

# Harlequin Youth Theatre

## Trustees' Annual Report

Period From April 2025 to March 2026



**OSCR**

Scottish Charity Regulator

[www.oscr.org.uk](http://www.oscr.org.uk)

**Registered  
SCIO**

**SC052420**

## **HARLEQUIN YOUTH THEATRE**

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## **Charity Trustees**

Honorary President – Christine Kyle

### **Executive Committee**

President – David Zochowski

Vice President – Kirsty Duncan

Secretary – Ruth Baillie

Treasurer – Andrew Kyle

### **Committee Members & Trustees**

Sophie Aziz

Rebecca Baillie

Marc Cowen

Kirsty Duncan

Alison Gill

Kara McQueen

Laura Moir

Kenneth Robertson

Becca Tobias

(From August 2025)

Aimee Mejury

### **Performing Members (Non trustees)**

Mairead McKee

Christopher Ralph



## **Website and Socials**

<https://www.harlequinyouth.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HarlequinEastwoodTheatreForYouth>

## **Contact**

[enquiries@harlequinyouth.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@harlequinyouth.co.uk)

## **Objectives and Purpose**

**The purposes of Harlequin are:**

- (i) To provide young people with the opportunity to take part at every point in a variety of dramatic productions, developing their skills in musical theatre.**
- (ii) To stimulate, through these productions, interest in drama, dance and music of all kinds.**

Our aim as a non-profit organisation is to promote, foster and develop musical theatre for young people within the local community. Since 1977, when the club was formed, Harlequin Youth Theatre has provided an opportunity for young people to perform thus deepening our members passion for theatre and performance to enable young people to grow and develop their skills and confidence. We strive to provide young people with the opportunity to gain experience from working with highly skilled, creative industry experts and to deliver a high standard theatrical experience for our audiences.

The membership for the club includes 100 young people, aged between 9 and 21 from our community as performing members. In addition, there are also over 40 adult members who continue their involvement within the club in a range of supporting roles.

We recognise the immense benefit performing can have on our members mental health from encouraging interaction with peers in a safe space, getting exercise through dance, being creative, enhancing self-confidence and enjoying the positivity that is created by the arts. Dramatic arts are character building and life affirming and the experience a young person gains with Harlequin compliments the skills offered in schools.

We take immense pride in all our members which is reinforced by the family ethos that is instilled within our club. We strive to provide opportunities for young people to express themselves in an environment they enjoy, whilst allowing them to expand their skillset and knowledge of theatre.

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Type of governing document**

Our constitution has been submitted to OSCR

### **Trustee recruitment and appointment**

Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with our constitution.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Presidents report reflecting on the 2024 – 2025 session shared with members at our Annual General Meeting**

#### **President's Report – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

As we reflect on another busy and successful year, I am reminded of all of individuals who make Harlequin the fabulous club that exists today. It has been a very rewarding year for me in my first full year as president watching friendships blossom, talents shared and experience our audience's reaction and praise after our three tremendous productions. None of this would have been possible without the hard work of the committee, production teams and volunteers for contributing their time to Harlequin and allowing us to continue providing great opportunities for our young people to thrive and shine on the stage.

We commenced the year back in August 2024 resuming rehearsals for our senior production of RENT (School Edition). This was an exciting time for us, taking on a new show that we had not performed previously. Blair Ledgerwood-Cruikshank returned to direct the show for us, welcoming him back to Harlequin for the first time since 2018. Nathan Feeney made his senior show debut as musical director and was assisted at rehearsals with the help of Ewan Pringle. Another return to the club was Lorna Dennison as Choreographer and we were delighted to welcome her back to Harlequin for the first time since 2013. Completing our production team line up was Ruth and Rebecca Baillie as co-producers and Anne McLean as costume lead.

Bringing this story to the stage gave our members the opportunity to engage with complex themes and subject matters. We engaged with the Terrance Higgins Trust who delivered a workshop on the history of AIDS and the impact that this crisis had on society. The club reached new heights in terms of technical production and lighting design, giving our audiences a real spectacle along with our incredibly talented cast who delivered in all aspects of the show.

