30 sessions over the year to 11 participants. Feedback has included:

“She really loves the drama sessions. It's been amazing for her confidence and I think it can really help her speech development.”

In addition, we trialed afternoon Branching Out sessions at Sturts Farm in Ferndown with 12 participants for 20 sessions.

- Schools and Education

Throughout 2024-25 we continued to deliver a full and varied programme in New Forest schools and educational establishments. Over the year our sessions had a participant footprint of over 2500, with a range of activities including:

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- After School Clubs at Ringwood Junior School and Weston Downland Primary School, and a pilot term at Burley Primary School engaging 96 children across three terms.
- An Advanced Theatre after-school programme at Ringwood Secondary School, engaging 40 young people across 10 weeks.
- Producing and delivering elevate with 17 young people, 2 paid Assistants and 4 creatives, performing 9 shows to 3 schools.
- Becoming the Patron for Theatre at Arts University Bournemouth and running Applied Theatre sessions at Arts University Bournemouth as part of the BA in Acting course.
- Two sessions for Moorlands College – Circus Skills and Stage Fighting as part of their summer residential programme, engaging 60 young people.
- We began delivering weekly curriculum and GCSE drama sessions at New Forest Small School, a culmination of several years of partnership and trust building.
- Workshops for Godolphin School scholars weekend.
- 7 sessions for Priestlands school providing choreography for their performance of Adams Family – engaging 140 students per session.
- Devising workshops for Bourne Academy GCSE and A level classes.
- 6 sessions as part of a partnership with Wakey Wakey Arts at three target schools in the Dorset area.

“Jo was able to maintain safe boundaries whilst creating a space for the children to grow, participate, gain personal insight and have fun. It was amazing to witness how the children seemed to evolve over the course of two days; they appeared to have grown so much in such a short period of time.” (Lizzie Clark, Trainee Education Mental Health Practitioner, Dorset Healthcare NHS Trust)

- Community

In 24-25 we delivered a range of community participatory sessions including:

- Creative design workshops as part of the HAF programme at St Barbes Museum.
- Movement sessions for Arts Work as part of the Neurodiversity programme at Forest Arts Centre
- ‘Drama Game’ sessions for 120 children for the ‘Energise Me’ activity day in Winchester.
- 6 Workshops as part of the Hampshire Libraries HAF Programme.
- A storytelling session as part of a pilot Home Education programme at Forest Arts Centre.
- Gave mentoring and recording space for Culture in Commons Poetry piece
- We also provided entertainment as part of the Ringwood Carnival promoting that year’s Christmas show – A Christmas Carol

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Artist Development

In 24-25 we continued to support local artists and theatre makers in the New Forest by:

- Facilitating and supporting our Young Company, a group of emerging theatre makers aged 18 – 30. Throughout year we provided weekly sessions for the group to work together to develop their own artistic practice leading to a performance. This year we had a core group of 7-10.
- We launched THE FURNACE – our Artist Development Network. We committed to hosting termly meetings as a space for local creatives to connect and share ideas. Each meeting reached capacity of 30 and the network as over 70 members.
- Within the year we supported a number of companies and projects via mentoring, dramaturgical support, directing or providing studio space. These included:

‘Fort’ by Dorsetborn theatre- rehearsals and preview. An Arts Council funded project that went on to tour.

‘Becoming Simone’ R&D phase by Liz Garland in partnership with MAST Mayflower studios.

‘The Jane Austen Fan Club’ R&D phase by Vic Briggs and Lucy Mellors- Arts Council Funded.

Throughout the year, Forest Forge continued to work in partnership and advocate for cultural activity across the New Forest, working closely with Folio and Culture in Common.

Structure, Staffing and Financial Resilience

In 2024–25, the company benefited from continued consultant support from Sophie Fullerlove, who provided creative consultancy and strategic guidance during a period of transition. This ensured continuity of leadership and sector expertise while the organisation undertook recruitment for a new permanent Executive Director. In March 2025, Kealy Whenray was appointed to the role, bringing renewed capacity and stability to the core team. The Board and staff worked collaboratively to embed stronger governance practices and to sustain creative momentum throughout the year.

The organisation continued to strengthen its business planning and financial resilience. Work progressed on the 2024–27 Business Plan, with an emphasis on improved processes, streamlined vision, robust financial planning, and clearer forecasting to support long-term sustainability. These developments are designed to safeguard the company’s future security while allowing it to focus resources more effectively on delivering high-quality creative work and deepening its impact with communities and partners.

Public Benefit

Forest Forge undertakes all its work for the public benefit.

