THE HALPERN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1096478

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2003-03-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	272 High Street Chatham Kent ME4 4BP
Phone	01634 812108
Email	original@nucleusarts.co.uk
Website	www.nucleusarts.com

Activities

Objects: A) THE RELIEF OF SICK PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND/OR THOSE SUFFERING FROM A MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY;B) TO ASSIST IN MAINTAINING, REPAIR, RESTORE, PRESERVE, IMPROVE AND RECONSTRUCT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE FABRIC OF THE CHATHAM MEMORIAL SYNAGOGUE ITS MONUMENTS, FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND OTHER CHATTELS;C) TO ADVANCE AND PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF THE ARTS IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF AN ARTS COMMUNITY CENTRE IN CHATHAM AND BY PROVIDING SUPPORT TO ARTISTS WHO ARE UNABLE TO PURSUE THEIR TALENT BECAUSE OF LACK OF FINANCIAL MEANS OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

Activities: Working and stimulating social inclusion through education, community development, health and wellbeing, regeneration and the Arts to assist those with mental or physical health issues, the vulnerable, socially isolated and artists in addition to the wider community in Medway and Kent to enhance the quality of people's lives. Ensuring the preservation of Chatham Memorial Synagogue.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£377,513	£660,343	£4,476,306	13
2024-04-05	£335,200	£617,056	£4,632,861	12
2023-04-05	£402,360	£538,675	-	-
2022-04-05	£401,275	£504,077	-	-
2021-04-05	£283,065	£459,837	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PETER MARTIN	Chair	2012-04-25
Anil Aggarwal		2022-01-15
Dr Susan Elizabeth Plummer		2025-11-18
GEOFF HARVEY		2014-05-23
Paula Gregory		2014-05-23
VINCE MAPLE		2017-12-04

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THE HALPERN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1096478

Accounts

The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 5 April 2025

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Statement from the chair

The period of 2024/25 was one of extraordinary achievement for the Halpern Charitable Foundation, but also one marked by challenge and personal loss. We faced the sudden and deeply felt passing of our friend and long-time partner at Café Nucleus, Sergejs Sergejenkovs-Telford. His contribution to our community was immeasurable, and his absence has left a lasting impact on us all. Later in the year, a serious fire at our Chatham Nucleus Art Centre caused extensive damage and forced the temporary closure of several studios for nearly five months. These moments tested us, both emotionally and operationally.

Yet, I could not be prouder of how our staff, artists, and wider community responded. In the face of adversity, they demonstrated resilience, compassion, and determination, ensuring that our programmes continued and our standards never faltered. Their efforts reaffirmed what makes HCF so special—our ability to pull together, adapt, and keep delivering meaningful impact, no matter the circumstances.

This year also brought outstanding recognition of our work. Winning Community Charity of the Year at the Kent Charity Awards, the KMTV Charity of the Year Award 2025, and being selected as the Mayor of Medway's Charity of the Year for 2024/25 are honours that speak volumes about our reputation as a trusted and valued partner. Further commendations, including at the Kent Mental Wellbeing Awards and Pride in Medway, acknowledged our innovative and sustainable approaches. On a personal note, I was humbled to receive the Barry Clout Award for Volunteering, and was equally proud to see our CEO honoured with the People's Choice Award at the Medway VCSEF Leadership Awards. These accolades reflect the strength, creativity, and commitment of our entire organisation.

Alongside delivery, we took a national and even international leadership role in creative health research and evaluation. Through pioneering tools such as the Nucleus Matrix and MIAHAI, and by working with the NHS, Medway Public Health, and the University of Greenwich, we have shaped practice that extends far beyond our own programmes. The success of initiatives such as Mini Nucleus and Craft & Chat demonstrate the tangible benefits of creative activity for wellbeing, and I am excited by the momentum this work continues to build.

We have also grown our support for children, young people, and adults. From Mini-Nucleus sessions for the very youngest, to TeenArt and Arts Award for teenagers, to Social Art, Young at Art, and Craft & Chat for adults, our creative family has flourished. Each initiative has strengthened connections, built confidence, and improved wellbeing—proof that creativity is not just enriching but life-changing.

As Chair, I have had the privilege of seeing first-hand the power of this work. I am proud beyond words of our team, our volunteers, our partners, and the thousands of participants who have made HCF what it is today. While we cannot know what challenges the year ahead will bring, we can be certain of one thing: the Halpern Charitable Foundation will meet them with creativity, resilience, and hope.

Peter Martin
Chair of Trustees – Halpern Charitable Foundation

THE FACILITATORS ARE SO WELCOMING AND FRIENDLY. NOTHING IS TOO MUCH. THEY MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE TO MY WELL-BEING AND THE COMMUNITY IMPACT IS INCREDIBLE.

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT





I FEEL THAT THIS ART GROUP GIVES ME AN OUTLET, AND IS WELCOMING AND NO PRESSURE TO DO ANYTHING

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

Summary of Achievements in 2024/25

The period of 2024/25 has been one of considerable success, but also tinged with challenge and some personal tragedy. During this period, we lost our friend and long-time partner via Café Nucleus, Sergejs Sergejenkovs-Telford, who passed away suddenly, deeply affecting all of our staff and creative community. On top of this, we also suffered a major fire on our Nucleus Art Centre site in Chatham, causing considerable damage and necessitating the closure of a number of our studios for 4-5 months. However, despite this difficulty, the team and community pulled together to continue to deliver high quality work.

We won a number of major awards in the year, notably the prestigious Community Charity of the Year at the Kent Charity Awards, the KMTV Charity of the Year Award 2025, and selection as the Mayor of Medway's Charity of the Year for 2024/25. Other awards include a Highly Commended Award at the Kent Mental Wellbeing Awards 2024, and a Pride in Medway commendation for our work to reduce our environmental impact. Finally, our CEO was awarded the People's Choice Award at the Medway VCSEF Leadership awards and our Chair of trustees was awarded the Barry Clout Award for Volunteering.

Nucleus Art Centre



Our primary base continues to be our original site in Chatham, which remains the heart of our activity and community impact. This location is home to the Halpern Gallery, the larger of our three exhibition spaces, where we regularly showcase an exciting programme of local, national, and international artists. Alongside the gallery, the site includes a welcoming community room, a fully equipped arts workshop, a kiln for ceramics, and the majority of our artist studios—spaces that provide affordable, professional facilities for creatives at all stages of their careers.

From this location, we are able to support a wide range of charities, schools, and community groups, offering space, resources, and collaborative opportunities. The site also offers a focus for the wider community-building work, a central point for community festivals and parades, and a safe location for vulnerable communities. It is both a registered safe space and hate crime reporting centre, and home to a defibrillator and emergency first aid equipment for emergency services. By combining cultural programming, creative facilities, and a vibrant café atmosphere, our Chatham site serves as a true cornerstone for artistic innovation, partnership working, and community engagement across Medway.

HeArt of the Community

Due to ongoing developments at the Pentagon Centre, our primary site in Chatham has seen reduced use this year and will closed permanently in November 2024. This site served as a temporary home for the Chatham Youth Centre (the WREC Room) during the summer of 2024 when it faced closure due to the same development activities.

Nucleus Hub



The Nucleus Hub on Chatham's Military Road plays a key role in our creative career development pipeline. It offers a suite of subsidised offices supporting small creative businesses and charities. Due to a restructure in Café Nucleus, the café element of this closed in December 2024. We are currently trialling a series of pop-up initiatives to explore uses for the site.

Maidstone Road

Our discreet site on Chatham's Maidstone Road offers ten supported flats for individuals impacted by mental health challenges. For many residents, this provides their first stable home, giving them a vital opportunity to rebuild their lives. Resident support and building management are provided by our mental health partner, Choice Support.

Halpern Conservancy Building



The Halpern Conservancy Building, situated on Rochester's historic high street is a vibrant hub for our charity's partnership and engagement work in the town. Our gallery, the Halpern Pop, provides commercial opportunities for local artists while also hosting exhibitions, performances, and charity fundraisers in collaboration with partners. The building also houses our makerspace and digital classroom, the LightBox—a creative hub equipped with 3D printers and pens, a green screen, digital art tools, and a wide range of equipment to support innovation and hands-on creativity.



The Conservancy is also home to our permanent engagement installation. The repurposed red BT Telephone Box, now known as the Medway Art Box, has become a vibrant street-level gallery for both artists and the local community. Acquired through BT's Adopt-a-Box scheme and officially taken on by Nucleus Arts in January 2022, the kiosk has been transformed into a dynamic and accessible space that champions creativity and community engagement.



Since its launch, the Medway Art Box has showcased an exciting variety of artistic installations, collaborative projects, and community exchanges, each one bringing art directly into the public realm. Looking ahead, it will continue its mission as an inclusive cultural hub, with new projects already planned to further involve local residents and artists. This small but mighty landmark is now a much-loved feature of Medway's cultural landscape, offering endless opportunities for imaginative expression right in the heart of the community.

Rainham

Our most recent site is the Langton studios in Rainham, Medway. Another partnership with Café Nucleus opens up fresh opportunities, with six artist studio spaces, boosting our creative workspace capacity.



Setting up a base in Rainham will allow us to strengthen our connection with local communities in both Rainham and Gillingham, making our services more accessible and ensuring we can offer even greater support to the people we serve.

Creative Associates

In 2024/25 we also introduced the Creative Associate scheme as a new way for artists to be part of the Nucleus Arts community, even if they were on the studio waiting list or could not yet afford a dedicated workspace.

For a small monthly or annual contribution, Creative Associates were able to access a wide range of benefits without needing a studio. These included early booking access to our gallery spaces, invitations to Nucleus Arts and Halpern Gallery events, and opportunities for networking and professional development. The scheme provides artists with a valuable means to stay connected, promote their work, and remain engaged with the local arts scene while awaiting a studio space or developing their practice more affordably.



Through the Creative Associate programme, we successfully extended our support to an even wider creative family, ensuring that financial or practical barriers did not prevent artists from feeling included and supported within our community.

I feel like I'm in another world when I come here (HCF). I can switch off and relax. I'm so glad I found you.

Engagement
The past year has been an extraordinary one, showcasing the powerful contribution HCF makes to both the creative sector and to health and wellbeing across Medway. Through our wide-ranging programmes of outreach and engagement, we have brought creativity, connection, and care to people of all ages and backgrounds; from new parents to residents of care and nursing homes.



We are proud that this impact has been recognised through a series of prestigious awards for our engagement work: Mayor of Medway's Charity of the Year 2024/25, Community Charity of the Year at the Kent Charity Awards 2024, KMTV Charity of the Year Award 2025, and a Highly Commended Award at the Kent Mental Wellbeing Awards 2024. These accolades are a testament not only to the breadth of our work but also to the trust and respect we have built across sectors and with the communities we serve.

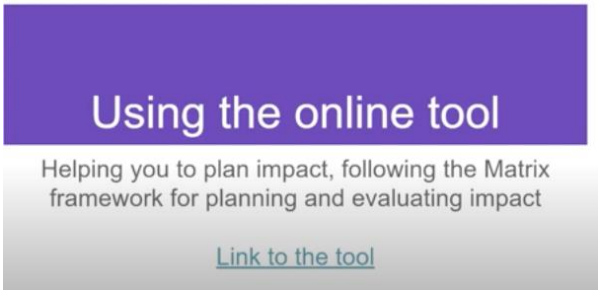
Our dedicated and talented team continues to innovate, collaborate, and lead, ensuring that every project is delivered in the best possible way for our beneficiaries. Alongside our delivery, we have also taken a leading role in creative health research in Medway, and in shaping new tools for the wider engagement sector, helping to influence and inspire practice far beyond our own programmes.

Evaluation and Development
We are continuing to take a leadership role in evaluation and development of creative health practice. The approaches are:

- The Nucleus Matrix - a 'universal' approach for the planning and evaluation of interventions.
- MIAHAI (Minimum Information About a Health Arts Intervention) - A global language for the communicating, sharing and development of Arts for Health.

To achieve this, we have joined the Kent and Medway Creative Health Network, and joined the Board of the prestigious Centre for Inclusive Communities and Environments at the University of Greenwich.

As a leading member of the Medway Creative Health Partnership, in association with Medway Public Health and the NHS, we have been undertaking an evaluation programme on the impacts of creative health across two discreet areas. This has involved setting up two new groups in each of the areas, Mini Nucleus Luton/Brompton, for infants and their parents, and Craft and Chat Luton/Brompton, for over 18s. Current results of this work are very positive, and we have learned a great deal regarding best practice in setting up new groups in 'cold areas.' We have also been working on toolkits for ethical data collection for non-academic institutions, and ethical consents.



Following our trials of the Matrix and MIAHAI with North Kent Mind, MVA, NHS and the Medway Transformation Academy, we have worked with partners Future Coders, to develop a publicly accessible version of MIAHAI, and are currently trialling this (User video, https://youtu.be/UU2vLy3M8UA. Tool portal https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe39fTKIH0eSACVZ2acdNOxT1xLiBZ0whsyvfLtn95a3KK9Qw/formResponse).

Under 18s support

Incorporating our new learning and successes, we continue to expand and strengthen our programme for younger people.

Our well-established weekly Babies and Parents art group, **Mini-Nucleus** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/mininucleus), is designed for children aged 0–4 and their parents. It encourages messy play and creative activities that nurture children's social and artistic development, while also giving new parents a vital opportunity to connect, share experiences, and build supportive friendships. This year, we proudly launched two new Mini-Nucleus groups in Brompton and Luton as part of our creative health research project, helping us better understand the positive impact of creative activity on health and wellbeing.

Young people can then progress to our monthly **Lego and Art Club** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/lego-art-club), a lively Saturday morning session where children and their parents come together to build Lego creations and enjoy art-based activities. Particularly popular with dads, the club provides a relaxed and hands-on environment that encourages playful interaction, supports fine motor skill development, and strengthens family bonds through shared creativity. Its popularity often means the group is oversubscribed, highlighting the strong demand for engaging, family-friendly activities that combine play with art.

Our **Arts Award** programme (https://www.nucleusarts.com/artsaward) runs throughout the year, offering young people with limited educational opportunities the chance to gain valuable qualifications and hands-on career experience by working alongside our resident artists. Thanks to generous support from the Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust, we are able to deliver these courses at a highly subsidised rate, with small class sizes that ensure tailored guidance and support for every participant.

The programme spans five levels—from beginner-friendly Explore and Discover through to Bronze, Silver, and Gold. We are especially proud to have supported our first Gold-level

participants this year, an achievement accredited by Trinity College London and equivalent to high-level GCSE qualifications. By partnering with local schools and charities, we have been able to bring this opportunity to some of the most vulnerable young people in our community. In 2023–24, we also began an exciting collaboration with a foetal alcohol charity, developing Arts Award classes specifically tailored to meet the needs of their young people.



Our free Saturday art class for 7–11-year-olds, **Junior Doodle and Draw** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/doodlendraw), continued this year thanks to generous funding from Child Friendly Medway. Led by Nucleus artist and comic book illustrator Nick Ashton, this lively programme nurtures young creativity through hands-on art techniques. Nick inspires children to transform their ideas into pictures, reminding them that every child is an artist—and that the secret to staying one is to keep creating, even when things don't turn out as expected.

By embracing mistakes as a natural and valuable part of the creative journey, we encourage young people to explore, experiment, and grow through their artistic "missteps." The class provides a supportive space where children gain confidence in self-expression, develop technical skills, and connect with others who share their passion for art. Junior Doodle and Draw is designed to spark a lifelong love of creativity, helping each participant carry the spirit of an artist with them into the future.

Our support for young people aged 13–17 continues to expand through **TeenArt** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/teenart) and **Digital TeenArt** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/digital-teen-art-1). Both groups help young people build skills, confidence, and community, with TeenArt focusing on physical art forms such as drawing, painting, and costume making, while Digital TeenArt develops digital skills and creative practice in new media.



These groups have thrived not only through their own activities but also by contributing to our wider programme. Participants have created artworks for Carnival, FunPalace, and Chinese New Year, volunteered at community events, and collaborated with younger groups such as Mini-Nucleus and the Lego and Art Club. The sense of belonging fostered in TeenArt and Digital TeenArt has given these young people renewed confidence, greater self-worth, and transferable skills that extend into their wider lives.



The companion to Junior Doodle and Draw is our fantasy-themed club, **Doodle and Draw** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/doodlendraw), designed for 11–18-year-olds and delivered on Saturday afternoons at Chatham Library. Run in partnership with Child Friendly Medway

and Medway Libraries, this programme has extended our reach to new audiences and provided valuable weekend opportunities for those unable to attend weekday activities. The fantasy theme has proved especially effective in engaging boys, who are often underrepresented in creative programmes.

Guided by local artists, participants are encouraged to explore imaginative themes, experiment with new techniques, and create their own fantasy-inspired artwork in a welcoming and supportive environment. The club continues to grow in popularity, offering young people a fun and meaningful way to express themselves and build creative confidence.

We also proudly supported a series of **Women's and Girls' Workshops**, where women and their relatives were invited to take part in creative activities together. Funded by Child Friendly Medway, these workshops provided a safe and inspiring space to connect across generations, build relationships, and celebrate creativity in all its forms.



Over 18s support

Our creative health programme for adults continues to play a vital role in addressing the rising challenges of loneliness, poor wellbeing, and mental health across Medway. Recent surveys highlight how many local people struggle with feelings of worthlessness, anxiety, and isolation—issues shown to have a serious impact on health, comparable to smoking or excessive drinking. Too often, these difficulties go unaddressed, placing further strain on already stretched public services.

Through our programme, we offer an accessible and inclusive space where individuals can express themselves creatively, build meaningful connections, and improve their mental health. Activities such as art and crafts provide a powerful outlet for emotions, help participants rediscover a sense of purpose, and create opportunities to form friendships with others who share similar experiences. By embedding creativity into wellbeing, we support people to tackle isolation, grow in confidence, and strengthen their resilience.