In late August we held new member auditions across all age groups. Approximately 80 young people signed up and attended the auditions making for a very difficult decision for our committee panel. We welcomed 33 new members to the club as we started preparing for our Pantomime production of Cinderella. At the beginning of September, we held a summer fundraiser disco to welcome our juniors back and gave our new members a fun and friendly welcome to the club. My thanks to Aimee, Ross and Ewan for their work in providing the entertainment and games!

In the middle of September during a very busy time for the club, we left our old haunt of costume and prop storage at Eastwood House. We finally moved into our new premises at our unit in Castlemilk allowing for a better space and access for our needs. A special thanks

to Barry for all the work that went into preparing our new storage facility with shelving and rails. A big thank you to all the members who helped transport the costume rails, boxes and props taking the perilous, steep, dark and dingy stairs – not something we will miss! Moving to our own premises has been a long and anticipated journey for our club and has been made easier with our charitable status. Various funding has been received which has gone into the renovation at the unit and towards our monthly rental. We were successful in achieving a lottery grant earlier in the year which has been a significant help towards our costs and outgoings.

Our fundraising efforts continued in December as we visited The Avenue shopping centre to entertain the Christmas shoppers with some festive singing. My thanks to our performing members involved and our adult members who supported the singing! The funds we raised were split between the Trussell Trust and our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary fundraising pot.

In January we returned to Eastwood Park Theatre for our annual Pantomime, Cinderella written by Alan McHugh. Alasdair Hawthorn directed along with Karen McKay as musical director. Lorna Dennison stayed on as Choreographer following her work on RENT. Joanna Dougall was our producer supported by Richard Kelly and Anne McLean continued as costume lead. This was our third January pantomime and the first show for many of our new performing members making for a large cast with the stage bursting at the seams! Our annual “Christmas” party followed at the end of January with another big turnout of members enjoying a very fun night of games and dancing. Another thanks you to Ross, Aimee and Ewan for their help.

In addition to putting on our own productions we also held two club outings. We went to see Aladdin at the Theatre Royal in November and then a trip to the Kings Theatre in April to support our members Rory, Sean and Melody in the UK Amateur premier of Les Misérables.

At the end of February our Junior section was back getting ready for their production of Bugsy Malone. Our production team were made up of largely committee members with Kirsty Duncan Directing, myself as Musical Director, Kirsty Dougall as Choreographer and Christine Kyle as producer. We welcomed Lorraine Kyle to complete our line up as assistant producer and Christine also oversaw the costume team for the first time adding to her list of many jobs she has undertaken over the years!

The club held another charitable fundraiser at the end of March in Clarkston Halls. The event this time round was a Family Quiz Night with a little extra surprise of a flashmob vocal entertainment provided by some of our adult members. A huge thank you to everybody who contributed to the success of this night raising a significant amount of funds for the club that we will use in 2027 as we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

As we enter the 2025-26 session, I would like to thank all the committee, volunteers and chaperones for all their help in the successful running of the club. A special thank you to Geraldine Ralph for her help and support serving as my Vice President, who leaves the committee after a significant 5 years of service to Harlequin. Thank you also to Kirsty Dougall who leaves the committee as performing rep however I know both will not be travelling far as their contribution to the club continues within costume and choreography. So, now let us look forward to the 2025-26 session which I'm sure will be as exciting and rewarding as our last 48 years.

David Zochowski  
President  
Harlequin Youth Theatre

## **President's Report on Productions and Charitable Activities from April 2025 – March 2026**

In our Spring term, we were well underway with rehearsals for our production of **Bugsy Malone**. This was performed to packed out audiences at Eastwood Park Theatre from 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025. This was a production that allowed our junior members to thrive in a show steeped in Harlequin history – our sixth time taking this show to the stage. Our cast enjoyed performing this funny and entertaining show and benefitted from learning music and choreography from the golden age of musical theatre in a production perfectly suited for youngsters.