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The Touring Theatre strand of work sees the charity create and tour theatre to rural venues, enabling people to see professional theatre in a local venue at subsidised ticket prices. This enriches the lives of people living in the New Forest, Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire. It provides accessible performances, foster knowledge, education and recreation, to those who may not otherwise be able to access theatre due to barriers including geography, transport, finances, background or neurodiversity. By touring theatre to village halls and rural venues the charitable company also brings isolated communities together and encourages community cohesion.

The Participation Programme provides transformative experiences for people at every age of life. By taking part in drama and theatre workshops, members of the public benefit from improved health and wellbeing, new friendships and a reduction in loneliness, and enhanced confidence and social skills. All sessions are developed to be as accessible to everyone, with prices kept at around 50% of the price of commercial operators in the region.

Our Artist Development strand supports the education and development of emerging theatre makers in the New Forest. It also helps add value to established artists. This strand of work increases the availability of theatre and theatre-making opportunities in the New Forest and surrounding region and supporting the creative ecology in the region. This enables the public to benefit from arts and cultural activity and its benefits now and in the future.

The Trustees of the Forest Forge Theatre Company are aware of their responsibilities in ensuring the charities aims are for the public benefit and follow the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Governance Structure

Forest Forge Theatre Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 30th January 1984 and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The charitable company was established under a Memorandum of Association which details the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding one pound. Although dated, the Memorandum of Association has been deemed fit for purpose by the Independent Theatre Council.

Financial Review

Restricted income for the year was £73,044, with an additional carry forward of £27,967 from 2023-24, with £53,011 of restricted expenditure in the year. The remaining restricted funds of £48,000 is a grant from Trailfinders towards the Elevate project 2025 -27, which was brought forward for delivery in 2025-26.

In 2024-25, the total income for the charity was £202,487 with expenditure of £270,880. This resulted in a deficit of £68,393. This deficit was anticipated and forms part of a planned

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approach to support organisational transition. Funds were allocated from the Strategic Delivery Fund, Maintenance, facilities and capital replacement fund and Visual Identity and Website fund in the previous year to ensure this was fully covered.

Net assets of the charity now sit at £448,479, with unrestricted funds of £400,479. £240,000 remains invested in high-interest, non-accessible investments, providing a new income stream and further supporting the long-term sustainability of the company.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of Forest Forge Theatre Company aim to maintain reserves to support the delivery of the charity's objectives and work and to minimise risk to the organisation.

To protect the charity and plan for the future the Trustees agreed on a new reserves policy which is reviewed annually.

The companies unrestricted designated reserves are allocated as follows:

- Winding Up Costs
Forest Forge holds £50,000 of designated emergency reserves. This equates to six months running costs. These funds are set aside for the security of the company and to cover any necessary winding up costs, in line with Charity Commission guidance.
- Strategic Delivery Fund (Planned Deficit Fund)
The Trustees have allocated reserves to support planned budget deficits 2024-25 and 2025-2026 as the charity builds back to a sustainable delivery and financial model. This reserve is currently £124,793.
- Maintenance, facilities, and capital replacement fund
Forest Forge has set aside £30,000 for new equipment and the ongoing maintenance and support of the company van. This fund is managed in conjunction with the capital replacement plan which is updated annually by the Trustees. In 2024-25 a total of £7,314 was spent resulting in a new total of £22,686.
- Special Projects
£20,000 is set aside for special projects that the Trustees agree will advance the artistic policy of the company, help to achieve its mission, public benefits and support the company financially. Proposals for use of this fund can be made by the staff team to the Trustees at quarterly meetings.
- Youth Theatre Bursary Fund
Forest Forge Theatre holds £5,000 of ringfenced funds to support youth theatre members via a bursary scheme. This fund may be supplemented by grants and public donations.
- Visual Identity and Website Refresh
In order to deliver the new business plan and put the organisation in the best place to serve its beneficiaries the company requires a refresh of its visual identity and website.

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The trustees set aside £20,000 for this work, which was completed in 2024-25, with the reserve now closed.

- **New Building Fund**

£178,000 is designated to a new building fund to support the company in the acquisition of a new premises.

At the end of each financial year, any surplus will be designated by the Trustees across the funds described in accordance with the need of the charity at that time, informed by the business plan, capital replacement plan and charity risk register.

Risk Management

The Trustees have developed a new Risk Management plan which is reviewed at quarterly board meetings. It assesses and seeks to mitigate the risks to which the charity is exposed, including financial, operational, artistic and reputational risks.