Working closely with local health services, we ensure that the support we provide is tailored to the needs of each individual. This collaborative approach reinforces community connections and offers an effective, creative alternative to more traditional therapies. As demand continues to rise, our creative health programme remains a lifeline for many in Medway—addressing complex issues of mental health and social isolation while offering hope and connection to those who need it most.



To complement this work, we deliver **Digital Draw** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/digital-draw). Designed to support participants moving into our adult programme, this group offers relaxed, pressure-free digital drawing workshops for adults aged 18 and over. Held at The Lightbox in our Conservancy building in Rochester, the sessions provide participants with iPads, Apple Pencils, and access to the Procreate app, opening up opportunities to explore a wide range of digital drawing techniques.

Whether absolute beginners or those looking to refine existing skills, participants can learn at their own pace in a welcoming and supportive environment. Beyond developing technical ability, the group fosters creativity, confidence, and connection; helping adults to discover new ways of expressing themselves through digital art.



Our weekly **Social Art** club (https://www.nucleusarts.com/social-art) continues to be a flagship initiative, setting the gold standard for our community groups and serving as the model for much of our wider programme. Open to a diverse range of participants, it has been especially transformative for individuals with physical and learning disabilities, as well as those experiencing social isolation due to health challenges.

The club's strength lies in the welcoming community it fosters. Activities are carefully designed to be accessible and inclusive, with a very low barrier to participation, ensuring that everyone can join in regardless of background or ability. Participants gain a strong sense of achievement as they explore new skills, express themselves creatively, and experience real improvements in their wellbeing.

The popularity of Social Art speaks for itself—new spaces are often booked out within hours, with a waiting list for cancellations. This ongoing demand is a testament to the club's impact and the supportive environment it creates for those who benefit from it most.



Delivered along the same model as Social Art, our two new **Chat and Create** groups, one each in Brompton (https://www.nucleusarts.com/brompton-craft-and-chat) and Luton (https://www.nucleusarts.com/luton-craft-and-chat), provide free drop in creative sessions for adults in those two communities. These new sessions form part of our Creative Health research programme, and are funded until September 2025.

Our fortnightly **Young at Art** group (https://www.nucleusarts.com/youngatart) is tailored for people aged 55 and over who want to learn new skills while enjoying social connection.



These free sessions, led by a professional artist, offer a deeper focus on artistic techniques compared to many of our other groups, giving participants the chance to expand their abilities while working in a relaxed and encouraging setting.

Like Social Art, Young at Art has proved hugely popular, with every round of spaces filling quickly. For older adults, the group provides a meaningful opportunity to stay mentally active, gain confidence, and form new friendships through shared creative learning. In response to this demand, we are actively seeking funding to expand Young at Art into new venues across Medway, making it accessible to even more older adults in the community.



Our **jumpstART** programme provides further creative opportunities for people over 55, with a varied programme of artist-led workshops in areas such as ceramics, resin jewellery, and digital illustration. While not free, fees are kept deliberately low, covering only the cost of artists and materials, and remain significantly more affordable than comparable local options. The group allows participants to explore new skills in a supportive and social setting, and we are now reviewing its success with the aim of expanding to offer even more diverse opportunities for older adults.

Social Saturday builds on the success of our former Chatham Connect Create group, which concluded in 2023. Designed for particularly vulnerable adults, it provides a safe and supportive space for over-18s to learn new skills, develop confidence, and form meaningful connections. The smaller group size allows for more tailored support and fosters strong relationships among participants. Social Saturday continues the mission of its predecessor, offering creative opportunities for those facing isolation or other barriers, and empowering them to connect, create, and grow.

In addition, we deliver weekly **craft sessions in care homes** across Medway, providing residents with the chance to take part in creative activities that support wellbeing. These sessions are tailored to be engaging and accessible, offering crafts such as painting, mosaic, and needle felting. Residents gain confidence and a sense of achievement as they learn new techniques, while the social element helps reduce isolation and promote interaction. Demand for this programme continues to grow, reflecting its positive impact on the health and happiness of care home residents across the area.



This year has also seen the official launch of **Craft at Home** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/craftathome), a compilation of free-to-access activities that people can do at home between their sessions. Built up over a number of years, these activities include a wide range of instruction sheets, colouring, and even videos in our virtual FunPalace.

Finally, we at the end of the 24/25 financial year, we are launching **BCre8ive** (https://www.bcre8ive.org/), an innovative, online arts engagement and befriending project designed to support and inspire adults aged 18–35 who are looking to explore and develop their creative potential in a flexible, accessible, and inclusive environment. Running over summer 2025, BCre8ive offers a dynamic virtual platform where participants can connect, create, and grow; all from the comfort of their own space.

At its heart, BCre8ive is about more than just making art, it's about building connection through creativity. By bringing together individuals who may face barriers to accessing in-person creative groups, whether due to health, location, caring responsibilities, or social anxiety; the programme provides a supportive, low-pressure environment that nurtures confidence, community, and collaboration.

Participants are invited to engage in a range of art forms including writing, drawing, music-making, visual arts, and digital media, guided by experienced mentors and guest artists from across the creative industries. The format is flexible, offering a combination of live online meet-ups, one-to-one mentoring sessions, and ongoing peer support, ensuring everyone can take part at their own pace and comfort level.



Throughout the programme, participants are encouraged to experiment, share their work, and receive feedback from both their peers and professionals. The emphasis is on self-expression and exploration, not perfection — whether someone is picking up a pen for the first time or developing an existing practice, BCre8ive offers a space to play, grow, and be seen.

The project culminates in an exciting digital showcase event, where participants are invited to present their work to a wider audience. This celebration not only highlights the creative journey of each individual but also promotes wider awareness of the role that accessible, virtual creative spaces can play in supporting wellbeing and reducing isolation.

BCre8ive is fundamentally a befriending initiative — the creative element is the vehicle through which meaningful social connection is made. Regular group interactions, creative prompts, and one-on-one mentoring foster a sense of belonging and trust among participants, many of whom may struggle with loneliness or lack opportunities to meet like-minded individuals.

Other engagement

As always, our engagement activities are in no way limited only to those that we deliver ourselves. Given the scale of demand and need for our work in Medway, HCF works in partnership with dozens of other groups and organisations to support their work, and in some cases, directly delivering activities on behalf of others.

Events
Our engagement continued with our strong programme of events that continued to develop throughout the year. This year we were involved in supporting the Medway 2024 Fest, a year-long festival of culture delivered in partnership across Medway, with many of our events appearing under its banner.

Forget-Me-Not Medway
(https://www.nucleusarts.com/forgetmenotmedway), was a creative community project dedicated to raising awareness of dementia and celebrating the importance of memory, connection, and care. The project invited people of all ages and backgrounds to take part by making their own forget-me-nots in any form they chose; primarily knitted and crocheted, but also painted, drawn, folded from paper, or crafted in other imaginative ways.



Each flower represented a personal contribution, whether in memory of a loved one, in support of someone living with dementia, or simply as a symbol of solidarity. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with thousands of contributions arriving from across Medway's diverse communities.

The final creations were gathered together for a powerful display at The Halpern Gallery. The exhibition offered a moving and colourful tribute to those affected by dementia, sparking conversations, raising awareness, and reminding us all of the importance of creativity in connecting communities

The **Medway Print Festival** returned for its ninth year in June 2024, bringing two vibrant weeks of creativity and celebration dedicated to the art of printmaking. The festival once again highlighted the incredible talent of local and regional printmakers, providing opportunities for artists to showcase their skills and for audiences to explore the diverse and dynamic world of print.

We were proud to support this annual event, which brought together makers, galleries, and community spaces across Medway. The programme featured a wide variety of exhibitions, workshops, and demonstrations, offering something for everyone—from seasoned print enthusiasts to those discovering the medium for the first time.

Among the highlights of **MPF24** were *Whittle & Daub*, a printmaking exhibition by Paul Jerome hosted at The Halpern Pop; *The Printers' Process*, an engaging exhibition held in the Halpern Gallery; and *All Boxed Up*, a pocket-sized print adventure in the Medway Lightbox where ancient printmaking techniques met modern innovation.

The festival continued to demonstrate the importance of printmaking within Medway's creative landscape, celebrating both tradition and experimentation while inspiring new audiences to engage with this timeless art form.

As always, July was an exceptionally busy period for the team as we delivered not one but four major events in quick succession.



The **Chatham Carnival** returned for its third year, building on the success of its first two years and taking firm steps toward becoming a fixture in Medway's cultural calendar. Designed to celebrate Medway's rich culture and diversity, the festival successfully attracted significant footfall to Chatham Town Centre, raised the town's profile across the region, and showcased Medway as a welcoming home for its many communities. The event also strengthened community ties, aligned with Medway's 2024 festival goals, and contributed to the case for future City of Culture bids, while enhancing the argument for Chatham to become a BID town.



The day delivered an outstanding programme of activity. Highlights included a bustling marketplace with 19 community stalls, and a lively Caribbean Zone organised by Medway Culture Club, complete with music, games, and limbo. The colourful parade, led by the Mayor and local TV favourite Mr. Maker, brought together over 450 participants and featured the spectacular Disco Turtle—a five-metre-long mechanical turtle fresh from Glastonbury. Two stages hosted 20 performances alongside a food market, digital zone, and entertainment from over 70 partners. With support from key stakeholders and vibrant street theatre from the University of Kent's bOing, the event embodied community spirit, cultural pride, and Medway's ambition for the future.



Launched on Carnival day, **One Song** (https://www.nucleusarts.com/halpern-onesong) was an inspiring Arts Council-funded collaboration between artist **Kadir Karababa**, the internationally recognised **Counterpoint Arts**, and Nucleus Arts. The project centred on amplifying the voices of first-generation immigrant women, inviting them to share and record songs that held deep personal meaning.

These moving recordings were presented within a transformed gallery space, where walls and ceilings had been painted a striking terracotta to create an immersive environment. Alongside the songs, displays of treasured artefacts provided powerful context, offering audiences an intimate insight into the lives, heritage, and cultural identities of the women involved.

By weaving together music, memory, and storytelling, *One Song* celebrated diversity while highlighting the unifying power of creativity. The project created a space for dialogue, connection, and cultural appreciation—ensuring the voices of participants resonated at the heart of Carnival and beyond.



Also launching on Carnival day, we were proud to support **Medway Open Studios 2024**, a vibrant celebration of local creativity that showcased the diverse talents of artists from across the region. The event invited the public into artist studios, including our own Chatham spaces, offering a rare behind-the-scenes experience and the chance to engage directly with creators.

Spanning an impressive range of mediums; painting, sculpture, photography, textiles, and more—the festival highlighted the depth and breadth of Medway's artistic community. Visitors not only had the opportunity to discover new work and gain insight into the creative process but could also purchase original pieces directly from the artists, supporting local talent in a meaningful way.

Following quickly on this was the three-day **Kent International Arts Conference** (https://www.kartscon.com/), held in July 2024 under the theme "Art as a Legacy". The event took place at the University of Kent facilities within the Historic Dockyard in Chatham, Kent, and was hosted by the Music & Audio Technology department at the University of Kent in partnership with JCF, Wernborough College, the University of Kent, and Medway Council.

ART AS LEGACY

KENT ARTSCON



KArtsCon brought together artists, creatives, and cultural professionals from across the globe, providing a unique platform to share knowledge, co-create ideas, and celebrate innovation in the arts. Attendees had the opportunity to network, collaborate, and build connections that often extend well beyond the conference itself, fostering lifelong friendships and professional partnerships.

By combining international expertise with local engagement, KArtsCon strengthened Medway's reputation as a vibrant centre for creative exchange, innovation, and learning, showcasing the region as a hub for both emerging and established talent in the arts.



Following a quieter events period in August and September, albeit the time of the Summer Exhibition, October brought another busy month of creativity and community engagement, beginning with **Medway Fun Palace**. This vibrant event welcomed people from all walks of life to share skills, creativity, and community spirit. Inspired by the visionary ideas of Joan Littlewood and Cedric Price, the Fun Palace concept began in the 1960s as a utopian space for learning, creativity, and enjoyment. In 2024, the event was also part of the Medway 2024 festival and celebrations marking Chatham Dockyard's 40th anniversary**.**

First established locally by HCF in 2014, the 2024 event marked the 11th Fun Palace organised by HCF, continuing its tradition of inclusivity and community engagement.

Although the event was delayed by one week due to a venue scheduling conflict and faced reduced space following the loss of the HaArt annex, it remained a resounding success. The

Pentagon was transformed into a lively hub of activity, with programming taking place both in the community space and Pentagon Court.



Working with partners including the Dockyard, local universities, Electric Medway, and health charities, the event offered a diverse programme of arts and crafts workshops, interactive science experiments, dance performances, and storytelling sessions. Attendees were encouraged to participate hands-on, exploring creative activities, science experiments, and collaborative art projects such as Arts and Homelessness**,** Design a City**,** and the Nucleus Arts Messy Tent**.**

October was also a month of vibrant celebration for **Black History Month**, showcasing a wide range of artistic and cultural activity across Medway. Highlights included the launch of the **Black Arts Hub** (https://www.theblackarthub.co.uk/) and the **Benjamin Zephaniah Library**, both supported by HCF, providing lasting resources and inspiration for the community.



Our galleries hosted extensive exhibitions, including the Resilience Educational Exhibition at the Medway Art Box and The Halpern Pop, alongside the Intersectionality Gallery Exhibition at the Halpern Gallery . These exhibitions explored themes of identity, heritage, and social justice, offering thought-provoking experiences for visitors of all ages.

Through these initiatives, we celebrated the creativity, contributions, and voices of Black artists while fostering learning, dialogue, and community connection. The events highlighted the importance of representation and inclusivity in the arts, ensuring that Black History Month was not only a celebration but also an opportunity for engagement, inspiration, and cultural enrichment across Medway.



October also saw our return to the **Rochester Art Fair**, where we played an active role by hosting a combined stall celebrating the work of many of our talented artists. The stall offered a platform for artists to showcase and sell their original artworks to art lovers, collectors, and members of the local community.

By participating in the Rochester Art Fair, we not only supported our artists in reaching a wider audience but also contributed to the overall success of the event, promoting the arts and encouraging the public to explore, engage with, and purchase artworks from across the UK and Europe. The fair highlighted the importance of community, creativity, and connection, reinforcing Medway's growing reputation as a hub for artistic talent.

November brought further celebrations and community engagement, including our support for the **Mayor of Medway's Jollof Rice Cook Off**. This pioneering event marked the first Jollof rice competition in the UK, celebrating the diversity and vibrancy of Medway's

communities. Contestants showcased their culinary skills, with a traditional Nigerian recipe ultimately being crowned the winner.



The event was filled with music, delicious food, and opportunities to support local charities, creating a lively and memorable celebration of West African culture and community spirit. Attendees were able to share in the joy of cultural exchange, connect with neighbours, and experience the warmth and creativity of Medway's diverse population.

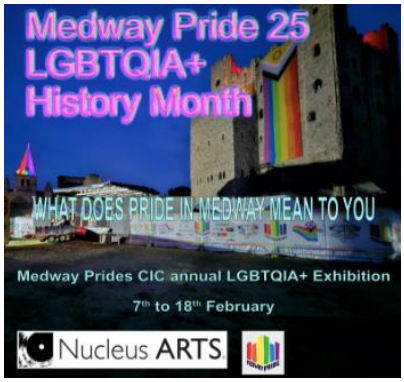
The event was documented by KMTV, capturing the energy, excitement, and celebration of diversity that made the Jollof Rice Cook Off such a standout occasion. It successfully highlighted Medway as a place where culture, community, and creativity come together to inspire, engage, and unite people from all backgrounds.

November saw us take temporary control over Chatham's **Arrival of Santa Parade.** This was delivered through micro-commissions to community groups, with over 300 people signed up to take part in the parade. Alongside the parade, the event featured a Christmas Market and an 'Elf Yourself' activity organised by the Pentagon Shopping Centre, as well as a free Santa's Workshop, organised by HCF**,** and running throughout the day.



Unfortunately, severe weather conditions forced the cancellation of the parade, and also affecting all events in Medway that weekend. Despite this, Santa still made a spectacular entrance, arriving at his grotto in the Ghostbusters Ecto-1, sirens blaring, accompanied by Ghostbusters and a 1980s New York police car—much to the delight and surprise of shoppers.

The creative adaptations ensured that the festive spirit was maintained, and visitors were able to enjoy a memorable and joyful experience despite the unexpected challenges posed by the weather.



The calendar year began with "What Does Pride in Medway Mean to You"**,** a collaboration with **Medway Pride CIC** that celebrated and supported the LGBTQ+ community across Medway. In February, we hosted the **LGBT History Month exhibition**, which provided a platform for local creatives to showcase their talent and celebrate their identities.

Our ongoing engagement with the community has established us as a trusted and safe space for LGBTQ+ partners. Through these initiatives, we strengthened relationships within the LGBTQ+ community, celebrated diversity, and reinforced our commitment to inclusion, creativity, and wellbeing across Medway.

Events for the 2024/25 period concluded with the **Chatham Chinese New Year Festival 2025**, developed as a flagship event within a wider programme of vibrant town centre

celebrations. Led by HCF in partnership with the **Kut-O Association** and the **Chatham Town Centre Forum**, the festival delivered a joyful, inclusive, and high-impact cultural experience during a typically quieter time of year.



The festival celebrated the culture and contribution of Medway's Chinese community, with over 400 parade participants, traditional performances across two stage areas, and a wide range of cultural activities in the lead-up. Feedback from attendees, partners, and the Chinese community was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the festival's success in fostering pride, representation, and connection.

A key objective was to invest in the long-term sustainability of cultural programming. This was achieved through the acquisition of new equipment now available to local partners, reducing future costs and enabling more ambitious programming throughout the year.

Footfall was a major indicator of success. Using Pentagon Centre data as a proxy, attendance increased by 11%, equivalent to an additional 4,000 people, with high street engagement likely even higher. The festival boosted visibility for local businesses and community groups while positioning Chatham as a vibrant, diverse, and forward-thinking centre. Extensive media coverage; including over 50 radio adverts, local press features, and over 5,000 online social media reach; further enhanced the town's profile.

