



Alderney Theatre Group – Chairman’s Report 2025/2026

Good evening members, friends and supporters,

It is my pleasure to present the Chairman’s Report for 2025 - a year that once again demonstrated the creativity, resilience and community spirit at the heart of the Alderney Theatre Group.

Our 2025 programme showcased a rich variety of performances, from drama and comedy to live music and community entertainment, reflecting both our local talent and our ability to bring high-quality visiting acts to the island.

We began the year with a highly successful **Musical Bingo Night** in April, following our AGM. This event proved both entertaining and well attended, setting a positive tone for the year ahead – but watch out tonight because Alex is back to retain her title as Musical Know It All.

In May, we staged the one-act comedy **“Anger Management”**, which proved extremely popular, selling out and requiring an additional performance. The production was not only a hit with audiences but also represented the group at the Guernsey One-Act Play Festival (our second year in attendance), where it achieved notable success - securing **two trophies and four nominations**.

This achievement highlights the continued strength of our performers and crew and reinforces our growing reputation beyond Alderney.

July was a particularly busy and vibrant month:

“Fabaret” (5 July) brought West End-level cabaret to the Island Hall, with acclaimed performer Eve Ferret delivering a rather funny and somewhat risqué evening of music and storytelling.

and

“The Bench” (8 July), a powerful youth-led production, demonstrated our commitment to nurturing emerging talent. Directed and performed by teenagers, the play tackled serious themes and had made a strong impact at the Guernsey One-Act Play Festival which is why we felt our island children should have the opportunity to experience it.

In addition, many of our members contributed to Alderney Week Gala Nights and variety performances, continuing our tradition of supporting Alderney Week.

In October, we welcomed internationally renowned artist **Kiki Dee**, accompanied by guitarist Carmelo Luggeri, for a standout concert event. This performance was described as a major highlight of the year, attracting strong audience support. This was also a lightbulb moment for me regarding our current sound equipment. Which I shall talk about further shortly.

We concluded the year in December with **“The Twelve Plays of Christmas”**, a large-scale festive production involving a cast ranging in age from 7 to 70. This joyful and inclusive show embodied the spirit of the group and brought together performers of all generations in a truly memorable way. This was actually not the planned production for our 2025 Christmas offering – Lee had written a brilliant panto – but sadly due to a lack of young male lead actors – we had to abandon ship. I even resorted to accosting young men in the supermarket asking if they’d be interested in treading the boards which resulted in some hilarious conversations. Thanks to a lot of effort from a lot of Theatre Group stalwarts, we quickly pulled together this “variety show” to end the year with a flourish.

Looking Ahead

2025 has been a year of achievement, growth and creativity. However it has reinforced the importance of live performance in our community and demonstrated that the ATG is currently unable to accommodate top visiting artists (particularly musicians) without a new, modern and suitable audio system (to be used in both the Island Hall and in various locations around the island).

We were delighted to welcome Jamie Gosney from Sonosphere – a UK audio company - to the island in April who gave us a fantastic presentation on a new sound system that will be transformative for future productions and general use by other island groups, charities & The States of Alderney.

We are now in the process of applying for grants and financial assistance. I’m pleased to say we have several young future sound engineers and technicians eager to learn the new system. Once this is in place – hopefully in the not-too-distant future – we can then look at upgrading the lighting which will make Ronnie’s life much easier.

Our next production is Lee’s newest one act play **“Child’s Play”** – being performed on Wednesday 13th May and then off to Guernsey for GADOC’s One Act Play Festival on the 22nd May – if you haven’t got a ticket yet, please see Alex or Ilona. And this Christmas we hope to bring you “Dad’s Army” – with a twist! It’s an all-female cast!

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My mission is to futureproof the Alderney Theatre Group for the next generation and beyond – so my plea today after my first year as the Chair of the ATG is to ask for anyone to come forward with ideas, scripts, acts they’d like to produce, new directors, script writers, techies – whoever you are and whatever skillset you have to offer – please talk to me so we can make it happen even bigger and better than before.

Charlotte Newton

Chairman