

THE DAVENHAM PLAYERS

England & Wales · Charity number 504475

Details

Other names	DAVENHAM & SANDIWAY PLAYERS, DAVENHAM PLAYERS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1975-08-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Davenham Theatre 59 Church Street Davenham Northwich CW9 8NF
Phone	0160645186
Email	chair@davenhamplayers.co.uk
Website	http://www.davenhamplayers.co.uk/

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE DRAMATIC AND OPERATIC ARTS AND TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC APPRECIATION AND TASTE IN THE SAID ARTS.

Activities: Amateur drama group that present own productions and also provide a venue for other artistic, dramatic and musical activities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Cheshire West & Chester

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£41,396	£31,209	-	-
2024-06-30	£36,534	£24,019	-	-
2023-06-30	£25,951	£16,324	-	-
2022-06-30	£15,018	£9,741	-	-
2021-06-30	£20,534	£8,888	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Graham Hough		2017-10-24
Jane Eve Barrie		2025-10-22
Janet Elizabeth Illidge		2017-01-12
Paulette Ann Anderson		2017-01-12
Robert Stephen Almquist		
Sheila Ann Hetherington		2017-01-12

THE DAVENHAM PLAYERS

England & Wales - Charity number 504475

Accounts



From **Period start date** 1/07/24 **To**
Period end date 30/06/25

Charity registration number: 504475

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The object of the Society is to entertain and educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Main activities: • four drama productions a year • monthly creative groups open to all: play-reading, writing, acting, improvisation. • Weekly technical and backstage working party • monthly comedy club • venue hire for monthly jazz club and annual literary festival • annual venue hire for primary school production • occasional venue hire for folk groups, youth productions, book launches, film screenings
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	As charity trustees we are satisfied that all activities undertaken by the charity have been for the public benefit.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
	Para 1.38	

Policy on social investment including program related investment		
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	We have produced four largely sold-out plays ranging from new drama to classics. Our comedy club audiences continue to build, and we introduced a monthly Improvisation group which has been very popular. Refurbishments in the building have included lining the walls of the auditorium and replacing older cabling in the lighting rig and we have overseen repairs to the flat roof above the bar. We have continued with fundraising for our proposed extension and are close to the point for grant applications.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	

Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Cash at Bank total of £34,474 shows a substantial increase over the previous year's total of £20,466, which, if continued, sets us on course to make a start on realizing our extension project.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	CAF Project Account is intended for a proposed extension to the theatre which we hope to action in the next two years. Nat West Current Account and Lloyds Bar account are held in respect of annual expenditure and cost of maintenance of the building.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£ 34474.50
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Funds are primarily raised through ticket sales for productions, bar sales, raffles, ice-cream and programme sales, gift aid and venue hire.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	None known
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nominated and seconded by members then voted by majority at AGM.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Davenham Players
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	504475
Charity's principal address	59 Church Street Davenham Cheshire CW9 8NF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Robert Almquist	Chair		Members
2	Helen Small	Treasurer	From October 24	Members
3	Paulette Anderson	Secretary		Members
4	Jane Barrie			Members
5	Denise Barry			Members
6	Bernadette Bebbington			Members
7	Sheila Hetherington			Members
8	Arthur Jones			Members
9	Michael Linsell			Members
10	Pamela Malloy-Lownds			Members
11	Peter Lownds			Members
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Robert Almquist		
Paulette Anderson		
Sheila Hetherington		
Graham Hough		
Janet Illidge		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Davenham Players Theatre 59 Church Street Davenham CW9 8NF
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information

N/A

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	JANE EVE BARRIE	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	26/04/26	

Davenham Players Theatre

DAVENHAM PLAYERS

Registered Charity no. 504475

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Year ended 30/06/25			Year ended 30/06/24		
	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus/(Loss) £	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus/(Loss) £
Productions	19992.01	8516.29	11475.72	17745.17	7964.46	9780.71
Bar	13774.75	4815.86	8958.89	13782.99	5014.38	8768.61
Front of House	3623.14		3623.14			
	37389.90	13332.15	24057.75	31528.16	12978.84	18549.32
Subscriptions	1120.00		1120.00	1076.00		1076.00
Grant & Donations	0.00		0.00	295.00		295.00
Theatre Hire	2885.72		2885.72	2867.50		2867.50
Other income	0.00		0.00	528.78		528.78
	41395.62	13332.15	28063.47	36295.44	12978.84	23316.60
Interest income	349.95		349.95	239.29		239.29
Facilities Costs						
Heating & Lighting		3238.58			2727.77	
Water		735.38			683.94	
Broadband		500.57			418.83	
Insurance		1907.91			1669.00	
Cleaning		376.00			453.57	
Bar roof repair		960.00			0.00	
Sound & Lighting		1083.13			0.00	
Other Property Maintenance		1073.08			4090.65	
Subscriptions & Licences		1117.11			769.03	
Fees to outside productions		1294.08			0.00	
Website		168.00			168.00	
Extension project		557.54			0.00	
Fire alarm		245.40			0.00	
Bank charges		0.00			60.00	
Ice cream		489.50			0.00	
Depreciation		4131.00			2103.82	
			-17877.28			-13144.61
Surplus for the year			10536.14			10411.28