The festival also fostered strong community connections, featuring 12 community stalls, collaborative craft activities where 213 children made snakes, and engagement from over 80 young people in preparatory workshops. International ties were strengthened through collaboration with Chinese cultural partners, including the gifting of a replica gate by the Chinese regional government of Foshan, celebrating Medway's global connections.











Gallery

Our main galleries (https://www.nucleusarts.com/exhibitions) continued to be incredibly busy over the period, again providing over 40 free-to-public exhibitions over the 24/25 period, and 50 weeks of free-to-access cultural space for the people of Medway. With the Medway Artbox (https://www.nucleusarts.com/medwayartbox) providing a dozen more, accessible 24hours per day, every day of the year.

Most of our exhibitions have been artist-led, and include some of the major event's described above, such as One Song, Black History Month and Forget Me Not Medway. All of these exhibitions gave the public wonderful opportunities to engage with contemporary arts from across Medway and North Kent, but a few standout activities deserve a special mention.

Transform – Chatham Historic Dockyard/Medway School of Arts



Medway School of Arts presented a striking exhibition of photographic portraits celebrating the people and businesses that have shaped the Historic Dockyard Chatham since its closure as a functioning Naval base in 1984.

The exhibition featured a diverse range of employees, volunteers, and tenants, highlighting the vibrant and varied community that brings the Dockyard to life today while honouring its rich history.

Each portrait was thoughtfully captured in a location chosen by the subject—whether a workspace, a business, or a place with personal significance—adding a deeply personal and engaging dimension to the exhibition. Through these portraits, visitors were invited to explore both the human stories and the cultural heritage that make the Dockyard such a dynamic and cherished part of Medway.

The Bradfields Art Exhibition

Bradfields Academy is a forward-thinking specialist SEND provision, dedicated to supporting students whose learning is shaped by their unique educational needs. Their exhibition, The Bradfields Art Exhibition, celebrated the creativity and talent of their students, many of whom were showcasing their work publicly for the very first time.



The exhibition provided a platform for students to express themselves, share their achievements, and gain confidence in their artistic abilities. It highlighted the academy's commitment to nurturing creativity, fostering inclusion, and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to shine and be recognised for their skills.

Summer Exhibition



Our flagship annual Summer Exhibition was an open-call event celebrating a diverse range of artistic talent. Artists were invited to submit up to three pieces, with at least one guaranteed a place in the show, which spanned both galleries and provided an inclusive platform for emerging and established creatives alike.



Around 100 artists participated, showcasing a rich variety of disciplines, from painting and sculpture to digital art and mixed-media installations. The exhibition highlighted the individuality and creativity of each artist, offering visitors a vibrant and engaging experience.

Drawing in large crowds, the Summer Exhibition provided the local community with a unique opportunity to discover exciting new work, engage directly with artists, and celebrate the artistic talent thriving across Medway and beyond..

Child-Friendly Medway



The Child-Friendly Medway art exhibition showcased the creativity of Medway's children and young people in Chatham.

The works on display highlighted a range of projects developed through Child-Friendly Medway's Seeing is Believing programme and its partnerships. The exhibition also featured designs inspired by young people, including the creation of the Child-Friendly Medway mascot, Mojo, celebrating the imagination, talent, and contribution of Medway's younger residents.

Halpern Galleries Winter Art Bazaar



Shaking up our traditional Winter Exhibition, this year we trialled the Halpern Galleries Winter Art Bazaar (https://www.nucleusarts.com/winterartbazaar). Another open call, this exhibition aimed at a more commercial focus, and featured 90 artists from across Medway, and was launched as HUMBUG - 'Halpern Unique Makers' Bazaar of Uncommon Gifts' a one-day craft market. Unfortunately, this show was marred a little by the December fire. Whilst the gallery was unaffected, the resulting disruption slightly overshadowed this excellent event.

144 Pots for 144 Women

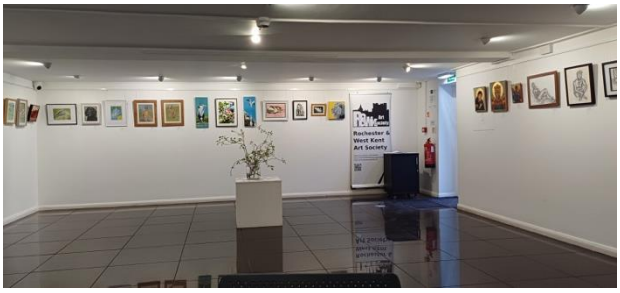


January featured 144 Pots for 144 Women, an exhibition by Nicola Vincent-Abnett inspired by the Femicide Census, which records the number of women killed by men in the UK each year. The exhibition focused on the 2012 count and honoured each of the 144 women with a handcrafted pot, each inscribed with her name.

Nicola thoughtfully divided the country into ten districts, clustering the vessels within each area to illustrate the national scale of the issue. The exhibition was both visually striking and deeply moving, offering visitors an opportunity to reflect, remember, and engage with an important social issue through the power of art.

By combining careful craft with meaningful storytelling, 144 Pots for 144 Women highlighted creativity as a tool for awareness and commemoration, encouraging dialogue and understanding while paying tribute to those who lost their lives.

Spring Exhibition - Rochester and West Kent Art Society



The Spring Exhibition featured the Rochester and West Kent Art Society, a highly respected local community group that welcomes people with an interest in all areas of art. Their members work across a wide range of disciplines, including drawing and painting, mixed media, collage, calligraphy, printmaking, pottery, photography, textile art, and fashion.

We were honoured to host the Spring Exhibition in celebration of the society's centenary year, showcasing the creativity, skill, and dedication of its members while offering visitors an inspiring insight into a century of artistic achievement within the local community.

Finally, we continue to support the creative community through the monthly **Medway Artist Meet-Ups**. Held on the first Tuesday of each month in partnership with Creative Medway, continued to prove very popular with artists from across Kent. These informal gatherings provided a welcoming space for creatives to connect, share ideas, and support one another, encouraging open conversation and collaboration, fostering new relationships and strengthening the creative community. With no need to book and free to attend, the meet-ups remained accessible to all, offering a valuable opportunity for both emerging and established artists to learn, network, and feel part of Medway's vibrant arts scene.

Wider Community Engagement

Our work doesn't stop at our own programmes—we love using our experience and resources to benefit the wider communities we serve. By representing Medway's creative community across a wide range of local and regional committees and networks, we've become a strong and trusted voice for creativity.

We remain committed to supporting **Chatham Memorial Synagogue**, recognising its cultural, historical, and spiritual importance to Medway. Should the need arise, we will continue to offer fundraising support, helping to preserve this treasured community landmark and ensuring it thrives for future generations as a place of heritage and belonging.

We're proud to be active members of **Creative Medway**, the cultural compact for the area. In 2023, our CEO was re-elected as one of the Vice-Chairs, and we continue to host the ever-popular **Creative Medway Monthly Meet-Ups**—free networking events where artists connect, collaborate, and spark exciting new opportunities.

As a founding member of the **Medway Arts Forum**, we've championed grassroots artists and supported joint initiatives that help talent thrive. We also hold the **Vice-Chair position at Chatham's Town Forum**, where the **Love Chatham initiative** is working to improve the town through events, promotion, and practical changes.

Beyond the arts, we are leading members of the **MVA Leaders Network** and the **Transformation Alliance**, providing a strong voice for charities and community organisations. We also represent the voluntary sector in health at the **Medway and Swale Social Prescribing Board**, the **Health and Care Partnership**, and the **HaCP Digital and BI Board**, as well as the **Healthwatch Medway Advisory Board** making sure the NHS and charities work more closely for better outcomes.

Our commitment to wellbeing is reflected in our work with the **Social Isolation Forum**, the **Medway Innovation Board**, and the **Mental Health Practitioners Group**, where we champion creativity as a tool for tackling loneliness, mental health challenges, and isolation.

We're equally passionate about supporting the next generation. Through the **University of Kent Employability Rewards Scheme**, we provide internships, work-shadowing, and experience days to inspire future creative professionals. We're also proud to sit on the board of **Child-Friendly Medway**, a programme making Medway more welcoming and supportive for children, young people, and families.

On a wider stage, we're on the advisory board of the **Institute for Inclusive Communities and Environments (ICE)** at the University of Greenwich, which works nationally and internationally to reduce inequalities through research and collaboration.

And in 2024, we were thrilled to join the **Medway Marmot Place Board**, working alongside world-renowned health expert **Professor Sir Michael Marmot**. Becoming a Marmot Place is a bold commitment to improving health equity and social justice by addressing the conditions in which people live, grow, and work. Medway has embraced the Marmot principles, from

giving every child the best start in life to tackling discrimination and creating healthier, more sustainable communities.

Together, these roles ensure we're not only delivering for Medway today, but also shaping a brighter, fairer, and more creative future for all.

Summary

As I reflect on the past year, I am immensely proud of how the Halpern Charitable Foundation rose to every challenge. We remained adaptable, proactive, and determined to make the most of every opportunity, stretching our resources to deliver lasting impact.

At the heart of Medway's community, HCF has built strong connections and created meaningful activities that put arts and creativity at the centre of positive change. From supporting regeneration and economic growth to improving health and wellbeing, we have shown the vital role culture plays in everyday life. Recognised as one of Medway's most trusted partners, we worked side by side with the NHS, local government, educational institutions, community groups, and businesses. Our proactive approach consistently delivered results, earning respect and strengthening partnerships.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our people. Our trustees have guided with integrity, our staff have gone above and beyond, and our artists and community members have embraced HCF as family. Together, they make our achievements possible, and I am deeply grateful for their commitment.

Looking ahead, new challenges undoubtedly lie before us. Yet the breadth of our impact this year, and the strength of our partnerships, give me confidence that HCF will continue to inspire, connect, and make a difference. It is an honour to lead this organisation, and I look forward to sharing the next chapter of our journey with you.

Dr David Stokes

Chief Executive Officer, The Halpern Charitable Foundation

I REALLY ENJOYED THIS SESSION. I WAS FEELING VERY ANXIOUS BEFORE I CAME BUT STARTED TO FEEL BETTER IN THE GROUP.

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT





I LOVE TAKING MY TODDLER TO MESSY PLAY, WE ALWAYS DO ACTIVITIES I WOULDN'T DO WITH HER AT HOME AND IT'S LOVELY BRINGING HOME HER ARTWORKS EACH WEEK AND SEEING PROGRESSION!

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

Objectives and Activities

About the Halpern Charitable Foundation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation was established in 2002 with three primary aims; to provide affordable space for artists to work and exhibit in Medway; to help people with mental and/or physical illness/disability; and as a backstop for the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, should it ever be in real financial difficulty with no other avenue left. Since that time the HCF's remit has evolved and grown to:

1. To increase access to the arts across the region through: the provision of affordable work and exhibition space; supporting arts education through outreach and events; advocacy of the arts at partnership groups; and supporting the cultural regeneration of the Medway towns.

2. Helping people affected by mental health and social isolation through: the provision of affordable, stable, housing; the provision of arts and therapy activities; supporting other third sector organisations; and advocacy at partnership groups.

3. Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue with fundraising advice and as a backstop.

The Foundation's Objects are:

1. The relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people

2. To assist in maintaining, repair, mature, preserve, improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, its monuments, fixtures, fittings, furniture and other chattels

3. To advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the Arts; in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

Vision

We believe in a world where everyone can express their creativity, no matter their age, background, status or health. By making the arts open and accessible to all we aim to promote creative thinking, support the creative economy, and use the healing power of the arts to improve mental and physical health

Our values

- **Community:** We will foster and inspire a community which is inclusive, diverse and accessible, and which always prioritises mutual support.
- **Representation:** We are the voice of artists in Medway, and will do everything we can to understand and represent their best interests.
- **Adaptability:** As the world changes, so will the best ways to improve the lives of people through engagement with the arts. HCF will work to provide the most impactful, relevant support at the right time.
- **Empowerment:** Everyone deserves to feel confident, informed and in control of their and/or their lives. We will utilise the arts to uplift the people in our community to become advocates and to support others.
- **Integrity:** We work for the arts and local community, and will be transparent in what we do and why. We will use our resources when and where they will have the greatest impact.

Strategy

Evidence-Based Growth and Evaluation
In 2025/26, HCF will strengthen its evidence base by conducting a comprehensive needs assessment across our artist community. Using public health data, community surveys, and insights from our events, this work will ensure our programmes align with local needs and underpin future grant applications. Alongside this, we will deliver an innovative evaluation pilot in partnership with Medway Voluntary Action's Transformation Academy, trialling the Nucleus Matrix and MIAHAI protocols. This will support the development of a standardised evaluation method for social prescribing and reinforce our commitment to research-led practice.

Strategic Partnerships
We will deepen collaboration with the University of Kent's ICCI, the University of Greenwich's ICE, Medway Public Health, the NHS, and other key stakeholders. These partnerships will position HCF as a central voice in Medway's creative and health ecosystem, driving forward innovation and collaboration.

Artist Development and Support
Expanding zero and low-cost opportunities will remain a priority, alongside seeking funding for a comprehensive creative development programme to retain and nurture Medway's talent. Our new Creative Associate scheme will offer artists on our waiting list, or those unable to afford a studio, meaningful ways to be part of our creative family.

Community Engagement and Education
The launch of *Mojo, a Medway Tale*, funded by Child Friendly Medway, will bring local storytelling into schools and libraries, inspiring the next generation of readers and creators. We will continue delivering outreach programmes while also preparing a pipeline of future initiatives, ready to activate when funding becomes available.

Events and Festivals
HCF will deliver a packed annual programme including Chatham Carnival, Open Studios, Fun Palaces, the Summer and Winter Opens, the Kent International Arts Conference, and the Chatham Chinese Festival. Major highlights will include *Threads of Remembrance*, a participatory project with the Chatham Historic Dockyard, and exploring a proms-style event with Chatham Football Club. We will also support partner festivals such as Super Saturday, Medway Christmas celebrations, and Rapture.

Digital Engagement
We will launch a targeted social media strategy with distinct channels for our galleries, Medway Art Box, community programmes, and CEO-led communications. Tailored content will ensure we connect meaningfully with our varied audiences.

Volunteering and Workforce Development
Working with Medway Voluntary Action, we will enhance our volunteer offer with improved recruitment, training, and resources, including the Medway Volunteer Passport and Volunteer Charters. We will also continue supporting opportunities through the University of Kent Employability Programme, Medway Pride Awards, and Medway Youth Awards.

Sustainability and Governance
HCF will prioritise sustainability by implementing energy-saving measures and eco-friendly operational practices. We will also review key governance documents, including our Staff Handbook and HR policies, as we progress toward CIO status.

Financial Sustainability
In 2025/26, HCF will begin to realise the financial benefits of the new Rainham site, alongside Café Nucleus donations, improved energy contracts, and technology investments. These changes will enable us to achieve a balanced budget, with expansion funded solely by external grants and partnerships. Initiatives such as the *Big Give* Arts Award and a major social prescribing partnership with Medway Council, the University of Kent, and Live Music Now will provide new resources for community engagement.

Future Ambitions
We will continue to develop our case for Arts Council England's next National Portfolio Organisation round, while exploring expansion opportunities such as the Gravesend/Nucleus Village project, depending on the outcome of the EDC review.

We will support our beneficiaries in the following ways:

Artist Community:

Nucleus Members
We will offer a wide and comprehensive package of support for our artists including:

- Affordable studio space.
- Opportunities to exhibit their art.
- Networking opportunities.
- Public engagement opportunities.
- Access to occasional training opportunities.
- Access to workshop space and facilities.

- Access and support for setting up classes and workshops.
- Support in selling their art online.

Wider Artist/Creative Community
We will support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Offer opportunities to exhibit artwork across.
- Offer access to workshop space and facilities.
- Promote local partner arts events.
- Host and support our own programme of public arts events.
- Host and support local and regional arts networks.
- Advocate for a greater engagement with the arts community through statutory and business communities.
- Engage in regeneration - focusing on presenting Medway as an arts hub.
- Offer additional support through a Creative Associates Programme.

General Public/Wider community
We will utilise the following activities to engage the General Public with the arts/creative world:

- We host a range of public arts events, and work with statutory and business groups to expand and promote these.
- We offer access to art classes, education, facilities and workshops.
- We offer access to free gallery exhibitions.
- We offer a range of creative family sessions.
- Offer affordable meeting and community space.
- Provide volunteering opportunities.
- Provide educational opportunities related to the arts, notably the 'Arts Award,' programme.
- Support the cultural regeneration of Medway.
- We work with Nucleus Cafe to entice the public to our venues, and to provide community space.

Support the socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised including people affected by mental health issues
We will support socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised through the following activities:

- Provide affordable, secure, housing for people affected by mental health problems.
- We support the promotion of creative health and social prescribing through the provision of creative workshops
- Provide and expand our own range of outreach creative health activities.
- Provide engagement space for partner organisations to engage with the public.
- Work with and facilitate wider partnerships with partners engaging with vulnerable groups.
- Provide affordable meeting and conference space for partner organisations.
- Work to improve the provision and adoption of creative health activities.

Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue

We will honour the legacy of our founders Hilary and Marie Halpern by continuing support the Chatham Memorial Synagogue through the following ways:

- Provide fundraising resource
- Support the development of a sustainable fundraising strategy

Volunteers

Working with the MVA Transformation Academy we are developing new rules and approaches to engage new people into volunteering roles across Medway. We have been central to developing a volunteers' training programme and charter, which puts us at the forefront of volunteer support locally.

Finances and Governance

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) shows total income for the year were £515,670. A slight decrease in income compared to the prior year (£531,519). The charity received just over £138,157 in restricted grants as detailed in the statement of funds note. The value of charitable investments has reduced this year primarily due to market volatility, but we hope that this will improve in 25/26.

