

Belfast Print Workshop

Directors' Report

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 13-16 and comply with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Companies Act 2006, applicable law 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 published in October 2019.

Reference and administrative details

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the Board and professional advisers on page 1.

Directors

The following Directors have held office since 1 April 2024:

Jacqueline Campbell
Elaine Lindsay
Adrian Mullan
Patricia Bailie (Resigned 20th November 2024)
Jay Burbank (Resigned 26th September 2024)
Edward Johnston (Resigned 10th October 2025)
Teresa Curran (Resigned 12th June 2024)

Objectives and activities

The mission of the charitable company is to establish, equip and maintain a permanent printmaking workshop, organise and run educational and training courses, teach and demonstrate the techniques of printmaking and to hold exhibitions, meetings, lectures and classes.

The mission statement is;

"To provide equipment and technical support, to promote a variety of printmaking techniques, and to ensure a sustainable, professional and creative working environment; sharing this with anyone committed to learning about print as a contemporary art form."

Belfast Print Workshop (BPW) delivers a broad range of activities supported by our principal funder, the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's National Lottery Project Funding, alongside earned income and other strategic partnerships. Our core purpose remains the provision of high-quality, accessible printmaking facilities and a year-round programme of artist development, public engagement and creative learning.

BPW's artistic vision is rooted in promoting excellence in printmaking and ensuring that artists at all stages have access to the tools and space they need to produce ambitious, high-quality work. This vision also extends to enabling skilled facilitators and artists who advocate for the future of

Belfast Print Workshop

Directors' Report

printmaking in Belfast and across the region.

In line with our current strategic planning, BPW continued to strengthen its role as a key contributor to the cultural ecosystem by developing inclusive programming, extending outreach into rural communities, supporting intergenerational learning, and enhancing opportunities for public participation in contemporary printmaking. Through exhibitions, workshops, talks and collaborative partnerships, we aim to inspire audiences, nurture talent and sustain a vibrant, professional printmaking community.

Public Benefit Statement

Belfast Print Workshop provides essential facilities for fine art printmaking in Belfast, supporting both practising artists and the wider arts community. Our gallery offers a valuable platform for local printmakers to showcase and sell their work, while our outreach projects-delivered both in the community and at our workshop-give participants meaningful opportunities to learn and engage with printmaking techniques.

BPW plays a vital role in supporting artists by enabling access to specialist equipment. We also offer training programmes for members of the public, helping individuals build skills and confidence as they develop their artistic interests.

Through our facilities, education initiatives, and public-facing gallery, BPW provides accessible routes into the arts, supports the continued professional development of printmakers, and contributes to the cultural life of Belfast by offering a welcoming space for experiencing high-quality contemporary printmaking.

Achievements and Performance

The period from April 2024 to March 2025 has been a testament to the resilience and steady progress of Belfast Print Workshop (BPW) amidst ongoing economic challenges. Throughout the year, we continued to navigate rising operational costs, inflationary pressures, and the wider post-pandemic landscape, while maintaining our commitment to financial sustainability and organisational stability. A significant focus during this period was the development of a new strategic plan, designed to underpin the organisation's long-term future and provide a clear pathway for growth, resilience, and enhanced support for our members and wider community.

Courses and Exhibitions

We have maintained a robust schedule of monthly courses, attracting a diverse range of participants. Our commitment to inclusivity ensures that our programs are accessible to people of all abilities and backgrounds.

Membership and Residencies

Our membership has continued to grow steadily throughout the year, reflecting ongoing demand for access to high-quality printmaking facilities and a supportive artistic community. During this period, we welcomed new Artists in Residence, including Rurai, whose practices and engagement have made a valuable contribution to the creative life of the workshop. Visiting workshop facilitators remains an important part of BPW's artistic ecosystem, fostering new work, collaboration, and skills development.

Belfast Print Workshop

Directors' Report

Significant Exhibitions and Projects

- May 2024 : Revisit: four decades in the archive exhibition
- July 2024 Linda McBurney solo exhibition Chasing Ghosts
- August 2024 The Stones Speak Margaret Elis' solo exhibition
- September 2024 ACNI rural engagement program- Adana letter press - Dromara arts group workshop
- October 2024 - Halloween Family Printing Event with Bank of Ideas - Large-scale interactive mono printing, T-shirt printing, mask printing, and card making.
- November 2024 - *Nightmares, Visions, and Dreams with Shepard Maudsleigh Studio, Boston Exchange. (Mirrored exhibition also took place in Boston.)
- December 2024 - Members' Christmas Show - Vault Market.
- February 2025 - Elegiac Residue - 7 International Exhibition (Karen's Show), paired with a Pronto Paper Lithograph Workshop led by Karen.
- *March 2025 - Inky Blue Fingers - Maura Lynch.

Strategic Development

In addition to our core funding from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, BPW has secured several grants during this period that have strengthened our capacity and supported organisational development.

A key area of progress has been the creation of a new Strategic Plan, developed through a series of workshops with staff, board members, and independent consultants. These sessions helped clarify BPW's long-term priorities, identify sustainability challenges, and establish a clear roadmap for underpinning the organisation over the coming years. The resulting plan provides a stronger foundation for governance, programming, and future fundraising.

BPW has continued to build meaningful strategic relationships with organisations such as Arts & Business, NICVA, Innovate Social, and other sector specialists, whose guidance has supported our fundraising ambitions, digital development, and organisational resilience. As we reflect on this period, it is evident that our commitment to growth, community engagement, and artistic excellence continues to drive BPW forward.

Belfast Print Workshop

Directors' Report

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement of disclosure of information to examiners

We, the Directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these financial statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounts information of which the company's examiners are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as Directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounts information and to establish that the company's examiners are aware of that information.

Independent Examiners

The independent examiners, RBCA Limited, are deemed to be re-appointed under Section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Belfast Print Workshop

Directors' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

13 Dec 2025

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:



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Adrian Mullan
Company secretary and trustee