Davenham Players Theatre

DAVENHAM PLAYERS
Registered Charity no. 504475

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2025

	30/06/2025			30/06/2024		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ASSETS						
Fixed Assets						
Property (at cost)	10951.00			10951.00		
Extension project	<u>48424.78</u>			<u>48424.78</u>		
		59375.78			59375.78	
Equipment & Fittings - cost	41310.83			14281.43		
Additions	0.00			27029.40		
less depreciation	<u>-12249.88</u>			<u>-8118.88</u>		
		<u>29060.95</u>			<u>33191.95</u>	
		88436.73				92567.73
Bar Stock			1015.39			822.91
Cash at Bank						
Natwest Current Account		5778.80			5144.93	
Lloyds Bar Account		4236.49			3353.19	
CAF Project Account		23567.46			11217.33	
CAF Gold Account		16.00			45.18	
Cash in hand		<u>875.75</u>			<u>706.30</u>	
		34474.50				20466.93
Creditor			0.00			-467.09
		<u>123926.62</u>				<u>113390.48</u>
FUNDS						
General						
Balance at 1 July 2024		113390.48			102979.20	
Surplus for the year		<u>10536.14</u>			<u>10411.28</u>	
		123926.62				113390.48
		<u>123926.62</u>				<u>113390.48</u>

RSA Almquist

R Almquist Treasurer

7 October 2025

Davenham Players Theatre

DAVENHAM PLAYERS

Registered Charity no. 504475

Accounts for year ended 30 June 2025

Productions

	Invisible	Revlon	Earnest	Pelican	Mr Wonderful	Comedy Nights	Jazz	Other	Total
Ticket Sales	3392.69	3000.79	3825.18	3242.37		6530.98			19992.01
Production costs	<u>687.06</u>	<u>845.21</u>	<u>1313.76</u>	<u>1421.56</u>	<u>888.40</u>	<u>3360.30</u>			<u>8516.29</u>
	2705.63	2155.58	2511.42	1820.81	-888.40	3170.68			11475.72
Bar takings	1130.17	1047.32	1194.41	1038.88		3257.98	2900.81	3205.18	13774.75
Bar goods	<u>395.12</u>	<u>366.16</u>	<u>417.58</u>	<u>363.21</u>		<u>1139.04</u>	<u>1014.17</u>	<u>1120.58</u>	<u>4815.86</u>
	735.05	681.16	776.83	675.67	0.00	2118.94	1886.64	2084.60	8958.89
Front of House	<u>935.78</u>	<u>598.22</u>	<u>800.28</u>	<u>681.14</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>39.50</u>	<u>452.73</u>	<u>115.49</u>	<u>3623.14</u>
	4376.46	3434.96	4088.53	3177.62	-888.40	5329.12	2339.37	2200.09	24057.75

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DAVENHAM
PLAYERS (Registered Charity no. 504475)**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's 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,
- to 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.

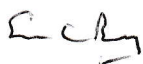
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Simon Batey MA FCA

7 October 2025

Higher Heyes Farm, Ball Lane, Kingsley, Frodsham, WA6 8HP

THE DAVENHAM PLAYERS

England & Wales - Charity number 504475

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Davenham Players Reg Charity 504475

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024

Objectives and Continuing Activities

1. PURPOSES

The object of the Society as stated in our constitution is

“to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in those arts by promoting the Performing Arts and the Arts in general”.

2. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Davenham Players aim to present to the public a varied programme of performing arts events at our own theatre throughout the year. The programme revolves mainly around (but is not limited to) the dramatic and musical arts.