Total expenditure amounted to £660,343, a slight decrease on £617,056 in the prior year. This has been driven by inflationary pressures, such as energy and staff costs.

The SoFA shows an overall decrease in funds. Total reserves at the end of the year were £4,476,036, of which £96,317 are restricted, £3,978,739 are designated for fixed assets and investments, leaving £401,250 as free and unrestricted reserves, as detailed in the statement of funds note.

Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Foundation is aware that despite its fundamental strength a shortfall in income could make it less effective. Causes could be poor returns from investments, poor investment strategy, prolonged recession, prolonged downturn of property market reduces lease values, non-payment of rent. Outcome could be intervention by Charity Commission.

To minimise these risks, HCF practices excellent business management, good procurement and income control. The Trustees oversee statutory financial reporting, investment strategy, audit functions, budgeting and financial risk management. In 17/18 HCF adopted a new procurement policy and other working policies, and these are being monitored for effectiveness. It continues to review its investment strategy and appraises performance regularly against peer group and market indices. We appraise new business opportunities and have proposals to extend our service areas. Shared cost allocation has been reviewed. A long-term maintenance programme (Planned Preventative Maintenance) is being put in place and will be reviewed annually. HCF is fundamentally strong and continues to work on its long-term sustainability.

Principal risks and uncertainties

HCF has reviewed all principal risks as part of our Board Risks Register and has undertaken appropriate measures to minimise these risks. This includes:

Risk	Mitigation
Safety risks	Regular reviews of our activities and relevant legislation. Policies in place to ensure appropriate practices, for example, safeguarding of vulnerable people, and DBS checks. Regular inspections of the site to ensure a safe working environment. Trained first aiders. Good external security and CCTV on site. Up to date risk registers. Close monitoring of the Pandemic situation, and the use of infection mitigation controls.
Reputational risks	Clear expectations of conduct with staff and volunteers. Wide involvement in local committees, boards, and events. Clear thinking around ethics, diversity, and environment.
Operational risks	Clear staff and volunteers policies. Strong financial procedures. Clear lines of accountability.
Strategic risks	Established strategy. Review by Board of Trustees.

Reserves policy

HCF has a policy to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 6-12 months:

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our work
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income.

The board of trustees will review the above criteria with reference to HCF's strategy and Annual Plan and determine the target level of free reserves to meet these.
In particular, we will retain sufficient reserves:

- to assist in the preservation of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue as per our charitable objectives
- to enable the HCF to cover a further 24 months of essential expenditure as identified by the risk-based method of calculating reserves

The Board of Trustees will at times designate funds from free reserves for significant project costs or replacement of major assets.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Halpern Charitable Foundation began operating in June 2002, and is governed by a Trust Deed dated March 2003, amended on 20th April 2010.

The charity is unincorporated but incorporated its Trustees on 21st October 2013. The principal objects of the charity are:

a) the relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people;

b) to assist in maintaining repair restore preserve improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue its monuments fixtures fittings furniture and other chattels;

c) to advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the arts in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

There have been no changes in the objectives since the last annual report.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

There should at all times be at least three trustees.

New trustee appointments are made by a resolution passed at a special meeting.

In selecting persons to be appointed, existing trustees take account of any areas of special knowledge relating to the Foundation's activities which could be improved at trustee level as detailed in the Foundation Governance Handbook.

Specific searches are then carried out for persons with the required area of expertise. All prospective trustees are interviewed by one or two existing trustees to ascertain their suitability for the position. Trustees may serve a three-year term and may be reappointed.

Trustees receive no remuneration, but may receive out of pocket expenses.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are given an induction into the charity, its governance, and specifics of its activities. Training is regularly sought for all trustees, new and old, as appropriate, and updates from the Charity Commission are always passed on electronically.

Pay policy for staff

As a small employer with limited resources, it is very important that we effectively use the money we have available for remuneration. This policy describes the broad principles that we will follow as an employer when setting and reviewing pay.

This policy applies to all staff working for us either on a casual, fixed term or permanent basis. The organisation does not usually employ agency workers. In the event that we do, we will ensure that pay for longer term agency workers (who are with us for a continuous period of over 12 weeks) is comparable to the pay offered for directly employed staff who carry out comparable work.

Pay policy principles:

- Pay equality

The organisation strives to be an equal opportunity employer. This means our intention is to treat all staff equitably with regards to the terms and conditions of employment offered, including pay. The board will review pay levels from time to time to identify and address any anomaly.

- The living wage (as set by the Living Wage Foundation)

The organisation fully supports the living wage and will aim to pay at this level, subject to affordability. Living wage figures are usually announced annually in November and we will take the figure into account when reviewing pay.

Organisational structure and decision making

The Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the Charity. As a Board, led by the Chair, they ensure that all Strategic decisions are taken appropriately. They then delegate Operational decisions to the Director in line with the HCF Governance Handbook.

Related party relationships

Halpern Charitable Foundation was set up by Hilary Halpern who also had started Halpern Properties Ltd some years earlier. There had, historically, been some overlap of HCF trustees and HPL directors, and HCF undertook some of its activities from within HPL premises. There are no longer any overlapping trustees/ directors.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Trustees' indemnities

The charity has purchased insurance to protect the trustees from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on charity business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity 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 charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Trustees, in November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Reference and administrative details of the Charity, its Trustees and advisers

Trustees

Peter Martin (Chair)
Jacqueline Shicluna (Resigned)
Geoff Harvey
Paula Gregory
Vince Maple
Anil Aggarwal
David Quirke-Thornton (Resigned)

Chief Executive Officer & Company Secretary

David Stokes

Charity registered number

1096478

Principal office

272 High Street
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4BP

Independent Auditors

UHY Hacker Young
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 5 April 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 5 April 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience in the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Date:

UHY Hacker Young are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 5 April 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	5,366	138,157	143,523	*236,413*
Charitable activities	5	289,920	-	289,920	*255,601*
Investments	6	18,599	-	18,599	*30,741*
Other income	7	63,628	-	63,628	*8,764*
Total income		377,513	138,157	515,670	*531,519*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	5,188	-	5,188	*8,262*
Charitable activities	9	494,180	160,975	655,155	*608,794*
Total expenditure		499,368	160,975	660,343	*617,056*
Net expenditure before net (losses)/gains on investments		(121,855)	(22,818)	(144,673)	*(85,537)*
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(11,882)	-	(11,882)	*28,480*
Net movement in funds		(133,737)	(22,818)	(156,555)	*(57,057)*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	19	4,513,726	119,135	4,632,861	*4,689,918*
Net movement in funds		(133,737)	(22,818)	(156,555)	*(57,057)*
Total funds carried forward	19	4,379,989	96,317	4,476,306	*4,632,861*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 42 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet
As at 5 April 2025

	Note		2025 £		*2024 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		3,407,787		*3,411,319*
Investments	14		570,952		*699,603*
			3,978,739		*4,110,922*
Current assets					
Debtors	15	563,978		*500,124*	
Investments	16	1,264		*17,659*	
Cash at bank and in hand		54,364		*84,584*	
		619,606		*602,367*	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(122,039)		*(80,428)*	
Net current assets			497,567		*521,939*
Total net assets			4,476,306		*4,632,861*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		96,317		*119,135*
Unrestricted funds	19		4,379,989		*4,513,726*
Total funds			4,476,306		*4,632,861*

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)

Date:

The notes on pages 42 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 5 April 2025

	Note	2025 £	*2024 £*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	21	(142,571)	*(303,517)*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interests and rents from investments		18,599	*30,741*
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	(39,412)	*(1,026,171)*
Proceeds from sale of investments		129,678	*505,171*
Purchase of investments		(12,909)	*(98,651)*
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		95,956	(588,910)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(46,615)	(892,427)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		102,243	*994,670*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22	55,628	*102,243*

The notes on pages 42 to 60 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2025

1. General information

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales, charity number 1096478. The principal place of activity is 272 High St, Chatham ME4 4BP. The objects and aims of the Charity are set out in the Trustees' Report. The financial statements are prepared in pounds sterling, being the functional currency of the Charity.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (January 2022) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) (second edition) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) which has since been withdrawn.

The Halpern Charitable Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis. The Trustees assess the reasonableness of the assumption of the charity to continue as a going concern for a period of 12 months from the date the financial statements are signed.

The Trustees recognise that the charity has incurred operational deficits since the Covid-19 pandemic. In response, in early 2025 the trustees implemented a new financial structure designed to provide improved oversight and enhanced financial forecasting. The aim of this approach is to ensure that each individual site within the charity operates on a break-even basis.

The considerations made in the trustees assertion of going concern include the review of the current and future operations of the charity, together with a review of its cash and reserves position up to the end of March 2027. The free reserves of the charity are considered appropriate to continue to support the charity to undertake its charitable activities.

No material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern have been identified by the trustees.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Taxation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Halpern Charitable Foundation is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land	- Nil
Freehold property	- 125 years straight line
Property improvements	- 20 years straight line
Plant and machinery	- 5 years straight line
Office equipment	- 5 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- 50 years straight line

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Current asset investments are short term, highly liquid investments recognised at their transaction cost. They are not part of the charity's long term investment strategy and are those which are held for resale or pending their sale and cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

Useful economic life of assets
The charge in respect of periodic depreciation is derived after determining an estimate of an asset's expected useful life. The useful economic life of an asset is determined at the time the asset is acquired or brought into use and reviewed annually for appropriateness. The lives are based on historical experience together with anticipation of future events. Depreciation policy is detailed in the accounting policy for depreciation.

Allocation of support costs
Support costs not attributable to a single charitable activity are allocated or apportioned on a basis consistent with identified cost drivers for that cost category. Cost drivers utilised include head count, staff time allocation, and effort and judgement is exercised in applying cost drivers to cost categories.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Donations	5,366	-	5,366	*190*
Grants	-	138,157	138,157	*236,223*
	5,366	138,157	143,523	*236,413*
Total 2024	*40,094*	*196,319*	*236,413*	

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2025

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Nucleus Arts Main Centre	138,940	138,940	*150,116*
Chatham HeArt	3,389	3,389	*28*
Creative Riverside Hub	40,666	40,666	*25,894*
Maidstone Road	42,000	42,000	*44,546*
Halpern Conservancy	42,925	42,925	*13,017*
The Langton Studios	22,000	22,000	*22,000*
	289,920	289,920	*255,601*
Total 2024	*255,601*	*255,601*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Dividend income	18,424	18,424	*29,391*
Bank interest	175	175	*1,350*
	18,599	18,599	*30,741*
Total 2024	*30,741*	*30,741*	

7. Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Insurance claims	63,628	63,628	*8,764*
Total 2024	*8,764*	*8,764*	

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Investment management fees	5,188	5,188	*8,262*
Total 2024	*8,262*	*8,262*	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Nucleus Arts Main Centre	125,326	256,764	382,090	*366,982*
Chatham HeArt	2,996	6,640	9,636	*8,638*
Creative Riverside Hub	37,458	79,686	117,144	*103,634*
Halpern Conservancy	39,417	84,114	123,531	*109,389*
Synagogue	2,074	4,427	6,501	*5,757*
The Langton Studios	5,187	11,066	16,253	*14,394*
	212,458	442,697	655,155	*608,794*
Total 2024	*213,485*	*395,309*	*608,794*	

Analysis of direct costs

	Nucleus Arts Main Centre 2025 £	Chatham HeArt 2025 £	Creative Riverside 2025 £	Halpern Conservancy 2025 £	Synagogue 2025 £
Staff costs	69,837	1,677	20,122	21,240	1,118
Staff and agency related costs	4,191	108	1,300	1,372	72
Other direct costs	16,257	420	5,045	5,325	280
Advertising and marketing	2,232	58	693	732	39
Technology costs	218	6	68	72	4
Maintenance of premises and equipment	11,032	285	3,424	3,614	190
Rent and rates	7,457	193	2,314	2,443	129
Energy	6,347	164	1,970	2,079	109

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

Insurance	4,436	-	1,492	1,453	76
Other premises expenditure	2,605	67	808	853	45
Bad debts and write offs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges and interest	714	18	222	234	12
	125,326	2,996	37,458	39,417	2,074
Total 2024	*136,552*	*2,748*	*32,970*	*34,802*	*1,834*

	The Langton Studios 2025 £	**Total funds 2025 £**	*Total funds 2024 £*
Staff costs	2,795	116,789	*100,154*
Staff and agency related costs	181	7,224	*6,808*
Other direct costs	701	28,028	*26,761*
Advertising and marketing	96	3,850	*8,447*
Technology costs	9	377	*1,058*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	476	19,021	*4,790*
Rent and rates	321	12,857	*11,943*
Energy	274	10,943	*10,069*
Insurance	191	7,648	*6,968*
Other premises expenditure	112	4,490	*5,630*
Bad debts and write offs	-	-	*30,000*
Bank charges and interest	31	1,231	*857*
	5,187	212,458	*213,485*
Total 2024	*4,579*	*213,485*	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Nucleus Arts Main Centre 2025 £	Chatham HeArt 2025 £	Creative Riverside 2025 £	Halpern Conservancy 2025 £	Synagogue 2025 £
Staff costs	120,411	3,114	37,369	39,445	2,076
Depreciation	24,908	644	7,730	8,159	-
Staff and agency related costs	7,780	201	2,414	2,549	134
Advertising and marketing	4,147	107	1,287	1,359	72
Technology costs	405	11	126	133	7
Maintenance of premises and equipment	20,487	530	6,358	6,712	782
Rent and rates	13,848	358	4,298	4,537	239
Energy	11,787	305	3,658	3,861	203
Insurance	8,238	213	2,557	2,699	142
Other premises expenditure	4,838	125	1,501	1,584	83
Statutory audit	3,769	98	1,170	1,235	65
Accountancy and bookkeeping	594	15	185	195	10
Legal fees	4,035	104	1,252	1,322	70
Bank charges and interest	1,326	34	411	434	23
Other support costs	30,191	781	9,370	9,890	521
Governance costs	-	-	-	-	-
	256,764	6,640	79,686	84,114	4,427
Total 2024	*230,430*	*5,890*	*70,664*	*74,587*	*3,923*

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	The Langton Studios 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Staff costs	5,190	207,605	*185,997*
Depreciation	1,074	42,515	*38,848*
Staff and agency related costs	335	13,413	*12,643*
Advertising and marketing	179	7,151	*15,688*
Technology costs	18	700	*1,964*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	883	35,752	*2,452*
Rent and rates	597	23,877	*23,299*
Energy	508	20,322	*18,701*
Insurance	355	14,204	*12,365*
Other premises expenditure	208	8,339	*10,089*
Statutory audit	163	6,500	*7,320*
Accountancy and bookkeeping	26	1,025	*9,589*
Legal fees	174	6,957	*5,043*
Bank charges and interest	57	2,285	*1,591*
Other support costs	1,299	52,052	*49,113*
Governance costs	-	-	*607*
	11,066	442,697	*395,309*
Total 2024	*9,815*	*395,309*	

10. Auditors' remuneration

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	6,350	*7,260*
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor in respect of:		
Taxation compliance services	210	*210*
All non-audit services not included above	2,215	*2,140*

Auditor's remuneration is presented on a gross basis which includes irrecoverable VAT. As the entity is not VAT registered for VAT, any VAT incurred on audit and assurance services cannot be reclaimed and is therefore treated as part of the overall cost of the audit.

11. Staff costs

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Wages and salaries	293,614	*264,189*
Social security costs	25,021	*16,837*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,759	*5,125*
	324,394	*286,151*

During the year, the charity terminated the contract of the finance manager which resulted in a restructuring and made this certain role redundant. The total redundancy and termination payments recognised in the statement of financial activities for the year £1,156 (£nil 2024).

All redundancy decisions were approved by the Board of Trustees.

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	*2024* *No.*
Employees	13	*14*

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2025 No.	*2024* *No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	*1*

Key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, including employer pension and social security contributions total £77,254 (2024: £74,285).

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2024 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 5 April 2025, no Trustee expenses have been incurred *(2024 - £NIL)*.

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost					
At 6 April 2024	3,640,366	4,047	20,240	12,666	3,677,319
Additions	38,614	-	798	-	39,412
At 5 April 2025	3,678,980	4,047	21,038	12,666	3,716,731
Depreciation					
At 6 April 2024	241,215	4,047	16,432	4,306	266,000
Charge for the year	40,810	-	1,881	253	42,944
At 5 April 2025	282,025	4,047	18,313	4,559	308,944
Net book value					
At 5 April 2025	3,396,955	-	2,725	8,107	3,407,787
At 5 April 2024	*3,399,151*	*-*	*3,808*	*8,360*	*3,411,319*

14. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Valuation	
At 6 April 2024	699,603
Additions	12,909
Disposals	(129,678)
Revaluations	(11,882)
At 5 April 2025	570,952

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Investments at fair value comprise:		
Equities	342,377	*445,186*
Bonds	129,770	*149,089*
Alternatives & Multi-Assets	98,805	*105,328*
	570,952	*699,603*

15. Debtors

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Due after more than one year		
Other debtors	381,372	*421,516*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	44,083	*46,074*
Other debtors	80,172	*21,826*
Prepayments and accrued income	58,351	*10,708*
	563,978	*500,124*

16. Current asset investments

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Cash held by portfolio manager	1,264	*17,659*

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	36,754	*21,240*
Other taxation and social security	6,035	*6,232*
Other creditors	4,611	*6,151*
Accruals and deferred income	74,639	*46,805*
	122,039	*80,428*

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 6 April 2024	19,404	-
Resources deferred during the year	13,685	*24,597*
Amounts released from previous periods	(19,404)	*(5,193)*
	13,685	*19,404*

Deferred income relates to rental income and gallery exhibitions for events taken place post year end.

18. Financial instruments

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	570,952	*699,603*

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise listed investments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Charity is that of the volatility in equity and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities, particularly currency risk, and within particular sectors or sub-sectors. The Charity's investment portfolio generates a significant proportion of the Charity's total income which funds its charitable activities. Should this be impacted due to volatility, the Charity is fortunate to have other sufficient liquid assets to fund its operations.