The club decided to adapt from our normal scheduling to combine our junior and senior section for a production at East Kilbride Village Theatre in October of 2025. The selected show of choice was another Harlequin favourite – **Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**. Our production team were largely made up of members of the club who had performed in this show when they were younger, highlighting a special Harlequin legacy as we foster the future generation of performers. The show was cast and rehearsals began in June, then returning after the summer holidays in August through to show week which was performed over 6 performances between 21<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October 2025. This was our first time bringing our combined membership to The Village Theatre and we look forward to returning in 2026.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2025 we held a Halloween Disco for our performing members to enjoy a social and fun evening following friendships that were blossomed during Joseph show week. Our fundraising efforts continued towards our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and our members benefitted from an enjoyable party celebrating with their friends. Our annual 'Christmas' party was held in January 2026 which is always a highlight in the Harlequin calendar.

In February 2026 we held a Family Bingo fundraiser which helped raise significant funds towards celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2027. Over 150 members and their families enjoyed an entertaining and enjoyable evening at Clarkston Halls.

In 2024, the committee had secured rights to perform **Grease** and the decision was made to bring our senior section back to Eastwood Theatre in March of 2026. Our return to a spring production at Eastwood was a welcome return for the club. With ticket sales over 95%, our audiences loved coming to see our performances over five shows between 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Our next production will be at Eastwood Theatre at the beginning of June 2026, with the club receiving the rights to perform **Matilda Jr.** Rehearsals are underway and our cast are very excited to bring Roald Dahl's story to the stage between the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June.

David Zochowski  
President  
Harlequin Youth Theatre

## **Future Productions**

June 2026 – Matilda Jr.

<https://www.enjoyeastren.org/events/harlequin-youth-theatre-presents-matilda-jr/>

October 2026 – Combined Junior and Senior production

March 2027 – Senior production

June 2027 – Junior production

October 2027 - Combined Junior and Senior production



## Impact

**Our impact can be measured by the reaction and high praises from audiences who come to watch our productions.**

We are a member of NODA, National Operatic and Dramatic Association, who regularly come to support our shows. Please find some recent extracts from NODA representatives who publish show reports:

### **Cinderella (Pantomime) – January 2025**

*This production was well executed and enjoyable and that was only possible because of every single cast member's effort. Well done again to the Committee, Production Team and wider Harlequin club and crew for another excellent Panto.*

*The energy and enjoyment from each member of the cast was evident throughout the show and infectious and the audience cheered them on.*

### **Bugsy Malone – June 2025**

It also always delights me in a Harlequin show that such a large cast can execute the bigger dance numbers so well, which is a credit to choreographer Kirsty and the production team. Kirsty's direction was a seamless blend of humour and joy as the young cast used exaggerated traits typical of comic gangster films but with a playful and innocent twist.

The entire cast of young performers contributed to a lively, humorous, and polished production of Bugsy Malone, who I am sure know that with the support they receive at Harlequin can be anything that they want to be in the future.



## **Financial Review**

In the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 the unrestricted funds are showing a deficit of £9,476. The trading income and expenditure relates to the performances during the period and these operated at a deficit of £26,768 although this is on a cash basis. There was a receipt of £15,178 after the year end which would take the deficit to £11,590. The subscriptions, donations and fundraising income are therefore essential to cover the running costs.

During the year the club took on a storage unit and we were fortunate to receive a donation from McDonalds towards the rent and a National Lottery Community Fund grant towards the work required to make the storage unit fit for purpose. The balance on both of these restricted amounts will be spent in the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

## **Statement of Charity Reserves**

The Trustees believe that around two months of annual expenditure is an appropriate level of reserves in order to cover the timing differences between receipts and payments and to allow for any unexpected items of expenditure on events or equipment. Reserves at the end of the year were £85,899. This covers the reserves policy and gives working capital for the production of shows, which often require most of the costs to be paid for in advance of receiving the majority of the ticket income.

**Declaration**

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

*Christine Kyle*

Print name

CHRISTINE KYLE

Designation

HONORARY PRESIDENT

Date

30/3/26

**HARLEQUIN YOUTH THEATRE**  
Report of the Independent Examiner  
for the period ended 30th June 2025

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30th June 2025 which are set out on pages 12 to 14.

**Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The Charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

**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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;

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.