3. DRAMA AT DAVENHAM

Our in-house drama group, the Davenham Players (founded ca. 1941) recruits amateur performers, backstage and front-of-house staff from the general public. These become our member volunteers. We aim to perform around four major drama productions each season, each of which will be presented to the public for about a week. Tickets are sold mainly on-line through an agency to fund the expenses of the production, general theatre overheads and build up reserves for future development. We don't employ paid staff. Visiting drama companies are welcomed too when this can be fitted into our programme.

4. MUSIC AT DAVENHAM

Musical events are a regular part of our programme. Monthly Jazz gigs are presented under the banner jazz@davenham during the season. Besides jazz, we host occasional concerts in folk, rock and classical music and other genres.

5. LITERATURE AT DAVENHAM

The Northwich LitFest, organised by Susi Osborne has held its main evening events at our theatre for the last few years and continues to do so, following a break owing to the pandemic. The festival is a Summer event, usually in June/July/August.

6. COMEDY CLUB

We present an evening of stand-up comedy every last Sunday of the month from October to April (not December). At these events, an MC introduces the acts and links the contributions of the comedians. Popular with audiences, Comedy Club has been an important fundraiser for us, especially when augmented by bar takings.

7. OUR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer members are crucial to the operation of the theatre. We have an experienced maintenance team who do the day-to-day jobs necessary to keep an old building safe, secure and welcoming. Besides normal maintenance, our specialised sound and lighting team supports set designers and stage directors to help make our shows have the right impact and be attractive to audiences. However, we employ contractors to conduct safety-critical inspections and remediations so as to stay within regulations for electrical and fire certification. Recruiting new volunteers is an important ongoing process. Our theatre bar at public events is staffed by volunteers. We do welcome new volunteers to come and help our volunteer team continue to flourish - just come and meet the Tech team on Tuesday mornings or use our contact form on the website at <https://www.davenhamplayers.co.uk/get-involved/>

8. YOUTH THEATRE

Our theatre is the performing venue for the Young Arts Academy's end of term shows and for our local Primary school's end of year show. Teachers say the children love the experience of performing in a 'proper' theatre with stage lighting as opposed to a school hall.

9. CLUB NIGHTS

Tuesday nights are Club nights at Davenham Theatre, when we hold monthly workshop groups led by a member who specialises in one of the crafts of the performing arts. At present, the groups are for Acting, Writing, Play Reading and Improv in successive weeks. Refreshments are provided free to members, with a small contribution asked from non-members. We also host occasional entertainments and fundraisers for members and their guests such as Quiz nights.

10. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

An extension to the theatre creating new foyer and toilets was completed in 2019 and the plan at that time was to proceed with construction of a community room/rehearsal space in the yard at the side of the theatre. Since then, the pandemic and other factors have seen the cost of building work increase drastically, beyond the scope of our current reserves.

Rather than being overwhelmed by the situation, a subcommittee has started to look seriously at raising funds by new activities under the performing arts umbrella and grant applications. In time, we sincerely believe the new space will come.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES JUL 23 – JUNE 24

11. REPLACEMENT OF THEATRE SEATING

In late 2023, the decision was taken to replace the existing tiered seating units with custom-built units plus extra new stackable chairs. This needed substantial investment, but we decided to go ahead, using cash from our reserves. Installation was to take place in mid-January 2024.

The theatre needed to be completely emptied of the old raised dais units before the contractors could start work so our maintenance volunteers started work immediately following the final December event. After disposal of the old chairs and dais units, the opportunity was taken to dry-line and repaint the walls, improving both the appearance and insulation properties of the theatre.

Contractors started work and completed on-time, well before the first event of 2024. All were extremely pleased with the finished result and we can now say that both safety and appearance of the audience seating has been vastly improved. The new tip-up seating gives the impression of a modern studio cinema and seat numbering has been employed to make it easier for online booking.

12. ONLINE MARKETING AND TICKET SALES

Bookings for our in-house drama and comedy are now taken through Ticket Source. Our Marketing subcommittee continues to make highly effective use of social media, which along with more conventional advertising ensures our shows are almost sold out by opening night.

Audiences seem to have taken to card payments for tickets with little fuss, but we can also take cash and cheque by arrangement. Enquiries are directed from our website to our online 'Ticket Shop' by emails and communications through social media. Our website can be found at <https://www.davenhamplayers.co.uk/> and our ticket shop at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/davenhamplayers>

13. INVISIBLE BY JANE BARRIE

All the plays presented at Davenham this year met with success and all were written by professional authors - with one exception. The play *Invisible* was written and directed by member Jane Barrie. We have only occasionally performed plays written in-house, but a readthrough convinced the committee that we could include *Invisible* in our programme. An audition was held in May and performance set for September 2024.