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 6 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 5 April 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset	3,411,319	-	(42,515)	38,983	-	3,407,787
Listed investments	699,603	-	-	(116,769)	(11,882)	570,952
	4,110,922	-	(42,515)	(77,786)	(11,882)	3,978,739
General funds						
General Funds	402,804	377,513	(456,853)	77,786	-	401,250
Total Unrestricted funds	4,513,726	377,513	(499,368)	-	(11,882)	4,379,989
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	57,193	-	-	-	-	57,193
Mental Health & Socially Isolated	32,770	-	(32,770)	-	-	-
Creative Cabin	1,197	-	(1,197)	-	-	-
Energy Efficiency	27,874	-	-	-	-	27,874
Arts Award	101	20,775	(20,876)	-	-	-
Chinese New Year	-	13,161	(13,161)	-	-	-
Arts Council England	-	16,581	(16,581)	-	-	-
Creative Health	-	27,500	(27,500)	-	-	-
Joy Send Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Child Friendly Medway	-	12,660	(12,660)	-	-	-
Test Bed Fund	-	11,250	-	-	-	11,250
Other grants	-	8,230	(8,230)	-	-	-
Chatham Carnival	-	16,000	(16,000)	-	-	-
Chatham Christmas	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-	-
Chatham Summer	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-	-
	119,135	138,157	(160,975)	-	-	96,317
Total of funds	4,632,861	515,670	(660,343)	-	(11,882)	4,476,306

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated funds
These funds represent the fixed assets of the charity split between its tangible fixed assets and investments.

Unrestricted funds
Funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. The total fund balance represents the charity's free reserves.

Restricted funds
Restricted funds are those held by the charity for a specific purpose. Details of specific restricted funds are:

Synagogue - Mr Halpern left £100,000 in his will to the charity, restricted to the maintenance and upkeep of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue. £57,193 remains available for future maintenance and upkeep expenditure on request from the Synagogue.

Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art - Mrs Halpern donated £100,000 to the charity, restricted to the provision of mental health support, and support to the socially isolated, through the Arts. This has been fully spent in the year.

Creative Cabin - Grant for the purchase and upkeep of a Creative Cabin. This has been fully spent in the year.

Energy Efficiency - Grant to cover the cost of changing the current lighting in Building A and B to LED, to reduce energy costs. It is planned for this to be spent in future years,

Arts Award - This was towards the Arts Award for a total of £20,775, and this along with funds brought forward were fully spent during the ear.

Medway: Chinese New Year, Chatham Carnival, Chatham Christmas, and Chatham Summer - Grants to held support the delivery of creative events during the year in Chatham. These funds have all been fully spent in the year.

Arts Council England - Capital funding for installation of solar panels, new roof for A-block, and a series of smaller improvements to the fabric building.

Creative Health - Funds to support a national and international leadership role in Creative Health research and evaluation. These funds have all been fully spent in the year.

Joy Send Fund - This project was funded by the Joy Programme, with the money being part of a pilot scheme to support social prescribing as a tool to tackle health issues. The funding was used to increase our Social Art Group

Child Friendly Medway - Funding was provided by the Medway Council to deliver a wide range of projects for under 18 year olds.

Test Bed - This funding was received with the aim to offer support to tackle loneliness in young, and working age people who where interested in creative activity. This is to be spent next year when the project is being delivered.

Transfers between funds
A transfer is made from unrestricted funds to cover restricted project overspends. Transfers are also made between unrestricted funds and designated funds for movements in tangible and investment fixed assets.

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 5 April 2024* £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset	*2,423,998*	-	*(38,848)*	*1,026,169*	-	*3,411,319*
Listed investments	*1,077,642*	-	-	*(406,519)*	*28,480*	*699,603*
	3,501,640	-	*(38,848)*	*619,650*	*28,480*	*4,110,922*
General funds						
General Funds	*1,060,514*	*335,200*	*(373,260)*	*(619,650)*	-	*402,804*
Total Unrestricted funds	*4,562,154*	*335,200*	*(412,108)*	-	*28,480*	*4,513,726*
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	*57,193*	-	-	-	-	*57,193*
Mental Health & Socially Isolated	*32,770*	-	-	-	-	*32,770*
Creative Cabin	*1,197*	-	-	-	-	*1,197*
Energy Efficiency	*27,874*	-	-	-	-	*27,874*
Arts Award	*8,730*	*24,375*	*(33,004)*	-	-	*101*
Chinese New Year	-	*15,000*	*(15,000)*	-	-	-
Arts Council England	-	*144,444*	*(144,444)*	-	-	-
Chatham Town Centre Forum	-	*2,500*	*(2,500)*	-	-	-
Chatham Carnival	-	*10,000*	*(10,000)*	-	-	-
	127,764	*196,319*	*(204,948)*	-	-	*119,135*
Total of funds	*4,689,918*	*531,519*	*(617,056)*	-	*28,480*	*4,632,861*

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,407,787	-	3,407,787
Fixed asset investments	570,952	-	570,952
Debtors due after more than one year	421,516	-	421,516
Current assets	101,773	96,317	198,090
Creditors due within one year	(122,039)	-	(122,039)
Total	4,379,989	96,317	4,476,306

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	*Restricted funds 2024 £*	*Total funds 2024 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*3,411,319*	-	*3,411,319*
Fixed asset investments	*699,603*	-	*699,603*
Debtors due after more than one year	*421,516*	-	*421,516*
Current assets	*61,716*	*119,135*	*180,851*
Creditors due within one year	*(80,428)*	-	*(80,428)*
Total	*4,513,726*	*119,135*	*4,632,861*

21. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(156,555)	*(57,057)*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	42,944	*38,850*
(Losses)/gains on investments	11,882	*(28,480)*
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(18,599)	*(30,741)*
Increase in debtors	(53,354)	*(255,996)*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(2,265)	*29,907*
Net cash used in operating activities	(175,947)	*(303,517)*

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Cash in hand	54,364	*84,584*
Cash held by portfolio manager	1,264	*17,659*
Total cash and cash equivalents	55,628	*102,243*

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 6 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 5 April 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	84,584	(30,220)	54,364
Liquid investments	17,659	(16,395)	1,264
	102,243	(46,615)	55,628

24. Capital commitments

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Capital project works	2,912	-

25. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £1,230 (2024: £1,005) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

26. Operating lease commitments

At 5 April 2025 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Not later than 1 year	30,720	*30,720*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	30,720	*61,440*
	61,440	*92,160*

The following lease payments have been recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial activities:

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Operating lease rentals	30,525	*30,993*

27. Related party transactions

One of the charity's trustees is also a director of a firm of chartered accountants which provided bookkeeping services to the charity during the year.

The total fees paid to the firm during the year amounted to £1,440 (2024: £nil). These services were provided on an arm's length basis, and the trustee did not take part in any decision-making related to the engagement or payment of the firm.

There was no balance outstanding with the firm at the year end (2024: £nil).

THE HALPERN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1096478

Accounts

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2024

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HALPERN
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

2023/24 AT A GLANCE

18 Community creative groups

3 Public art galleries

53 Affordable studios

Most of our groups are free - the rest are subsidised

This year we...

Provided over 18,000 creative community sessions

Held over 40 free exhibitions, and supported hundreds of artists to display their work

This year we have launched...

A new cultural festival

Opened a new building

Won six awards for health, wellbeing, and community activities

We have...

Supported around 120 partner organisations

And represented the creative sector over 20 committees

Nucleus ARTS

www. Nucleusarts.com

HALPERN

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Statement from the chair

In 2023/24, The Halpern Charitable Foundation “HCF" / Nucleus Arts navigated a particularly demanding period marked by financial challenges, heightened demand for our services, and significant increases in operational costs. Like many in the charitable sector, we found ourselves caught in a “funding squeeze”—where the need for our services grew sharply while external funding opportunities diminished and inflationary pressures soared. Yet, in the face of these obstacles, HCF rose to the challenge. Through strategic adaptation, strengthened partnerships, and community-centric innovations, we continued to expand our services and even secured multiple prestigious awards recognising our impact.

One of our key strategies this year has been to build and deepen partnerships. By focusing on collaborative opportunities and reinforcing our role as a trusted partner, we have positioned ourselves well to access new funding sources as they emerge. This approach not only strengthens our financial resilience but also allows us to maximise our community impact. We have forged stronger connections with local government agencies, health providers, educational institutions, and arts organisations, leveraging our shared goals to deliver enriched, impactful programs that respond to community needs. These partnerships have been especially significant in light of the rising demand for mental health and wellbeing support, which has become one of our primary focuses.

Our mental health and wellbeing initiatives, in particular, have received notable recognition. This year, we tailored programs specifically aimed at improving mental health outcomes, creating inclusive spaces where individuals of all backgrounds can access arts-based activities and supportive social networks. These efforts were lauded at both local and regional levels, earning awards that affirm our commitment to creative health. By embedding mental health/wellbeing support into our arts programs, we’ve built an environment where participants can safely express themselves, form connections, and benefit from therapeutic creative processes. This recognition reflects our belief in the arts as a powerful tool for fostering resilience, reducing isolation, and nurturing emotional wellbeing.

We also took steps this year to enhance our operational infrastructure. One of our most significant efforts involved implementing energy-saving measures across our facilities. In alignment with our commitment to environmental responsibility, we made investments that will allow us to operate more sustainably while reducing long-term costs. These upgrades include more efficient lighting and heating, which together lower our energy consumption and carbon footprint. This focus on sustainability is part of our broader mission to ensure that our organisation can serve the community responsibly and effectively, now and in the future.

To help offset financial pressures, we also invested in new facilities and resources that will improve our operational efficiency. By expanding our capacity to generate revenue independently, we aim to create a more stable financial foundation that can withstand the fluctuations in external funding availability. This step is a testament to our proactive approach to financial planning—recognising that while grants and donations are invaluable, long-term sustainability requires a diversified funding model. The new facilities have also opened up possibilities for expanded programming, which we look forward to offering in the upcoming year.

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As we look ahead, we know that the coming year will likely bring additional challenges, with further increases in demand and continuing financial constraints. However, we remain optimistic. The resilience and adaptability our team has shown over the past year give us confidence that we can continue to navigate these challenges effectively. We are prepared to innovate further, explore new funding streams, and expand our reach across Medway and beyond, ensuring that our services are accessible to all who need them.

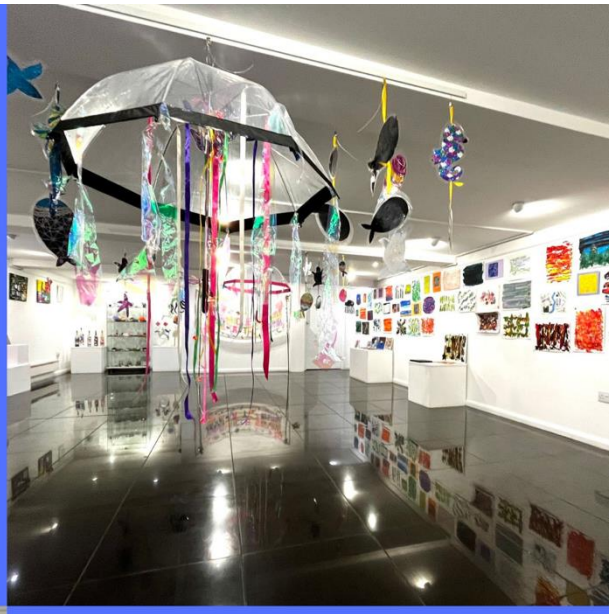
On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend heartfelt gratitude to our exceptional staff and volunteers. Their unwavering dedication, creativity, and commitment to our mission have been instrumental in making this year a success. The hard work of our team, from our devoted Trustees to our passionate artists and volunteers, is truly inspiring. As we move forward, I am filled with pride and optimism, knowing that HCF/Nucleus Arts will continue to serve as a vital, positive force in our community, meeting every challenge with determination and heart.

Peter Martin
Chair of Trustees – Halpern Charitable Foundation

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'I FELT LIKE I HAD WALKED INTO A COLOURFUL, CREATIVE WORLD IN WHICH TO ENJOY AND EXPLORE!

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT





'THIS IS GOING TO BE SO MUCH FUN."

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Summary of Achievements in 2023/24

In 2023/24, we have continued to face significant challenges due to global issues, rising demand for our services, intense budget pressures, and decreased income availability. These constraints impacted the third sector across Medway, where we've proudly held a leadership position, supporting local organisations and communities wherever possible. In response to these difficulties, we embraced innovative strategies to keep our services resilient, resourceful, and impactful.

Our commitment to Medway has led to substantial growth and notable recognition this year. Building on the achievements of 2022/23, we expanded our initiatives and garnered an impressive six awards, demonstrating our dedication to empowering communities and promoting mental health. We received the Healthwatch Recognition Award – Empowering Communities 2024, a prestigious accolade honouring our commitment to uplifting the Medway community. Additionally, we won the Kent Mental Health Awards 2023 and earned a Highly Commended mention in the Kent Mental Wellbeing Awards 2023.

Our work with families and older adults earned us a Finalist spot in the Fantastic For Families, Age-Friendly Outreach 2023 category, affirming our commitment to age-inclusive programming. In recognition of our contributions to mental health, we were Highly Commended as Adult Mental Health Charity of the Year at the A Better Medway Awards 2023. Finally, our workplace initiatives were acknowledged with the Silver Award – Healthy Workplace, also from A Better Medway.

These achievements reflect our unwavering dedication to meeting community needs, overcoming obstacles, and creating a positive, lasting impact across Medway.

Nucleus Art Centre



Our primary site remains at our original Chatham location, housing the larger of our galleries, the Halpern Gallery, a spacious community room, and facilities like our arts workshop, kiln, and most of our artist studios. This site also hosts Café Nucleus, our award-winning and closest partner, whose presence is invaluable for attracting new visitors. This location enables us to support numerous charities and community groups. We played a pivotal role in establishing groups such as Club Ausome and Chat Connect Create, while others, charities have utilised our subsidised or free spaces, such as the Creative Cabin, to advance their work. It remains at the heart of Chatham highstreet.

We are actively continuing to develop this site to future-proof it, reduce operating costs, and showcase the potential of adapting existing infrastructure. With our significant Arts Council England grant, we have installed solar power, to date saving over 10.6 tons of CO_2 and generating 14.8MWh of electricity. We have also invested in energy-saving upgrades, including a transition from gas, central heating boosters, energy-efficient heating and air

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conditioning, and low-energy lighting. Through these efforts, we aim to substantially reduce our carbon footprint and greatly improve energy efficiency.

HeArt of the Community



Due to ongoing developments at the Pentagon Centre, our primary site in Chatham has seen reduced use this year and closed permanently in November 2024. This site served as a temporary home for the Chatham Youth Centre (the WREC Room) during the summer of 2024 when it faced closure due to the same development activities.

Our HeArt of the Community space, located within Chatham's Pentagon Shopping Centre, has always been dedicated to partnership use. This vital community hub is ideally positioned to offer partners an affordable space, making possible many events that would otherwise be out of reach, we hope to find alternative spaces in the future.

Nucleus Hub

The Nucleus Hub on Chatham's Military Road plays a key role in our creative career development pipeline. Partnering with Café Nucleus, it features a welcoming café where artists can display and sell their work, and behind this is a discreet community space and internet café. This small room provides a vital, safe, semi-private area regularly used by therapists and community workers who need a comfortable, non-intimidating public space with a degree of privacy. Small charity and community group partners also use this space frequently for meetings, benefiting from its affordability and accessibility.



Above the café, we offer a suite of subsidised offices supporting small creative businesses. This year, we were thrilled to welcome the remarkable charities Arches Local and Starling Support to the site and look forward to fostering close collaborations with them.

Maidstone Road

Our discreet site on Chatham's Maidstone Road offers ten supported flats for individuals impacted by mental health challenges. For many residents, this provides their first stable home, giving them a vital opportunity to rebuild their lives. Resident support and building management are provided by our mental health partner, Choice Support, with whom we have recently secured a new 10-year contract, ensuring sustained, high-quality support for years to come.

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Halpern Conservancy Building

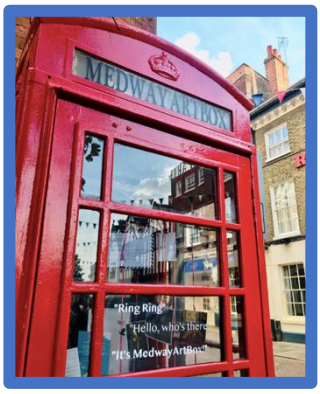


The Halpern Conservancy Building, located on Rochester's historic high street, is home to the largest Café Nucleus. This flagship location previously earned both the Taste of Kent's Kent Hospitality Business of the Year and Kent Food and Drink Business of the Year awards, making it officially the top dining destination in the county.



The building plays a crucial role in our charity's partnership and engagement initiatives. Our gallery, the Halpern Pop, focuses on commercial opportunities for our artists, while also hosting exhibitions, shows and charity fundraisers with partners. The Conservancy also houses our makerspace and digital classroom, the 'LightBox,' which is equipped with 3D printers and pens, a green screen, digital art tools, and other creative making equipment.

Medway ArtBox



The repurposed red BT Telephone Box, known as the Medway Art Box, offers a unique, street-level gallery for artists and the local community to showcase their work and participate in creative projects. Acquired through BT's Adopt-a-Box scheme, Nucleus Arts officially took ownership of the kiosk in January 2022, transforming it into a dynamic space that encourages artistic expression and local engagement.

Since its launch, the Medway Art Box has hosted a wide range of installations, community exchanges, and collaborative projects. Moving forward, the Medway Art Box is set to continue its mission as an inclusive and accessible arts hub in the heart of the community, with upcoming projects planned to further involve Medway's residents and local artists. This vibrant kiosk will remain a staple in the community's cultural landscape, offering endless possibilities for creative installations.