**Glenn Allan**  
Independent Examiner

Date: 25th March 2026

**HARLEQUIN YOUTH THEATRE**  
Receipts and payments accounts  
for the period ended 30th June 2025

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Transfer from unincorporated club		-	-	-	77,925
Subscriptions		13,480	-	13,480	10,513
Donations, legacies and grants		5,500	17,650	23,150	14,016
Donations, legacies and grants		52,715	-	52,715	83,694
Income from Fundraising Activities		4,959	-	4,959	-
Other income		5,026	-	5,026	1,737
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>81,680</b>	<b>17,650</b>	<b>99,330</b>	<b>187,885</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Charitable activities	2	10,526	7,381	17,907	17,140
Trading expenses		79,483	150	79,633	79,273
Cost of Fundraising Activities		1,147	-	1,147	-
Purchase of equipment		-	5,361	5,361	854
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>91,156</b>	<b>12,892</b>	<b>104,048</b>	<b>97,268</b>
Net receipts/payments		(9,476)	4,758	(4,718)	90,617
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after transfers		(9,476)	4,758	(4,718)	90,617
Total funds brought forward		90,617	-	90,617	-
Total funds carried forward	3	<b>81,141</b>	<b>4,758</b>	<b>85,899</b>	<b>90,617</b>

The notes on page 14 form part of these accounts.

**HARLEQUIN YOUTH THEATRE**  
Receipts and payments accounts  
for the period ended 30th June 2025

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES**

Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024
Bank and cash in hand				
Opening balances	90,617	-	90,617	
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	(9,476)	4,758	(4,718)	90,617
Closing balances	<u>81,141</u>	<u>4,758</u>	<u>85,899</u>	<u>90,617</u>

**Bank and cash balances**

Current account	80,293	4,758	85,051	74,454
Savings accounts	-	-	-	15,695
Prepaid payment card	848	-	848	469
	<u>81,141</u>	<u>4,758</u>	<u>85,899</u>	<u>90,617</u>

**Statement of liabilities at 30 June 2025**

Supplier invoices outstanding	-	-	-	4,923
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,923</u>

The Accounts on pages 12 to 14 were approved by the Trustees on 25th March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

**Andrew Kyle**  
Trustee

The notes on page 14 form part of these accounts.

## HARLEQUIN YOUTH THEATRE

Notes to the accounts  
for the period ended 30th June 2025

### 1. Accounting policies

#### Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a Receipts and Payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

#### Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments Account as shown on page 12, funds are defined as follows:

**Unrestricted funds** comprise donation, grants, trading and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

**Restricted funds** comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

Harlequin Youth Theatre previously operated as an unincorporated club. It's assets, liabilities and activities were transferred to Harlequin Youth Theatre (SCO52420) on 21st March 2023. The transfer of funds have been shown as income on the receipts and payments account.

### 2. Charitable activities expenses

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024
	£	£	£	£
School and hall lets	4,108	-	4,108	6,638
Rent of Unit	-	7,381	7,381	-
Insurance	718	-	718	1,883
Members' activities	2,230	-	2,230	1,890
Honoraris & Gratuities	20	-	20	1,664
General expenses	3,450	-	3,450	5,065
<b>Total charitable activities expenditure</b>	<b>10,526</b>	<b>7,381</b>	<b>17,907</b>	<b>17,140</b>

### 3. Breakdown of restricted funds

	01/07/2024	Receipts	Payments	30/06/2025
McDonalds	-	10,000	(7,381)	2,619
ECTA	-	150	(150)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	7,500	(5,361)	2,139
<b>Total Restricted Fund</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,650</b>	<b>(12,892)</b>	<b>4,758</b>

### 4. Related party transactions

The following Trustees were paid gratuities for their roles on the production team of shows throughout the period. These payments were made in line with the SCIO's constitution and were approved by the board of Trustees. The Trustees receiving the payments had no involvement in their approval:

	£
Kirsty Duncan	1,000
Rebecca Baillie	200
Ruth Baillie	200

Reimbursements of expenses were made to the following trustees in the period ending 30th June 2025

	£
Andrew Kyle	3,691.53
Christine Kyle	8,305.20
David Zochowski	76.88
Geraldine Ralph	700.76
Marc Cowen	41.80
Rebecca Baillie	215.94
Ruth Baillie	1,327.17