14. FULL ELECTRICAL INSPECTION

Contractors were employed to conduct a full electrical inspection of our premises in October 2023. The report highlighted some deficiencies against the latest electrical regulations, which were implemented by the contractors later in the year.

15. OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS DURING THE REPORTING YEAR

July 2023 –

- Play Reading, Acting and Writing groups
- Audition for *Allo Allo*
- Rehearsals for *Rules for Living*
- Fire Risk Assessment Review

August 2023 –

- Fire Alarm system annual service

September 2023 –

- Rules for Living on stage
- Rehearsals Allo Allo
- Jazz, Folk music events
- New Bar Card Machine

October 2023 –

- Hands Up Who's Happy* visiting show
- YAA youth show
- Full Electrical Inspection
- Audition *Heaven Sent*
- Spitting Feathers rock covers group
- Jazz
- Comedy Club

November 2023 –

- Allo Allo* on stage
- Comedy Club
- Jazz
- YAA show
- Photo Shoot theatre rental

December 2023 –

- Jazz and Folk music evenings
- Quiz night
- Contractor for Electrical Remediation work
- Visiting company Little Pixie
- Preparatory work for new seating units

January 2024 –

- New seating installation
- Jazz
- Comedy

February 2024

- Jazz
- Heaven Sent* audition
- Davenham School Set Preparation

March 2024 –

- Davenham School Show

Jazz and Folk music events
Comedy
Bar Roof Repair assessment

April 2024 –

Nora rehearsals
Jazz
YAA group session
Comedy Club

May 2024 –

Nora on stage
Audition *Invisible*
Jazz

June 2024 –

Wordfest AGM theatre rental
YAA group session
Northwich LitFest events
Jazz
Readthrough of Revlon Girl
Davenham Choir concert

16. TRUSTEES STATEMENT ON PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees carefully monitor the way that funds are spent, which must be on activities in compliance with our group's stated purposes.

Structure, Governance and Management

Our governing document is the Constitution of the Davenham Players.

We operate as an unincorporated membership association.

Trustees are selected members of our management team chosen to provide a relevant range of skills and experience.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Robert Almquist

Paulette Anderson

**Position (e.g. Secretary,
Chair, etc)**

Chairman	Secretary to the Trustees
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Date

DAVENHAM PLAYERS

Registered Charity no. 504475

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Year ended 30/06/24			Year ended 30/06/23		
	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus/(Loss) £	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus/(Loss) £
Subscriptions	1076.00		1076.00	1033.00		1033.00
Grant & Donations	295.00		295.00	2733.84		2733.84
Theatre Hire	2867.50		2867.50	3206.20		3206.20
Other income	528.78		528.78	301.38		301.38
Comedy Nights	4772.19	2505.00	2267.19	4329.70	2131.00	2198.70
Productions	12972.98	5459.46	7513.52	6446.46	2931.05	3515.41
Bar	13782.99	<u>5014.38</u>	8768.61	7866.71	<u>4022.94</u>	3843.77
Interest income	<u>239.29</u>		<u>239.29</u>	<u>33.88</u>		<u>33.88</u>
	36534.73	12978.84	23555.89	25951.17	9084.99	16866.18
Facilities Costs						
Heating & Lighting		2727.77			1449.55	
Water		683.94			551.47	
Broadband		418.83				
Insurance		1669.00			1495.83	
Cleaning		453.57				
Other Property Maintenance		4090.65			2826.41	
Subscriptions & Licences		769.03			915.46	
Website (inc redesign)		168.00			-	
Other payments		0.00			34.00	
Bank charges		60.00			10.00	
Depreciation		<u>2103.82</u>			<u>1428.14</u>	
			<u>-13144.61</u>			<u>-8710.86</u>
Surplus for the year			<u>10411.28</u>			<u>8155.32</u>