Rainham

We are thrilled to announce our new site in Rainham, Medway, marking an exciting expansion of our work in the area. This partnership with Café Nucleus opens up fresh opportunities, providing not only a vibrant café but also six artist studio spaces, boosting our creative workspace capacity. Establishing a base in Rainham will enable us to deepen our engagement and support for the communities in both Rainham and Gillingham, bringing our services even closer to those we serve.



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This new venture with Café Nucleus also offers a valuable income stream for the charity, helping us to sustain and grow our impact across Medway.

I feel like I'm in another world when I come here (HCF). I can switch off and relax. I'm so glad I found you.

Engagement

The past year has truly demonstrated the incredible contribution that we make to both the creative sector and to wellbeing and health across Medway through our extensive programmes of outreach and engagement. The breadth of awards described previously is testament to the impacts that we have been making, and the subsequent range of organisations that want to work with us to deliver these. Our work encompasses all ages and backgrounds, from new parents to the residents of care and nursing homes, all delivered by a dedicated and talented team, who are determined to innovate, collaborate and lead, to ensure that we deliver our work the best possible way for our beneficiaries. Subsequent to the 23/24 financial year, we have been recognised with the title of Kent Community Charity of the Year, and Mayor of Medway's Charity of the Year in recognition of our significant engagement work.

Evaluation and Development

We are continuing to take a leadership role in evaluation and development of creative health practice. The approaches are:

1) The Nucleus Matrix – a 'universal' approach for the planning and evaluation of interventions.
2) MIAHAI (Minimum Information About a Health Arts Intervention) – A global language for the communicating, sharing and development of Arts for Health.

To achieve this, we have joined the Kent and Medway Creative Health Network, and joined the Board of the prestigious Centre for Inclusive Communities and Environments at the University of Greenwich. We were successful in our bid for significant funding for a Medway-based evaluation of creative health activity (starting in July 2024), and the newly established Medway Creative Health Partnership, in association with Medway Public Health and the NHS. We have been trialling the Matrix and MIAHAI with North Kent Mind, MVA, NHS and the Medway Transformation Academy, with the intention that it becomes the default evaluation tool for the VCS sector in Medway. Recently we won funding with partners Future Coders, to develop a publicly accessible version of MIAHAI.

This work was presented at the launch of the NHS's Medway and Swale Social Regeneration Launch Conference, where it was very well received. The work also led to us winning a 2024 Healthwatch Recognition Award for "Empowering Communities" and being invited to the Healthwatch Kent and Medway Advisory Board. We have submitted the Matrix and MIAHAI as a paper to Arts & Health journal, and are working through reviewers' comments.

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Under 18s support

Incorporating our new learning and successes, we continue to develop our programme for younger people.

Our well established weekly Babies and Parents art group, "Mini-Nucleus" (https://www.nucleusarts.com/mininucleus), now runs both at our main site and across four Medway Community Hubs (https://www.nucleusarts.com/mini-nucleus-hub), extending our reach and impact. This program, designed for children aged 0-4 and their parents, encourages messy play and art activities that foster young children's social and creative skills. It also provides new parents a much-needed opportunity to connect and build supportive friendships, helping to combat the isolation and loneliness that often accompany the transition to parenthood.



This year, we've again seen beautiful collaborations between our Minis and Teen groups, culminating in the teens building a Christmas installation and grotto to delight their Mini friends!

Young people can progress from Mini Nucleus to our monthly Lego and Art Club (https://www.nucleusarts.com/lego-art-club) a lively Saturday morning session where children and their parents can come together to build Lego creations and participate in arts activities. The club is especially popular with dads, providing a relaxed, hands-on environment that encourages playful interaction and creativity. This welcoming space helps develop fine motor skills and fosters bonding through shared creative projects. Due to its appeal, the group is often oversubscribed, highlighting the strong demand for family-oriented, interactive sessions that blend play with art.

Our "Arts Award" (https://www.nucleusarts.com/artsaward) program offers courses year-round to support young people with limited educational opportunities, enabling them to earn valuable qualifications and gain first hand career experience by working alongside our resident artists. Thanks to generous funding from the Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust, we can offer these courses at a highly subsidised rate with small class sizes that ensure personalised support for each participant.

The program includes five levels, starting with the beginner-friendly Explore and Discover stages and progressing to the more advanced Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels. We're especially proud to support our first Gold level participants this year—an achievement equivalent to high GCSE qualifications

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and accredited by Trinity College London. Partnering with local schools and charities, we've been able to deliver this program to some of the most vulnerable young people in the area. In 2023-24, we have also begun collaborating with a foetal alcohol charity to develop Arts Award classes tailored to the needs of their young people.

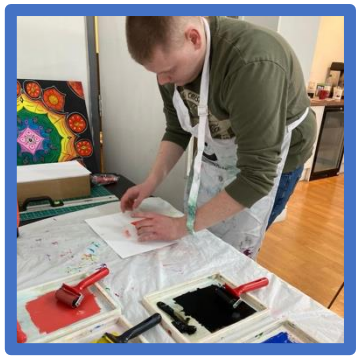


This year saw the launch of "Junior Doodle and Draw" (https://www.nucleusarts.com/doodlendraw) a free Saturday art class for 7-11-year-olds, generously funded by Child Friendly Medway. Guided by Nucleus artist and comic book illustrator Nick Ashton, this engaging program nurtures young creativity with hands-on art techniques. Nick teaches children how to transform their ideas into pictures, emphasising that every child is an artist—and the key to staying one is to keep creating, even when things don't go as planned.

Believing that mistakes are essential to the creative journey, we encourage children to explore, experiment, and grow through their artistic "missteps." This class offers a supportive environment for young minds to gain confidence in self-expression, develop technical skills, and connect with others who share their love for art. Junior Doodle and Draw aims to inspire a lifelong passion for creativity in each young participant, helping them carry the spirit of an artist into the future.



Our support for young people aged 13-17, 'TeenArt' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/teenart) and 'Digital TeenArt' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/digital-teen-art-1) continue to grow and develop.



Both of these groups target young people, to build confidence, community and skills. TeenArt tends to focus on physical activities, such as drawing, painting, costume making etc, whereas Digital Teen Art focusses on digital skills.

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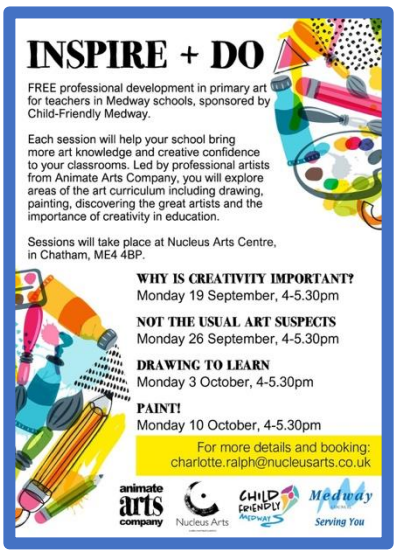


The two groups have continued to enjoy working to support our other events and activities, from creating works for Carnival, FunPalace, and Chinese New Year, to volunteering at events, to working with their mini compatriots in Mini Nucleus and Lego and Art Club. The community and sense of belonging that these young people have developed, has given them new confidence, and a greater sense of self-worth, that has carried over into their wider lives.



The companion to its junior counterpart, “Doodle and Draw” (https://www.nucleusarts.com/doodlendraw) is a fantasy-themed drawing club designed for 11-18 year olds, taking place on Saturday afternoons at Chatham Library. In collaboration with Child Friendly Medway and Medway Libraries, this program has successfully expanded our services to a wider audience. Offering weekend sessions has been key in reaching young people who may not be able to attend weekday activities, while the fantasy theme has proven especially engaging for boys, who are often underrepresented in our programs.

The club provides a creative space for participants to explore imaginative themes, develop their drawing skills, and connect with others in a relaxed and supportive environment. With guidance from local artists, attendees learn various techniques while creating their own fantasy-inspired artwork. This successful initiative continues to grow in popularity, offering a valuable opportunity for young people to express themselves through art in a fun, themed setting.



This year, in addition to working directly with young people, we expanded our engagement with schools. In partnership with Animate Arts and Child Friendly Medway, we delivered “Inspire & Do”, a series of free professional development classes designed to help primary school teachers enhance their creative curriculum. Rather than focusing solely on teaching techniques, the program also provided teachers with valuable resources, including access to further advice, funding opportunities, and other forms of support.

The success of the second Inspire & Do course was overwhelming, benefiting dozens of educators and, by extension, the hundreds of children they teach. This initiative not only improved teachers' ability to integrate creativity into their classrooms but also equipped them with the tools and

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networks to continue fostering creative learning in the future. Through this program, we were able to make a lasting impact on both educators and students across the region.

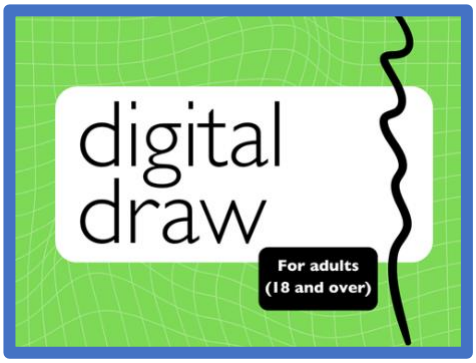


Over 18s support

Our creative health program for over-18s continues to play a crucial role in addressing the growing crisis in loneliness, wellbeing, and mental health in Medway. As recent surveys reveal, a significant portion of the population in the area struggles with feelings of worthlessness, anxiety, and social isolation—issues that can be as detrimental to health as smoking or excessive drinking. These challenges often go unaddressed, leading to worsening mental health and an increased reliance on already stretched public services.

Our program offers an accessible and inclusive space where individuals can express themselves creatively, build connections, and improve their mental health. Creative activities, such as art, and crafts, provide an outlet for emotions, foster a sense of purpose, and offer opportunities for participants to build relationships with others in similar situations. By integrating creativity into wellbeing, we help individuals tackle isolation, boost self-esteem, and cultivate resilience.

In partnership with local health services, our program ensures that support is tailored to the needs of individuals, reinforcing community connections and offering an alternative to traditional therapies. As demand continues to rise, our creative health program remains vital in addressing the complex issues of mental health, social isolation, and wellbeing in Medway, offering a lifeline to those who need it most.



Designed to support the transition to our adult programme, our new "Digital Art" (https://www.nucleusarts.com/digital-draw) group offers relaxed, pressure-free digital drawing workshops for adults aged 18 and over. Held at The Lightbox in our Conservancy building in Rochester, these sessions provide beneficiaries a creative space to explore and develop digital skills their own pace. Participants are provided with iPads, Apple Pencils, and access to the Procreate app, allowing them to experiment with various digital drawing techniques. Whether beginners or looking to refine their skills, this group offers a welcoming environment to learn, create, and connect with others interested in digital art.

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Our weekly "Social Art" club (https://www.nucleusarts.com/social-art) remains a flagship initiative, setting the gold standard for our community groups and serving as the model for other activities we offer. Designed for a wide range of participants, it is especially beneficial for individuals with physical and learning disabilities, as well as those facing social isolation due to health challenges.

The club's success lies in the strong sense of community fostered among its participants. The activities are intentionally designed to be accessible, with a very low barrier to participation, ensuring that everyone can take part regardless of their background or ability. Participants gain a tangible sense of achievement as they learn new skills, develop their creativity, and experience measurable improvements in their wellbeing.

Social Art has become so popular that new spaces often book out within hours, with a waiting list for cancellations. This ongoing demand is a testament to the club's positive impact and the supportive environment it provides for those who need it most.



Our fortnightly Young at Art (https://www.nucleusarts.com/youngatart) group is designed for individuals aged 55 and older who are eager to learn new skills while making new friends. These free classes, led by a professional artist, offer a deeper focus on artistic techniques compared to our other groups, providing participants with the opportunity to develop their creative abilities in a supportive and engaging environment.

Much like our Social Art group, Young at Art has proven to be incredibly popular, with all spaces quickly filled whenever new dates are released. The group offers a valuable opportunity for older adults to stay mentally active, build confidence, and connect with others, all while exploring their artistic potential.

Given the demand for these classes, we are actively seeking funding to expand the Young at Art program and offer it in additional venues outside of Chatham, ensuring that more older adults in the Medway area can access these enriching opportunities.

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The "jumpstART" group provides additional support for those over 55, offering a variety of artist-led workshops, including ceramics, resin jewellery, and digital illustration. While not free, the program's fees are designed to cover the cost of the artist or activity and remain significantly lower than similar local offerings. This group allows participants to engage in new creative experiences in a supportive environment. We are currently reviewing the success of jumpstART and are considering expanding the program to offer even more opportunities for older adults to explore their creativity and develop new skills.



"Social Saturday" is a new, discreet arts group designed as the successor to the successful "Chatham Connect Create" group, which concluded in 2023. Aimed at particularly vulnerable individuals, this group provides a safe and supportive environment for over-18s to develop new skills while building a sense of community. The smaller, more intimate setting allows for tailored support and deeper connections between participants. Social Saturday continues the mission of its predecessor, offering creative opportunities to those who may face social isolation or other challenges, empowering them to express themselves and engage with others in a meaningful way.

We also deliver weekly craft sessions in a number of care homes across Medway, providing residents with opportunities to engage in creative activities that enhance their wellbeing. These sessions are designed to be accessible and enjoyable, offering a range of craft techniques such as painting, mosaic, and needle felting. The hands-on approach helps residents develop new skills, boost confidence, and improve their mental and emotional health. Through these activities, we aim to reduce feelings of isolation and promote social interaction, while fostering a sense of achievement and creativity in a supportive, relaxed environment tailored to the needs of each care home.

Other engagement

As always, our engagement activities are in no way limited only to those that we deliver ourselves. Given the scale of demand and need for our work in Medway, HCF works in partnership with dozens of other groups and organisations to support their work, and in some cases, directly delivering activities on behalf of others.

Events

Our engagement continues with our strong programme of events that continued to develop throughout the year..

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation



Our Programme opened with "The Spirit of Ukraine" (https://thespiritofukraine.art/). We supported UK artist Edwina Jaques and Ukrainian artist Gennady Pugachevsky as part of to create two exhibitions at The Halpern Gallery and Swale Media Arts Gallery in May. Their aim was to bring the best of Ukrainian arts to the attention of people in the UK. The exhibitions were widely publicised through numerous media channels, offering further opportunities for the artists to connect with new audiences. Edwina Jaques gave lectures about Ukraine and its passion for the arts at both galleries. In addition to the Ukrainian artists' work, the exhibitions featured poetry, music, photographs, and literature. Workshops were also offered to engage the public and further educate them about the displayed artwork.



In June we supported the Medway Print Festival, an annual event where print-makers from across the area come together to show off their skills. Amongst the highlights of this event were the MPF23 exhibitions "In Print" which took place in the Halpern Gallery, "Prints by The Hazelnut Press" which took place in the POP and "Print Artist Takeover" in the Rochester Lightbox. In addition to the free public exhibitions, we delivered a range of printing workshops, such as; Relief printing at Lego & Art Club; Mono printing at Teen Art; Design a Screen Print at Digital Teen Art; Relief printing at Social Art; Linocut Printmaking Workshop for Beginners; Lino printing onto tote bags at Teen Art; and many others.

As always, July was an exceptionally busy period for the team as we delivered not one but four major events in quick succession.



First of these was the return of our Chatham Carnival took place on Saturday, 8th July, with the aim of building on the success of its inaugural year and firmly establishing the event in Medway's cultural calendar. Engaging 66 partners and over 450 participants in its delivery, this was a vibrant day of celebration featured live music, theatre performances, and a range of stalls showcasing local community organisations and projects.

The Pentagon Centre hosted a variety of activities, including a vintage toy fayre, while Medway Pride Radio kept the atmosphere lively, broadcasting music and entertaining the crowd from the main stage in Military Square. A highlight of the day was the food market, which celebrated local restaurants from Chatham Intra.

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation



One key change from the first year was the decision to hold a single parade at noon. Starting at the Church Street junction of the High Street, the parade made its way to the Paddock outside the Pentagon entrance, drawing a large crowd. The University of Kent's bOing festival team also joined in, offering an exciting array of street theatre performances throughout the day.

The event was led by the Medway Town Crier, the Mayor, and local celebrity drag queen River Medway, who added a touch of glamour and fun. The Chatham Carnival was a great success, bringing the community together and providing an unforgettable day of culture and entertainment.



Following quickly up on this was the three-day Kent International Arts Conference (https://www.kartscon.com/). The event, titled "He(Art): Emotions and Creativity" was held from July 10-12th at the Historic Dockyard in Chatham, Kent. Hosted by the Music & Audio Technology department at the University of Kent, in partnership with Wernborough College, the University of Kent, and Medway Council, the event brought together artists from around the globe. The conference explored the intersection of emotions and creativity, with excellent feedback from attendees. The event's success was highlighted by a meeting with the Arts Council's relationship manager, who was highly impressed and expressed interest in discussing future funding for both the conference and the He(Art) Creative Foundation. The collaboration and feedback further solidified the conference's place as a significant event in the arts calendar.





Meanwhile we were also supporting Medway Open Studios, a vibrant celebration of local creativity, showcasing the diverse talents of artists across the region. The event invited the public to visit artist studios, including our Chatham studios, offering a unique opportunity to see behind the scenes and interact with creators. The event spanned a wide range of mediums including painting, sculpture, photography, and textiles. It was not only a chance for the community to engage with art but also to purchase original pieces directly from the artists. The event fostered a sense of community and collaboration, with workshops, demonstrations, and our guided tours adding to the experience.



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The Halpern Charitable Foundation



As well as these events, we were also showcasing Beads of Hope (https://www.nucleusarts.com/beadsofhope), part of the Kent and Medway "Baton of Hope" exhibition. This powerful piece of artwork was showcased at the Turner Contemporary, where it formed part of a wider exhibition aimed at raising awareness about suicide prevention and mental health. The individual bead were produced in workshops with those affected by suicide. The Beads of Hope installation featured an oversized bead necklace, each bead symbolising a message of support, resilience, and hope for those affected by mental health struggles. Following its debut at the Turner Contemporary, the exhibition toured across Kent and Medway, further amplifying its vital message. The project was instrumental in bringing the community together, promoting conversations around mental health, and offering a platform for individuals to reflect on their experiences. The Baton of Hope exhibition, with its impactful art and storytelling, continued to inspire and support those affected by suicide and mental health issues across the region.