A key risk identified is the long-term financial sustainability of the organisation, with a new business plan developed with the key aim to returning the organization to a breakeven position.

Policies, procedures and insurances are in place to reduce the risks in areas including Health and Safety, safeguarding and data protection.

Future Plans

Forest Forge's priority in the short term is to embed its new business plan and structure to begin to turn around the financial position and reputation of the company. Key activities will include:

- Delivering new and improved programmes of touring theatre including Suitcase Stories, Christmas Show and a return to UK rural touring networks with a new show in 2025-26.
- Develop further partnerships within the Artist Development network focusing on MAST, AUB and Folio.
- Developing the quality of our Participation programme driving increased engagement numbers and earned income.
- The development of new fundraising and income generation plans, including applying for Theatre Tax Relief for eligible productions.
- A new approach to advocacy and communications, with a focus on raising the profile of the organization among regional decision makers and stakeholders.

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Trustees

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Ms. N Ratcliffe Wilson	(Resigned 31 March 2025)
Dr. M Bentinck (Chair)	(Resigned 31 March 2025)
Ms. G Gould	(Resigned 31 March 2025)
Mr. M Wilson	(Appointed 25 April 2024)
Ms. V Briggs	(Appointed 10 July 2024)
Ms. L Smith-Head	(Appointed 10 July 2024)
Mr. J Swyer	(Appointed 22 January 2025)
Ms. J Taylor	(Appointed 22 January 2025)
Mr. DMS Waugh	(Appointed 22 January 2025)
Mr. MJ Wilson	(Appointed 25 April 2024)
Ms S Fullerlove (Chair)	(Appointed 1 st April 2025)

All Trustees are proposed, seconded, and appointed by the Board and hold Office for three years before re-election. All Trustees are required to sign confirmation of their ability and willingness to act in line with The Charity Commission's guidance The Essential Trustee (CC3) and The Good Governance Code.

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Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Forest Forge Theatre Company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law 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 incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate 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 Companies Act 2006.

They 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. The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

S Fullerlove

Ms S Fullerlove

Chair

Dated: 15th October 2025

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ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Report to the Trustees on the preparation of the unaudited statutory financial statements of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY. In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of the company which include, the profit and loss accounts, the balance sheet and the related notes from the company's accounting records of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY for the year ended 31 March 2025 as set out on pages 16 - 18 from the Company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <https://www.accaglobal.com/uk/en/about-us/regulation/rulebook.html>

This report is made solely to the charity trustees of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 24 April 2024. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Trustees of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY as a body in this report in accordance with the requirements of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants as detailed at: https://www.accaglobal.com/content/dam/ACCA_Global/Technical/fact/tf-163-jan-24.pdf

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or resume responsibility to anyone other than FOREST FORGE THEATRE and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY has kept adequate accounting records, and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY. You consider that FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of FOREST FORGE THEATRE. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory accounts.



Janice Willis FCCA

Cloud Eleven Accountants Ltd

Date 10th October 2025

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(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Forest Forge Theatre Company ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income did not exceed £250,000 your examiner does not need to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act, however I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW (FCA), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities, in accordance with the FRS 102.

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.

T Rogers

Teresa Rogers BFP FCA

Director

14th October 2025

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

Statement of Financial Activities

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025
	Note	£	£	£
Income and endowments				
From:				
Donations and legacies	3	63,283	73,044	136,327
Charitable activities	4	62,604	-	62,604
Other trading activities	5	155	-	155
Investment income	6	2,598	-	2,598
Other income	7	803	-	803
Total Income		129,443	73,044	202,487
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	8	10,606	-	10,606
Charitable Activities	9	207,263	53,011	260,274
Total Expenditure:		217,869	53,011	270,880
Net income		(88,426)	20,033	(68,393)
Transfers between funds				
Net movement in funds				
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		488,905	27,967	516,872
Total funds carried forward	19	400,479	48,000	448,479

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Prior year		2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
	Note			
Income and Endowments				
From:				
Donations and legacies	3	15,863	40,724	56,587
Charitable activities	4	37,508	-	37,508
Other trading activities	5	150	-	150
Investment income	6	39	-	39
Other income	7	274,741	-	274,741
Total Income		328,301	40,724	369,025
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	8	12,999	-	12,999
Charitable Activities	9	183,352	31,696	215,048
Total Expenditure:		196,351	31,696	228,047
Net income				
Transfers between funds				
Net movement in funds		131,950	9,028	140,978
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		356,955	18,939	375,894
Total funds carried forward	19	488,905	27,967	516,872

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

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BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 March 2025