DAVENHAM PLAYERS

Registered Charity no. 504475

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2024

	30/06/2024			30/06/2023		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ASSETS						
Fixed Assets						
Property (at cost)	10951.00			10951.00		
Extension project work in progress	<u>48424.78</u>			<u>48424.78</u>		
		59375.78			59375.78	
Equipment & Fittings - cost	14281.43			8801.33		
Additions	27029.40			5480.10		
less depreciation	<u>-8118.88</u>			<u>-6015.06</u>		
		<u>33191.95</u>			<u>8266.37</u>	
			92567.73			67642.15
Bar Stock			822.91			616.80
Cash at Bank						
Natwest Current Account		5144.93			12380.55	
Lloyds Bar Account		3353.19			11711.41	
CAF Project Account		11217.33			10034.20	
CAF Gold Account		45.18			50.00	
Cash in hand		<u>706.30</u>			<u>544.09</u>	
			20466.93			34720.25
Creditor			-467.09			-
			<u>113390.48</u>			<u>102979.20</u>
FUNDS						
General						
Balance at 1 July 2023		102979.20			94823.88	
Surplus for the year		<u>10411.28</u>			<u>8155.32</u>	
			113390.48			102979.20
			<u>113390.48</u>			<u>102979.20</u>

R. S. Almquist

R Almquist Treasurer

October 2024

Date

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DAVENHAM
PLAYERS (Registered Charity no. 504475)**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's 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,
- to 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 statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Simon Batey MA FCA

3 October 2024

Higher Heyes Farm, Ball Lane, Kingsley, Frodsham, WA6 8HP

THE DAVENHAM PLAYERS

England & Wales - Charity number 504475

Accounts



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Davenham Players Reg Charity 504475

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1st July 2022 to 30th June 2023

Objectives and Activities

Purposes

The object of the Society as stated in our constitution is *to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in those arts by promoting the Performing Arts and the Arts in general.*

Summary of Activities

During this reporting period (July 2022 to June 2023) Davenham Players presented three plays. We continued to host monthly jazz@davenham gigs and weekly drama activities for two youth groups. Comedy Club evenings on the last Sunday of the month were introduced and rapidly became popular. Our Club activities of Play Reading Socials, Acting Group and Writing Group continued.

Trustees Statement on Public Benefit

The trustees carefully monitor the way that funds are spent, which must be on activities in compliance with our group's stated purposes.

Trustees' Report 2023

Drama

2022 was the year Davenham Players really got motoring after the pandemic. *Bouncers* (September 2022) brought to us by Mike Kelsall took off as a sell-out show trialling Ticket Source as our on-line sales outlet. Following up in December 2022 was *Indian Summer* directed by Bob Almquist, which brought numbers of actors new to Davenham into the show.

In March 2023, Kelly Cowley directed a pair of one-act plays under the title *Dark Futures*, just before Davenham School's hire of the theatre for their end of year musical. Sadly, our May production hit problems and never took place, but we came back strongly in September with Jane Barrie making her Davenham directing debut with 'Rules for Living.' There was a sprinkling of folk evenings, children's groups and even a 'life celebration' event.

Comedy

The outstanding success of 2023 was the rise of our comedy nights. Beginning around 5 years ago, we were contacted by agents of a stand-up comedian looking for tour venues. After two or three successful visits, he (Brennan Reece) suggested we should start a regular

comedy night at Davenham. Organiser Dee Barry started off cautiously, not booking too many shows in advance. But a trial run proved successful and we now run Davenham Comedy Club through the autumn/winter/spring season and have developed a regular audience. Comedy Club is now financially successful. Both artists and audience say the atmosphere in our small venue is intimate and welcoming.

Maintenance

The internet has now reached 59 Church Street – after a struggle! Health & Safety receives increasing attention. A signing-in sheet and pre-event risk assessments and checklists are in regular use to back up the alarm system linked to smoke detectors throughout the building.

We commissioned a professional Fire Safety Risk Assessment which was most thorough and highlighted, not unexpectedly, opportunities for improvement. All these are gradually being addressed either by implementing procedures, training, or in some cases, minor maintenance work to turn our Reds to Ambers and then Greens.

On our website are policies for Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Child Protection & Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity, Code of Conduct, Complaints, Volunteering and Privacy as well as our Constitution. Volunteer and ex-fireman Tony Burrows has helped develop our Event Manager Fire Training.

Tickets Online

Use of Ticket Source for online bookings has expanded so that now we use it for all drama productions. Social media may have taken over as the main marketing tool to publicize our shows. Experts always say that half of marketing effort is invariably wasted. The trouble is that no-one knows which half !

Planning & Marketing

Two particularly useful new sub-committees have sprung up – one for planning our drama programme and the other for marketing. Both these matters are hard to get right and the input of the two sub-committees has been invaluable in advising committee decisions. Features recently introduced to encourage attendance at our shows include a free drink for members and a season ticket scheme.