October's Medway Fun Palace continued to build on its legacy of inclusivity, participation, and community engagement. Nucleus Arts had established the first Medway Fun Palace in 2014, and it had grown year on year, with the 2022 event receiving national recognition by winning the prestigious Arts Council-supported Family Arts Activity of the Year Award. The 2023 event marked the 10th Medway Fun Palace organised by HCF.

Held on Saturday, 7th October, Medway Fun Palace transformed the Pentagon community space into a vibrant hub of activities. We worked with 12 partners and around 90 volunteers, including the Dockyard, local universities, theatre groups, and health charities, to deliver a diverse program of interactive experiences. Activities ranged from arts and crafts workshops to interactive science experiments, dance performances, and storytelling sessions. The event encouraged active participation, offering opportunities for personal growth and creativity.

In addition, Medway Fun Palace 2023 expanded its reach by collaborating with Medway's Libraries on our Flora Project, celebrating the life of Medway botanist Anne Pratt. Participants created paper flowers for later use in public art spaces, including the Halpern Gallery, Intra Arts Gallery, the Cherry Picnic, the Rochester Eco Hub, and the Sweeps Festival 2024. The event was visited by a delegation from Maidstone Council, who we had been supporting to hold their own events, and it was featured by the national Fun Palace organisation.

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October also saw our involvement in the Rochester Art Fair, where we played an active role by hosting a combined stall that celebrated the work of many of our talented artists. We helped showcase and sell their beautiful, original artworks to art lovers, collectors, and the local community. The event provided a fantastic platform for both established and emerging artists to interact directly with visitors, creating meaningful connections and fostering appreciation for their work. The fair itself proved to be a vibrant and exciting event, attracting art enthusiasts from Kent, Surrey, Sussex, London, and beyond. By participating in the Rochester Art Fair, we not only supported our artists in reaching a wider audience but also contributed to the event's success in promoting the arts and encouraging the public to engage with and purchase artwork from across the UK and Europe.



We have also work very closely with Medway Pride and Medway Pride Radio to support the LGBTQ+ community across Medway. And February saw the return of the LGBT History Month exhibition allowed local creatives from the community to show off their talent and celebrate who they are.

Our work with the community, has meant that we are seen as a safe environment by our LGBTQ+ partners, and were delighted to continue to work with Be You to host their youth group on our site.



Our event year culminated with the incredible Chinese New Year Festival. For many years, the Chinese New Year Parade was a key fixture on the cultural landscape of Medway events. Organised by Medway's Kut-O Chinese Association, this hugely significant celebration attracted large crowds to Chatham's High Street, garnering significant press attention and highlighting Medway's Chinese community. Thanks to the organisers' strong ties to the London Chinese Parades, Chatham was able to host visiting acts and performers, making it the second-largest Chinese New Year celebration in the UK.



The event was primarily hosted by the local Chinese community, with support from the international Chinese community, and limited backing from local partners. However, the pandemic, lockdowns in both the UK and China, and the cost-of-living crisis forced the event to be put on hold for a few years.

In 2023, thanks to the generous support of UKSPF funding, we were able to bring the parade back to Chatham, along with a craft market and food stalls, much to the delight of the local community. The event was a huge success, reinvigorating the celebration and bringing back the vibrancy and energy that had been sorely missed. It marked a significant moment for Medway's cultural calendar,

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reconnecting the local and international communities and reaffirming the importance of the Chinese New Year Parade to the area. The event attracted thousands of visitors, and excellent press coverage. It was even mentioned in Parliament as an example of good practice (https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/e39a0745-966f-43cc-9a4f-412f9b4ee08f?in=16:59:58)





Gallery

Our galleries continued to be incredibly busy over the period, providing over 40 free-to-public exhibitions over the 23/24 period. The majority of these have been artist-led events, or exhibitions by schools and community groups, however we also held special shows for the Summer and Winter exhibitions, Beads of Hope, and the two resident artist shows "Put a Cat in it" and "The Dog Show'. On top of this, we have had a regular programme of events in the Medway Art Box in Rochester (https://www.nucleusarts.com/blog-medway-art-box). All of these exhibitions have offered the public the opportunity to engage with contemporary arts from across Medway and North Kent, however there have been some particularly notable activities that warrant a special mention.

Flora



Flora started as idea - to bring an immersive exhibition in the Halpern Gallery, Chatham, as part of Medway Fun Palace 2023 celebrations. The Flora Project was inspired by the life and works of Anne Pratt, and featured flowers and plants made from recyclable material by members of the Medway/Kent community, both within our groups and as part of activities delivered across all 15 of Medway's libraries. Plant life has been depicted by artists for centuries, and Flora explored how nature continues to influence us today, in both creativity and wellbeing.



After the Halpern Gallery exhibition, Flora was displayed in the window of Intra Arts, Chatham as part of the High Streets Heritage Action Zones (HSHAZ) Cultural Engagement Programme 2023, and later featured in both the Rochester Cherry Picnic, and the Rochester Sweeps Festival, where it decorated the railing outside of Rochester Cathedral. https://www.nucleusarts.com/floraproject

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

TARDIS Yarnbomb!



To mark the 60th anniversary of Doctor Who, Medway Art Box received a TARDIS makeover. Created primarily through crochet, the Gillingham-based community group and yarn shop Unravel & Unwind recreated the iconic sci-fi police box, complete with monsters, props, and memorable outfits from the Doctor Who series. Since June, the group had been meeting a few times each month, with over 20 members contributing to bring the crafted creation to life. It was a collaborative project that showcased the creativity and dedication of the group, drawing on their love for the show and their craft.
https://www.kentonline.co.uk/medway/news/crocheted-tardis-appears-in-high-street-295611/

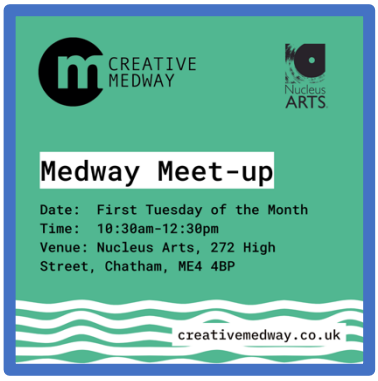
Summer Exhibition



Our flagship annual Summer Exhibition and Winter Open were open call events, welcoming a diverse range of artistic talent. Artists were encouraged to submit three pieces, with at least one guaranteed a spot in the show, which took place across both galleries, creating an inclusive platform for both emerging and established artists. Over 100 artists participated in each show, representing a wide variety of disciplines, from painting and sculpture to digital art and mixed media installations. The exhibitions celebrated the creativity and individuality of each artist, drawing in large crowds and offering a unique opportunity for the local community to engage with new, exciting, and varied works of art.

Wider Community Engagement

Our work extends beyond our own work leverages our experience and resources to benefit the wider communities that we serve. By representing the creative community across a wide range of local and regional committees and networks we continue to provide a major voice for the creative community.



We are active members of Creative Medway, the cultural compact for Medway. In 2023, our CEO was again elected back on to the board as one of the Vice-Chairs. We also host the monthly Creative Medway Monthly meet-ups, regular free networking events which bring Medway's artists together to share opportunities and develop collaborations.

We are also a founding member of the Medway Arts Forum, an organisation-led group representing the grass-roots artist community, and we have been involved in a number of initiatives with members of this group.

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We hold the vice-chair position in Chatham's Town Forum, the Love Chatham initiative which
work to improve the town through events, promotion, and practical improvements.

We are leading members of the MVA Leaders Network, supporting the work of, and providing a voice for charities and community having taken key roles in the transformation academy and alliance initiatives, and leading members of the Transformation Alliance.

We represent the charitable sector on the Medway and Swale Social Prescribing Board, where we work with the NHS and other funders to shape the interaction of the third sector with health providers. We also sit on the Medway and Swale Health and Care Partnership (HACP) and the HaCP Digital and BI Board, where we look at how the NHS and VCS can better work together.

We have supported wider committees such as the Social Isolation Forum and the Medway Innovation Board: here we explore how arts and creativity can play their role in tackling mental health, loneliness and social isolation. We are also leading members of the Mental Health Practitioners group.

We have also continued our ongoing support for the University of Kent Employability rewards scheme, designed to offer opportunities and work experience to high achieving university students. Through this we offer internships, experience days and work-shadowing to inspire art-related graduates.

We are on the board of Child Friendly, a Medway Council program designed to make Medway a more welcoming and supportive place for children, young people, and families. Through a variety of activities and events, the program offers educational support for school-aged children and young adults, helping them to thrive academically and socially. Child-Friendly Medway also prioritises amplifying the voices of young people, ensuring they feel heard and represented. Above all, the program fosters a sense of safety, belonging, and inclusion, helping children feel valued within their community.

We also joined the advisory board of The Institute for Inclusive Communities and Environments (ICE) at the University of Greenwich. ICE promotes inclusivity and reduces inequalities through research and collaboration. Using arts, humanities, and social sciences, ICE works with communities, organisations, and policymakers both in the UK and globally to address pressing social and environmental challenges.

Summary

I am proud of how HCF has embraced every challenge, staying adaptable and proactive to make the most of every opportunity and stretch our resources to achieve lasting impact. At the heart of Medway's community, we build connections, create meaningful activities, and ensure that arts and creativity serve as a catalyst for positive change across areas such as regeneration, economic growth, and health and wellbeing. Recognised as Medway's trusted partner, we collaborate with diverse organisations including the NHS, local government, educational

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institutions, attractions, and business groups. Our "can-do" spirit consistently delivers impactful results, earning us their respect and appreciation.

This success is a testament to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers. From the trustees who guide us with integrity, to our staff who exceed expectations, to the talented artists and community members who treat HCF like family, each individual's contribution is invaluable. I am grateful and proud to work alongside them.

Every time I speak about HCF, I'm struck by the breadth of our impact and the strength of our reach. It's an honour to be part of this organisation. While the coming year brings new challenges, I'm confident we will continue to make a difference and eagerly anticipate sharing HCF's inspiring work.

Dr David Stokes
Chief Executive Officer, The Halpern Charitable Foundation



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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Objectives and Activities

About the Halpern Charitable Foundation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation was established in 2002 with three primary aims; to provide affordable space for artists to work and exhibit in Medway; to help people with mental and/or physical illness/disability; and as a backstop for the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, should it ever be in real financial difficulty with no other avenue left. Since that time the HCF's remit has evolved and grown to:

1. To increase access to the arts across the region through: the provision of affordable work and exhibition space; supporting arts education through outreach and events; advocacy of the arts at partnership groups; and supporting the cultural regeneration of the Medway towns.

2. Helping people affected by mental health and social isolation through: the provision of affordable, stable, housing; the provision of arts and therapy activities; supporting other third sector organisations; and advocacy at partnership groups.

3. Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue with fundraising advice and as a backstop.

The Foundation's Objects are:

1. The relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people

2. To assist in maintaining, repair, mature, preserve, improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, its monuments, fixtures, fittings, furniture and other chattels

3. To advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the Arts; in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

Vision

We believe in a world where everyone can express their creativity, no matter their age, background, status or health. By making the arts open and accessible to all we aim to promote creative thinking, support the creative economy, and use the healing power of the arts to improve mental and physical health

Our values

- **Community:** We will foster and inspire a community which is inclusive, diverse and accessible, and which always prioritises mutual support.

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- **Representation:** We are the voice of artists in Medway, and will do everything we can to understand and represent their best interests.
- **Adaptability:** As the world changes, so will the best ways to improve the lives of people through engagement with the arts. HCF will work to provide the most impactful, relevant support at the right time.
- **Empowerment:** Everyone deserves to feel confident, informed and in control of their and/or their lives. We will utilise the arts to uplift the people in our community to become advocates and to support others.
- **Integrity:** We work for the arts and local community, and will be transparent in what we do and why. We will use our resources when and where they will have the greatest impact.

Strategy

2024/25 well see HCF take a major role in Medway's Festival 2024, celebrating the 40-year anniversary of Medway's rebirth following the closure of the Dockyard. Utilising our position within Creative Medway, we will position our activities as central elements of this event, building on our brand recognition with the general public, as well as with partners, funders and statutory bodies. This year will also be an election year, against a background of ongoing austerity/cost-of-living-crisis, so due attention will be paid to capitalise on such opportunities/challenges that this may present.

Financially, we will see HCF reap the financial benefits of the new Rainham site, the collection of donations by Café Nucleus, investments in energy saving technology and improved energy contracts. This will see HCF achieve a balanced budget, with all future expansion to be funded by external investment through grants and partnership. Examples of this include the 'Big Give' Arts award, which will see donations matched by the programme, and the major social prescribing partnership between Medway Council, University of Kent, HCF and Live Music Now, which, if successful, will fund an addition four engagement groups for 18 months.

We will continue to seek opportunities to develop our engagement programme as they arise, working in partnership with organisations such as Child Friendly Medway to fund these activities. We will continue to deliver our existing outreach programme and develop a list of future programmes for delivery should funding become available.

We will conduct a broad needs-assessment to develop an evidence base, to more effectively substantiate future grant applications and the delivery of our work. This will include needs surveys of our artist community, desk-based data listing of public-health, and the collection of data from our events and activities.

We will work with partners to undertake a pilot trial of the Nucleus Matrix and MAIHAI protocols across Medway. This research will inform the future development of the approach and evidence it's utility as a standardised approach to the evaluation of social prescribing activities in Medway. This work will be delivered in partnership with Medway Voluntary Action's Transformation Academy. We will look to develop our relationship with the

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university sector, in particular the University of Kent Institute for Creative and Cultural Industries (ICCI), and the University of Greenwich Institute for Inclusive Communities and Environments (ICE) with whom we are looking to become a formal partner organisation. We also aim to develop our relationships with the NHS and Medway Public Health.

We will continue to develop our package of artist support, implementing a range of zero and low-cost initiatives to improve support and retention. We will seek funding for a more substantial creative development programme.

We will publish the children's picture book, 'Mojo, a Medway tale,' which is funded by Child Friendly Medway. The book will be distributed to schools, libraries and children's venues.

Across the year we will host a range of events including Chatham Carnival, OpenStudios, FunPalace, the Summer and Winter Opens, Kent International Arts Conference and the Chatham Chinese festival. We will be leading on a major public participatory arts activity 'Forget-me-not Medway.' This will see the public crocheting thousands of blue flowers in recognition of dementia awareness, to be displayed across major sites in Medway, such as the Dockyard, Cathedral, Libraries and our own galleries. We will also support other arts-related festivals such as Super Saturday, Christmas celebrations, Rapture and others. We will maintain a leadership position with the Creative Medway Cultural Compact, and taking a leading role in the Medway 2024 Cultural celebrations year.

We will be looking at our social media approaches to develop distinctive channels for each of the two galleries and Art Box, for the arts and artist development programmes, for community engagement, as well as an over-all Nucleus Arts channel and an HCF "charity voice" channel. Our CEO will also have a channel too. We will look to be more targeted to key audiences with these channels.

We will continue to review and improve our volunteer recruitment, management and support services. We will continue to work with the Medway Voluntary Action, Transformation Academy to develop resources for volunteers, including the Medway Volunteer Passport and Volunteer Charters.

We will continue to maintain and improve our sites, with the aim of reducing energy usage and our environmental impacts.

We will undertake a review of policies and procedures. In particular we will review the Staff Handbook, HR policies and our financial procedures. We will also progress HCF's transfer to CIO status.

We will support activities such as the University of Kent EP programme, Medway Pride Awards and Medway Youth awards.

We will support our beneficiaries in the following ways:

Artist Community:

Nucleus Members
We will offer a wide and comprehensive package of support for our artists including:

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- Affordable studio space.
- Opportunities to exhibit their art.
- Networking opportunities.
- Public engagement opportunities.
- Access to occasional training opportunities.
- Access to workshop space and facilities.
- Access and support for setting up classes and workshops.
- Support in selling their art online.

Wider Artist/Creative Community
We will support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Offer opportunities to exhibit artwork across.
- Offer access to workshop space and facilities.
- Promote local partner arts events.
- Host and support our own programme of public arts events.
- Host and support local and regional arts networks.
- Advocate for a greater engagement with the arts community through statutory and business communities.
- Engage in regeneration - focusing on presenting Medway as an arts hub.
- Offer additional support through a Creative Associates Programme.

General Public/Wider community
We will utilise the following activities to engage the General Public with the arts/creative world:

- We host a range of public arts events, and work with statutory and business groups to expand and promote these.
- We offer access to art classes, education, facilities and workshops.
- We offer access to free gallery exhibitions.
- We offer a range of creative family sessions.
- Offer affordable meeting and community space.
- Provide volunteering opportunities.
- Provide educational opportunities related to the arts, notably the ‘Arts Award,’ programme.
- Support the cultural regeneration of Medway.
- We work with Nucleus Cafe to entice the public to our venues, and to provide community space.

Support the socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised including people affected by mental health issues

We will support socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised through the following activities:

- Provide affordable, secure, housing for people affected by mental health problems.
- We support the promotion of creative health and social prescribing through the provision of creative workshops

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- Provide and expand our own range of outreach creative health activities.
- Provide engagement space for partner organisations to engage with the public.
- Work with and facilitate wider partnerships with partners engaging with vulnerable groups.
- Provide affordable meeting and conference space for partner organisations.
- Work to improve the provision and adoption of creative health activities.

Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue

We will honour the legacy of our founders Hilary and Marie Halpern by continuing support the Chatham Memorial Synagogue through the following ways:

- Provide fundraising resource
- Support the development of a sustainable fundraising strategy

Volunteers

Working with the MVA Transformation Academy we are developing new rules and approaches to engage new people into volunteering roles across Medway. We have been central to developing a volunteers' training programme and charter, which puts us at the forefront of volunteer support locally.