Balance Sheet

	Note	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14		<u>17,722</u>		<u>19,197</u>
			17,722		19,197
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	21,406		10,129	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>422,503</u>		<u>504,498</u>	
		443,909		514,627	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(13,152)</u>		<u>(16,952)</u>	
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ ASSETS			<u>430,757</u>		<u>497,675</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>448,479</u>		<u>516,872</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year			-		-
NET ASSETS			<u>448,479</u>		<u>516,872</u>
Funds of the Charity:					
Restricted income funds			48,000		27,967
Unrestricted Funds			-		5,905
Designated Funds			400,479		483,000
TOTAL FUNDS	20		<u>448,479</u>		<u>516,872</u>

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BALANCE SHEET (continued)

AS AT 31 March 2025

The charitable company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 15th October 2025.

S Fullerlove

**Ms S Fullerlove (Chair)
Trustee**

Registered Number: 01787316

Charity Registration Number: 289644

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies

Charity information

Forest Forge Theatre Company is a private charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The Registered Office is First Floor, Pintail House, Duck Island Lane, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3AA.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that with the continuation of the approved transitional business plan, the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

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1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been earmarked for a particular purpose, within the objects of the charitable company by the Trustees. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category, where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Asset Class

Fixtures and fittings

Computers

Motor vehicles

Leasehold Improvements
of the lease.

Depreciation method and rate

20% on reducing balance basis

33% on straight line basis

20% on reducing balance basis

16.67% straight line basis in line with the life

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS *(continued)*

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/ (expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

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The annual depreciation charge is considered with reference to the estimated useful economic lives and residual value of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually.

Income recognition is considered with reference to the service level agreement, grant agreement or other supporting documentation, to ensure cut off is correctly stated at the point of entitlement.

Allocation of costs are considered and allocated accordingly between direct, support within the relevant category.

There were no other key sources of estimation uncertainty or judgements.

3. Donations and Grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations	3,483	52,244	55,727	11,988
Grants	59,800	20,800	80,600	44,599
Others	-	-	-	-
	63,283	73,044	136,327	56,587

4. Charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2025 £	Charitable activities 2024 £
Production	3,764	6,808
Creative Learning	38,788	30,699
Branching Out	1,120	-
Earned Income-Touring Theatre	18,932	-
	62,604	37,507

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5. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Friends Scheme	155	155	150
	<u>155</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>150</u>

6. Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income			
Interest receivable	2,598	2,598	39
	<u>2,598</u>	<u>2,598</u>	<u>39</u>

7. Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Rental and hire income	800	800	1,630
Sundry Income	3	3	255
Other income	-	-	272,856
	<u>803</u>	<u>803</u>	<u>274,741</u>

8. Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds General	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
<u>Expenditure on raising funds</u>				
Sundries	475	-	475	612
Marketing	-	-	-	-
Other fundraising costs	-	-	-	-
Staff costs	10,131	-	10,131	12,387
	<u>10,606</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,606</u>	<u>12,999</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

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9. Charitable Activities

Description	Creative Learning 2025 £	Production 2025 £	Other Costs 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	41,199	10,131	-	51,330	62,763
Production costs	51,211	2,159	-	53,370	13,230
Freelance fees	15,799	-	-	15,799	13,972
Marketing	7,537	7,537	-	15,074	1,024
Insurance	1,146	1,146	-	2,292	2,236
Rates and water	650	650	-	1,300	9,222
Postage and stationery	-	-	-	-	861
Telephone	1,193	1,194	-	2,387	4,125
Computer costs	2,175	2,175	-	4,350	7,364
Maintenance costs	16,797	16,798	-	33,595	11,056
Motor and travel	662	717	-	1,379	7,876
Subscriptions	225	224	-	449	471
Sundries	355	356	-	711	918
Educational support	-	-	-	-	(150)
Total	138,949	43,087	-	182,036	134,968
Share of support costs (see note 10)	14,993	10,258	14,204	39,455	34,064
Share of governance costs (see note 10)			38,783	38,783	46,016
Share of Other costs(see note 10)			-	-	-
	153,942	53,345	52,987	260,274	215,048
Analysis by fund					
Unrestricted funds	100,931	53,345	52,987	207,263	183,352
Restricted funds	53,011			53,011	31,696
	153,942	53,345	52,987	260,274	215,048