Light and Sound

The dp Tech Team is continually developing its capabilities by augmenting lighting and sound equipment needed to support our shows to a high standard. Our small set design and construction team is reaching new standards too. We do welcome new volunteers to come and help our tech team continue to flourish - just come and meet us on Tuesday mornings or use our Volunteering contact form on the website.

Building Projects

Meanwhile, the ground floor rehearsal space/bar extension project is still flying but encountering turbulence. When we built phase 1 (foyer & toilets) the quote for completing the ground floor space was around £22,000. Recent quotations have been about three times larger, leaving the committee with a difficult decision on how to progress.

The extension is not the only theatre improvement under consideration. The committee recognizes that the auditorium has old-fashioned seating; in the bar, the servery is small and audience space is limited. It would be nice to provide some undercover shelter for people

queueing to come to the ticket desk. One can only spend money once, so next year's committee has some important decisions to make on spending priorities in the coming year.

Moving On

The matters that this report covers make me feel that Davenham Players are moving into a new era of success. But to remain strong, we must continually question how we operate and strive to improve. To help stimulate change, I am asking the new committee to elect a Vice-Chairman to take responsibility for steering Development of the Theatre. Within scope are buildings, membership, education, serving the community and of course performance centre of excellence. The increasing average age of the committee is also a concern and should be reduced. To remain relevant, we (me included) need to be ready to hand over to the next generation. A younger committee will give the right signals.

Structure, Governance and Management

Our governing document is the Constitution of the Davenham Players.

We operate as an unincorporated membership association.

Trustees are selected members of our management team chosen to provide a relevant range of skills and experience.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Robert Almquist	Paulette Anderson
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**Position (e.g. Secretary,
Chair, etc)**

Chairman	Secretary
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Date

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DAVENHAM PLAYERS
Registered Charity no. 504475

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Year ended 30/06/23			Year ended 30/06/22		
	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus/(Loss) £	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus/(Loss) £
Subscriptions	1033.00		1033.00	780.00		780.00
Grant & Donations	2733.84		2733.84	2967.00		2967.00
Theatre Hire	3206.20		3206.20	3277.00		3277.00
Other income	301.38		301.38	132.61		132.61
Comedy Nights	4329.70	2131.00	2198.70			
Productions				3503.11	1279.59	2223.52
Bouncers	2895.53	831.60	2063.93			
Indian Summer	1787.98	549.00	1238.98			
Dark Futures	1762.95	1420.65	342.30			
Happy Families		129.80	-129.80			
Bar	7866.71	4022.94	3843.77	5090.60	2244.92	2845.68
Interest income	33.88		33.88	0.00		0.00
	25951.17	9084.99	16866.18	15750.32	3524.51	12225.81
Facilities Costs						
Heating & Lighting		1449.55			1063.11	
Water		551.47			556.87	
Insurance		1495.83			1523.44	
Other Property Maintenance		2826.41			1710.01	
Subscriptions & Licences		915.46			1072.70	
Website (inc redesign)		-			290.40	
Other payments		34.00				
Bank charges		10.00			-	
Depreciation		1428.14			880.13	
			-8710.86			-7096.66
Surplus for the year			8155.32			5129.15

DAVENHAM PLAYERS
Registered Charity no. 504475

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2023

	30/06/2023			30/06/2022		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ASSETS						
Fixed Assets						
Property (at cost)	10951.00			10951.00		
Extension project work in progress	48424.78			48424.78		
		59375.78			59375.78	
Equipment & Fittings - cost	8801.33			5867.93		
Additions	5480.10			2933.40		
less depreciation	-6015.06			-4586.92		
		8266.37			4214.41	
			67642.15			63590.19
Bar Stock			616.80			718.84
Cash at Bank						
Natwest Current Account		12380.55			22072.88	
Lloyds Bar Account		11711.41			7733.80	
CAF Project Account		10034.20			0.32	
CAF Gold Account		50.00			-	
			34176.16			29807.00
Cash in Hand (Bar + Petty cash)			544.09			707.85
			<u>102979.20</u>			<u>94823.88</u>
FUNDS						
General						
Balance at 1 July 2022		94823.88			89694.73	
Surplus for the year		8155.32			5129.15	
			102979.20			94823.88
			<u>102979.20</u>			<u>94823.88</u>

Bob Almquist Treasurer

Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DAVENHAM PLAYERS (Registered Charity no. 504475)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's 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,
- to 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.

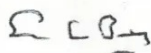
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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.

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In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
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2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Simon Batey MA FCA

23 October 2023

Higher Heyes Farm, Ball Lane, Kingsley, Frodsham, WA6 8HP