

Happy Days: EIBF Limited
Company No. NI613494
Trustees' Report For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

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

Objectives and Activities

Aims and Objectives

Our aim is to deliver a world-class arts & culture programme celebrating the life and work of Samuel Beckett and other relevant writers for local, national and international audiences. Activities are held in Enniskillen and the surrounding border areas featuring world-class theatre, music, visual art, talks and events taking place in unusual venues including uninhabited islands, caves, abandoned buildings, churches and many other interesting places. The events highlight the rich literary heritage locally, promote the area and celebrate the rich literary and artistic excellence in a border area.

Local volunteers engage with local and international artists – with landscape used as background. Working with schools, the charity provides opportunities to engage with cultural creatives and participate in events. It also brings international and local artists together, providing experiences and learnings for the community. By embedding the literary heritage of the area, the aim is to highlight the importance of writers and artists on this community. Having received excellent reviews from the British, Irish and international media, the creation of world-class events enriches the community in a number of ways.

Public Benefit

The benefits which flow from our purpose include access to and engagement with world-class arts & cultural provision to advance the education of the public in the understanding, awareness and value of the work of Nobel Prize winner Samuel Beckett and other relevant writers. Highlighting the ties between literature and land and showcasing the literary heritage and natural beauty of Fermanagh and the surrounding region not only creates civic pride but offers opportunities to participate and/or volunteer in a range of events. Public benefit is evidenced through the delivery of activities, engagement with local schools, numbers of people engaging, feedback from participants, volunteers, audience members & funders as well as profile in local, regional and national media and independent evaluation.

The charity's beneficiaries are the general public in Fermanagh and arts audiences from across the island of Ireland, Europe and beyond whilst engaging with the local communities in a number of ways from opportunities to volunteer to participation in events and promoting appreciation of the arts in the area. Furthermore, there is also a considerable benefit to the local economy.

In encouraging significant number of people to some very rural and/or environmentally sensitive outdoor venues, there is a risk of unintended low-level environmental damage. However, we promote the 'Leave No Trace' ethos and we can show that this harm is outweighed by the benefits.

Reference and administrative details

Reference and administrative details are shown on page 1.

Achievements and Performance

Main Achievements

As part of the charity's aim is deliver and sustain a world-class arts & cultural programme celebrating the life and work of Samuel Beckett and other relevant writers for local, regional and international audiences, this year's activities included an innovation project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, devising a project to encapsulate the ten years of literary heritage and celebrating the contribution of volunteers, local businesses, schools and indeed the many civic and community organisations which played such a major role in the Happy Days literary experience. The aspiration to further innovate literary placemaking with a series of workshops and talks in Fermanagh included engaging with key stakeholders in the county on collaborating in a variety of ways.

The project introduced new techniques and learnings to create sustainable activities in association with the local community and organisations in the island town of Enniskillen and surrounding areas featuring workshops and design groups to test how to create a literary heritage in Enniskillen. Working with schools and volunteers, the programme included a number of projects – using creative ethnography techniques as well as film, photography and digital storytelling as part of the process.

The programme for the 'Yes' festival included theatre and literary talks taking place in a number of unusual venues including abandoned buildings, churches, halls and a variety of other venues. The events highlight the rich literary traditions locally, promote the area and celebrate the rich literary culture of the region.

Happy Days: EIBF Limited Trustees' Report (continued) For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Financial Review

Financial Position

The results for the year are set out on page 5. Net movement in funds in the year was a surplus of £10,121 for the year compared to £8,559 the previous year. At the year end the balances of restricted and unrestricted funds held were £31,217 (2024: £25,323) and £26,206 (2024: £21,979) respectively.

Reserves Policy

The Directors aim to maintain sufficient free reserves to enable the Charity to maintain its charitable activities at its current level.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Happy Days: EIBF Limited, which is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in Northern Ireland on 5 July 2012, registration number NI 613494, with the objective of undertaking charitable activities for the benefit of the general public in Fermanagh and arts audiences from NI, across the island of Ireland, Europe and beyond. In the event of the Company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 each.

Plans for future periods

Building on the festival's literary heritage is a key ambition for the trustees with plans in place to ensure wider activities engagement with both local and international audiences. Creating a platform to broaden skillsets in the area, the trustees are working with organisations to deliver an innovative programme in this space. By collaborating with local groups to improve wellbeing, social cohesion, increased participation, accessibility and education, the aim is to develop a sustainable pathway to celebrating literary heritage and the social advantages it brings to an area.

In conjunction with the Heritage Lottery and the Young Foundation, this innovative programme will help build on knowledge and create a sense of pride in literary heritage. The aim is also to stimulate and develop an interest in literacy of local pupils and families in the area as well as trying to enhance creativity and development of literature, drama, music and the arts in general in an area where parents and pupils do not have access due to rurality issues. Programmes are in development to build on this and encourage community participation and leadership. The key aims of the programme include building a heritage workforce, developing new and inclusive approaches to literary heritage and developing literary heritage skills across diverse communities especially young people.

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The first trustees were appointed by the members. Additional and replacement trustees are appointed by a simple majority resolution of the board or members. Trustees do not have a term of office and are not subject to retirement by rotation or re-election.

**Happy Days: EIBF Limited
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Happy Days: EIBF Limited for the purposes 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. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statement 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 the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at anytime the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Rules

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

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



Ms Mary Heaney

Trustee

Date

30 Jan 2026