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10. Support costs

Basis of allocation	Other Costs £	Support Costs £	Governance Costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	-	6,079	-	6,079	7,432
Depreciation	-	4,853	-	4,853	3,334
Freelance fees	-	1,625	-	1,625	1,552
Marketing	-	15,074	-	15,074	1,024
Insurance	-	2,291	-	2,291	2,236
Maintenance and computer costs	-	6,478	-	6,478	12,852
Educational support	-	-	-	-	(450)
Support costs heading 8	-	-	-	-	1,000
Sundries	-	2,770	-	2,770	3,568
Bank charges	-	285	-	285	1,515
Legal and professional	-	-	37,888	37,888	46,016
Recruitment	-	-	895	895	-
	-	39,455	38,783	78,238	80,079
Analysed between Charitable activities	-	39,455	38,783	78,238	80,079

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11. Net movement in funds

Net movement in funds is stated after charging/ (crediting):

	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	4,853	3,334

12. Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

13. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	3	4

Employment costs

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	60,580	75,800
Social security costs	5,595	5,509
Other pension costs	1,354	1,094
	67,529	82,403

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

14. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold improve- ments	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
COST					
At beginning of year	5,361	105,932	3,350	36,944	151,587
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	3,378	-	-	-	3,378
At end of year	8,739	105,932	3,350	36,944	154,965
DEPRECIATION					
At beginning of year	59	93,495	2,252	36,585	132,390
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	2,020	2,487	220	126	4,853
At end of year	2,079	95,982	2,472	36,710	137,243
NET BOOK VALUES					
As at 31 March 2025	6,660	9,950	878	234	17,722
As at 31 March 2024	5,302	12,437	1,098	359	19,197

15. Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	5,275	-
Other debtors	9,698	4,488
Prepayments and accrued income	6,433	5,641
	21,406	10,129

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

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16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
Bank loans	17	-	-
Other borrowings	17	-	2,000
Other taxation and social security		2,811	2,099
Trade creditors		4,878	8,118
Other creditors		-	264
Accruals and deferred income		5,463	4,471
		<u>13,152</u>	<u>16,952</u>

17. Loans and overdrafts

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank loans	-	-
Director's Loans	-	2,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Payable within one year	-	-
Payable after one year	-	-
Amounts included above which fall due after five years:		
Payable by instalments	-	-

Bank loans incurred interest at 2.50% per annum, fixed for the duration of the loan.

The loan was fully repaid during the year.

18. Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £1,354 (2024 - £1094).

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

19. Restricted Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Restricted Funds				
Elevate- ARTS Council England	14,845	1,650	(16,495)	-
Elevate- Arts University Bournemouth		200	(200)	
Elevate -Individual Doner	-	48,000	-	48,000
Wordsmiths -Individual donations	-	889	(889)	-
Wordsmiths -Energise Me	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Hampshire County Council- Branching Out	3,820	-	(3,820)	-
New Forest District Council- Touring work		12,450	(12,450)	-
Children in Need 2024	9,302	-	(9,302)	-
New dance floor- Energise Me		1500	(1,500)	-
Artists developments donations	-	3,355	(3,355)	-
Total Funds	27,967	73,044	(53,011)	48,000

The Children in Need Grants, relate to monies received to aid in the provision of drama workshops and group theatre work for children and young people from settled gypsy and traveller communities.

New Forest District Council Grants were received towards capital works, core funds and general building costs and has been fully spent in the year.

Hampshire County Council Grant related to funding towards a new programme of drama workshops for adults with learning disabilities.

Arts Council England Grant relates to Elevate work experience.

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

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	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Transfers in £	Transfers out £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Designated and Unrestricted Funds				
Forest Forge Emergency reserves	50,000	-	-	50,000
Strategic delivery fund	180,000	-	(55,207)	124,793
Maintenance, facilities, and capital replacement fund	30,000	-	(7,314)	22,686
Special projects	20,000	-		20,000
Youth Theatre Bursary fund	5,000	-		5,000
Visual identity and website refresh	20,000	-	(20,000)	-
New building fund	178,000	-		178,000
Designated Funds	483,000		(82,521)	400,479
Unrestricted funds	5,905	82,521	(88,426)	-
Total Funds	488,905	82,521	(170,947)	400,479

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20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Funds balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	17,722	-	17,722	19,197
Current assets/(liabilities)	382,757	48,000	430,757	497,675
Long term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	400,479	48,000	448,479	516,872

21. Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	28,150	17,950
Greater than one year	111,717	83,767

22. Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	60,580	75,800

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Funds balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	17,722	-	17,722	19,197
Current assets/(liabilities)	382,757	48,000	430,757	497,675
Long term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	400,479	48,000	448,479	516,872

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	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year		
Greater than one year	28,150 111,717	17,950 83,767

22. Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	60,580	75,800