Finances and Governance

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) shows total income for the year was £531,519. A significant increase in income compared to the prior year (£402,360). The charity received just over £196k in restricted grants as detailed in the statement of funds note. The value of charitable investments has reduced this year primarily due to market volatility, but we hope that this will improve in 24/25.

Total expenditure amounted to £617,056, a slight increase on £538,675 in the prior year. This has been driven by inflationary pressures, such as energy and staff costs.

The SoFA shows an overall decrease in funds. Total reserves at the end of the year were £4.6m, of which £119,135 are restricted, £4.1m are designated/fixed assets and £0.4m are unrestricted, including shares as detailed in the statement of funds note.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Foundation is aware that despite its fundamental strength a shortfall in income could make it less effective. Causes could be poor returns from investments, poor investment strategy, prolonged recession, prolonged downturn of property market reduces lease values, non-payment of rent. Outcome could be intervention by Charity Commission.

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To minimise these risks, HCF practices excellent business management, good procurement and income control. The Trustees oversee statutory financial reporting, investment strategy, audit functions, budgeting and financial risk management. It continues to review its investment strategy and appraises performance regularly against peer group and market indices. We appraise new business opportunities and have proposals to extend our service areas. Shared cost allocation has been reviewed. A long-term maintenance programme (Planned Preventative Maintenance) is being put in place and will be reviewed annually. HCF is fundamentally strong and continues to work on its long-term sustainability.

Principal risks and uncertainties
HCF has reviewed all principal risks as part of our Board Risks Register, and has undertaken appropriate measures to minimise these risks. This includes:

Risk	Mitigation
Safety risks	Regular reviews of our activities and relevant legislation. Policies in place to ensure appropriate practices, for example, safeguarding of vulnerable people, DBS checks etc. Regular inspections of the site to ensure a safe working environment. Trained first aiders. Good external security and CCTV on site. Up to date risk registers. Close monitoring of the Pandemic situation, and the use of infection mitigation controls
Reputational risks	Clear expectations of conduct with staff and volunteers. Wide involvement in local committees boards and events. Clear thinking around ethics, diversity, environment etc.
Operational risks	Clear staff and volunteers policies. Strong financial procedures. Clear lines of accountability.
Strategic risks	Established strategy Review by Board of Trustees

Reserves policy
HCF has a policy to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 6-12 months:

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our work
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income.

The board of trustees will review the above criteria with reference to HCF's strategy and Annual Plan and determine the target level of free reserves to meet these.

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In particular, we will retain sufficient reserves:

- to assist in the preservation of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue as per our charitable objectives
- to enable the HCF to cover a further 24 months of essential expenditure as identified by the risk-based method of calculating reserves

The Board of Trustees will at times designate funds from free reserves for significant project costs or replacement of major assets.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Halpern Charitable Foundation began operating in June 2002, and is governed by a Trust Deed dated March 2003, amended on 20th April 2010.

The charity is unincorporated but incorporated its Trustees on 21st October 2013. The principal objects of the charity are:

a) the relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people;

b) to assist in maintaining repair restore preserve improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue its monuments fixtures fittings furniture and other chattels;

c) to advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the arts in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

There have been no changes in the objectives since the last annual report.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

There should at all times be at least three trustees.

New trustee appointments are made by a resolution passed at a special meeting.

In selecting persons to be appointed, existing trustees take account of any areas of special knowledge relating to the Foundation's activities which could be improved at trustee level as detailed in the Foundation Governance Handbook.

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Specific searches are then carried out for persons with the required area of expertise. All prospective trustees are interviewed by one or two existing trustees to ascertain their suitability for the position.

Trustees may serve a three-year term and may be reappointed.

Trustees receive no remuneration but may receive out of pocket expenses.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are given an induction into the charity, its governance, and specifics of its activities.

Training is regularly sought for all trustees, new and old, as appropriate, and updates from the Charity Commission are always passed on electronically.

Pay policy for staff

As a small employer with limited resources, it is very important that we effectively use the money we have available for remuneration. This policy describes the broad principles that we will follow as an employer when setting and reviewing pay.

This policy applies to all staff working for us either on a casual, fixed term or permanent basis. The organisation does not usually employ agency workers. In the event that we do, we will ensure that pay for longer term agency workers (who are with us for a continuous period of over 12 weeks) is comparable to the pay offered for directly employed staff who carry out comparable work.

Pay policy principles:

- Pay equality

The organisation strives to be an equal opportunity employer. This means our intention is to treat all staff equitably with regards to the terms and conditions of employment offered, including pay. The board will review pay levels from time to time to identify and address any anomaly.

- The living wage (as set by the Living Wage Foundation)

The organisation fully supports the living wage and will aim to pay at this level, subject to affordability. Living wage figures are usually announced annually in November and we will take the figure into account when reviewing pay.

Organisational structure and decision making

The Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the Charity. As a Board, led by the Chair, they ensure that all Strategic decisions are taken appropriately. They then delegate Operational decisions to the Director in line with the HCF Governance Handbook.

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Related party relationships

Halpern Charitable Foundation was set up by Hilary Halpern who also had started Halpern Properties Ltd some years earlier. There had, historically, been some overlap of HCF trustees and HPL directors, and HCF undertook some of its activities from within HPL premises. There are no longer any overlapping trustees/ directors.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Trustees' indemnities

The charity has purchased insurance to protect the trustees from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on charity business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Martin
Chair of Trustees – Halpern Charitable Foundation

Date: 14 April 2025

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Trustees and Officers

Peter Martin (Chair)

Jacqueline Shicluna

Geoff Harvey

Paula Gregory

Vince Maple

Anil Aggarwal

David Quirke-Thornton

David Stokes (CEO & Company Secretary)

Chief Executive Officer

David Stokes

Charity registered number

1096478

Principal office

272 High Street
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4BP

Independent Auditors

UHY Hacker Young
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 5 April 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 5 April 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience in the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:
UHY Hacker Young
1102ED52BDDB4BD...

UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Date: 15 April 2025

UHY Hacker Young are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

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Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 5 April 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	40,094	196,319	236,413	*159,671*
Charitable activities	5	255,601	-	255,601	*200,598*
Investments	6	30,741	-	30,741	*42,091*
Other income	7	8,764	-	8,764	-
Total income		335,200	196,319	531,519	*402,360*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	8,262	-	8,262	*11,406*
Charitable activities		403,846	204,948	608,794	*527,269*
Total expenditure		412,108	204,948	617,056	*538,675*
Net expenditure before net gains/(losses) on investments		(76,908)	(8,629)	(85,537)	*(136,315)*
Net gains/(losses) on investments		28,480	-	28,480	*(154,237)*
Net movement in funds		(48,428)	(8,629)	(57,057)	*(290,552)*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,562,154	127,764	4,689,918	*4,980,470*
Net movement in funds		(48,428)	(8,629)	(57,057)	*(290,552)*
Total funds carried forward		4,513,726	119,135	4,632,861	*4,689,918*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 41 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

Docusign Envelope ID: 47F6B8BD-9430-4FA8-B6EA-B6ABD93562B6

Balance Sheet
As at 5 April 2024

	Note		2024 £		*2023 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		3,411,319		*2,423,998*
Investments	14		699,603		*1,077,642*
			4,110,922		*3,501,640*
Current assets					
Debtors	15	500,124		*244,743*	
Investments	16	17,659		*517,015*	
Cash at bank and in hand		84,584		*479,484*	
		602,367		*1,241,242*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(80,428)		*(52,964)*	
Net current assets			521,939		*1,188,278*
Total net assets			4,632,861		*4,689,918*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		119,135		*127,764*
Unrestricted funds	19		4,513,726		*4,562,154*
Total funds			4,632,861		*4,689,918*

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:
Peter Martin
4AB25A889A4049A...

Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)
Date: 14 April 2025

The notes on pages 41 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

Docusign Envelope ID: 47F6B8BD-9430-4FA8-B6EA-B6ABD93562B6

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 5 April 2024

	Note	2024 £	*2023 £*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	21	(303,517)	*(92,756)*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interests and rents from investments		30,741	*42,091*
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,026,171)	*(9,873)*
Proceeds from sale of investments		505,171	*323,378*
Purchase of investments		(98,651)	*(49,348)*
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(588,910)	306,248
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(892,427)	213,492
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		994,670	*781,178*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22	102,243	*994,670*

The notes on pages 41 to 60 form part of these financial statements

Docusign Envelope ID: 47F6B8BD-9430-4FA8-B6EA-B6ABD93562B6

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2024

1. General information

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales, charity number 1096478. The principal place of activity is 272 High St, Chatham ME4 4BP. The objects and aims of the Charity are set out in the Trustees' Report. The financial statements are prepared in pounds sterling, being the functional currency of the Charity.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (January 2022) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) which has since been withdrawn.

The Halpern Charitable Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees and CEO assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees and CEO make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

The trustees and CEO have carefully considered whether the charity remains to be a going concern and have concluded that no material uncertainties exist and there is sufficient evidence for the charity to remain a going concern.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Taxation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Halpern Charitable Foundation is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land	- Nil
Freehold property	- 125 years straight line
Property improvements	- 20 years straight line
Plant and machinery	- 5 years straight line
Office equipment	- 5 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- 50 years straight line

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Current asset investments are short term, highly liquid investments recognised at their transaction cost. They are not part of the charity's long term investment strategy and are those which are held for resale or pending their sale and cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

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3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

Useful economic life of assets
The charge in respect of periodic depreciation is derived after determining an estimate of an asset's expected useful life. The useful economic life of an asset is determined at the time the asset is acquired or brought into use and reviewed annually for appropriateness. The lives are based on historical experience together with anticipation of future events. Depreciation policy is detailed in the accounting policy for depreciation.

Allocation of support costs
Support costs not attributable to a single charitable activity are allocated or apportioned on a basis consistent with identified cost drivers for that cost category. Cost drivers utilised include head count, staff time allocation, and effort and judgement is exercised in applying cost drivers to cost categories.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Donations	190	-	190	*47,271*
Grants	39,904	196,319	236,223	*112,400*
	40,094	196,319	236,413	*159,671*
Total 2023	*51,288*	*108,383*	*159,671*	

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5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Nucleus Arts Main Centre	150,116	150,116	*130,372*
Chatham HeArt	28	28	*24*
Creative Riverside Hub	25,894	25,894	*22,174*
Maidstone Road	44,546	44,546	*36,881*
Halpern Conservancy	13,017	13,017	*11,147*
The Langton Studios	22,000	22,000	-
	255,601	255,601	*200,598*
Total 2023	*200,598*	*200,598*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Dividend income	29,391	29,391	*39,868*
Bank interest	1,350	1,350	*2,223*
	30,741	30,741	*42,091*
Total 2023	*42,091*	*42,091*	

7. Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Insurance claims	8,764	8,764	-

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8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Investment management fees	8,262	8,262	*11,406*
Total 2023	*11,406*	*11,406*	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Nucleus Arts Main Centre	136,552	230,430	366,982	*334,936*
Chatham HeArt	2,748	5,890	8,638	*19,181*
Creative Riverside Hub	32,970	70,664	103,634	*23,918*
Halpern Conservancy	34,802	74,587	109,389	*149,234*
Synagogue	1,834	3,923	5,757	-
The Langton Studios	4,579	9,815	14,394	-
	213,485	395,309	608,794	*527,269*
Total 2023	*183,996*	*343,273*	*527,269*	

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9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Nucleus Arts Main Centre 2024 £	Chatham HeArt 2024 £	Creative Riverside 2024 £	Halpern Conservancy 2024 £	Synagogue 2024 £
Staff costs	58,089	1,502	18,028	19,030	1,001
Staff and agency related costs	3,949	102	1,225	1,293	69
Other direct costs	15,654	397	4,760	5,025	264
Advertising and marketing	4,899	127	1,521	1,605	84
Technology costs	613	16	190	201	12
Maintenance of premises and equipment	2,778	72	862	910	48
Rent and rates	6,927	179	2,150	2,269	119
Energy	5,841	151	1,813	1,913	99
Insurance	4,041	105	1,254	1,324	70
Other premises expenditure	3,264	84	1,013	1,069	59
Bad debts and write offs	30,000	-	-	-	-
Bank charges and interest	497	13	154	163	9
	136,552	2,748	32,970	34,802	1,834
Total 2023	*109,418*	*3,401*	*8,138*	*63,039*	-

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9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

	The Langton Studios 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Staff costs	2,504	100,154	*74,499*
Staff and agency related costs	170	6,808	*836*
Other direct costs	661	26,761	*13,090*
Advertising and marketing	211	8,447	*222*
Technology costs	26	1,058	*376*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	120	4,790	*18,266*
Rent and rates	299	11,943	*30,104*
Energy	252	10,069	*39,223*
Insurance	174	6,968	*55*
Other premises expenditure	141	5,630	*7,284*
Bad debts and write offs	-	30,000	-
Bank charges and interest	21	857	*41*
	4,579	213,485	*183,996*
Total 2023	-	*183,996*	

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9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Nucleus Arts Main Centre 2024 £	Chatham HeArt 2024 £	Creative Riverside 2024 £	Halpern Conservancy 2024 £	Synagogue 2024 £
Staff costs	107,880	2,790	33,479	35,339	1,859
Depreciation	23,143	561	6,731	7,104	374
Staff and agency related costs	7,333	190	2,276	2,402	126
Advertising and marketing	9,099	235	2,824	2,981	157
Technology costs	1,139	29	354	373	20
Maintenance of premises and equipment	(1,283)	133	1,601	1,690	89
Rent and rates	13,984	333	3,992	4,214	222
Energy	10,846	281	3,366	3,553	187
Insurance	6,931	194	2,329	2,458	129
Other premises expenditure	5,700	157	1,881	1,986	104
Statutory audit	4,246	110	1,318	1,391	72
Accountancy and bookkeeping	8,472	40	479	505	27
Legal fees	2,925	76	908	958	50
Bank charges and interest	923	24	286	302	16
Other support costs	28,485	737	8,840	9,331	491
Governance costs	607	-	-	-	-
	230,430	5,890	70,664	74,587	3,923
Total 2023	*225,518*	*15,780*	*15,780*	*86,195*	-

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9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	The Langton Studios 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Staff costs	4,650	185,997	*174,839*
Depreciation	935	38,848	*27,642*
Staff and agency related costs	316	12,643	*12,383*
Advertising and marketing	392	15,688	*10,376*
Technology costs	49	1,964	*1,094*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	222	2,452	*16,908*
Rent and rates	554	23,299	*5,225*
Energy	468	18,701	*15,612*
Insurance	324	12,365	*17,962*
Other premises expenditure	261	10,089	*2,541*
Statutory audit	183	7,320	*6,930*
Accountancy and bookkeeping	66	9,589	*681*
Legal fees	126	5,043	*6,782*
Bank charges and interest	40	1,591	*1,396*
Other support costs	1,229	49,113	*42,902*
Governance costs	-	607	-
	9,815	395,309	*343,273*
Total 2023	-	*343,273*	

10. Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	6,050	*5,350*
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor in respect of:		
Taxation compliance services	150	*150*
All non-audit services not included above	690	*656*

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11. Staff costs

	2024 £	*2023* *£*
Wages and salaries	264,189	*229,795*
Social security costs	16,837	*14,199*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,125	*5,344*
	286,151	*249,338*

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	*2023* *No.*
Employees	14	*12*

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2024 No.	*2023* *No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	*1*

Key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, including employer pension and social security contributions total £74,285 (2023: £69,807).

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2023 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 5 April 2024, no Trustee expenses have been incurred *(2023 - £NIL)*.

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13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost					
At 6 April 2023	2,615,034	4,047	19,402	12,666	2,651,149
Additions	1,025,333	-	838	-	1,026,171
At 5 April 2024	3,640,367	4,047	20,240	12,666	3,677,320
Depreciation					
At 6 April 2023	205,738	4,047	13,313	4,053	227,151
Charge for the year	35,477	-	3,120	253	38,850
At 5 April 2024	241,215	4,047	16,433	4,306	266,001
Net book value					
At 5 April 2024	3,399,152	-	3,807	8,360	3,411,319
At 5 April 2023	*2,409,296*	-	*6,089*	*8,613*	*2,423,998*

14. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Valuation	
At 6 April 2023	1,077,643
Additions	98,651
Disposals	(505,171)
Revaluations	28,480
At 5 April 2024	699,603

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	2024 £	*2023 £*
Investments at fair value comprise:		
Equities	445,186	*620,738*
Bonds	149,089	*236,015*
Alternatives & Multi-Assets	105,328	*220,890*
	699,603	*1,077,643*

15. Debtors

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Due after more than one year		
Other debtors	421,516	*102,723*
	421,516	*102,723*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	46,074	*10,710*
Other debtors	21,826	*123,918*
Prepayments and accrued income	10,708	*7,392*
	500,124	*244,743*

16. Current asset investments

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Cash held by portfolio manager	17,659	*517,015*

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Bank overdrafts	-	*1,829*
Trade creditors	21,240	*17,577*
Other taxation and social security	6,232	*9,950*
Other creditors	6,151	*8,408*
Accruals and deferred income	46,805	*15,200*
	80,428	*52,964*

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	2024 £	*2023* *£*
Deferred income at 6 April 2023	5,193	*300*
Resources deferred during the year	24,597	*5,193*
Amounts released from previous periods	(5,193)	*(300)*
	24,597	*5,193*

Deferred income relates to rental income, gallery exhibitions and grants received for events taken place post year end.

18. Financial instruments

	2024 £	*2023* *£*
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	699,603	*1,077,642*

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise listed investments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Charity is that of the volatility in equity and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities, particularly currency risk, and within particular sectors or sub-sectors. The Charity's investment portfolio generates a significant proportion of the Charity's total income which funds its charitable activities. Should this be impacted due to volatility, the Charity is fortunate to have other sufficient liquid assets to fund its operations.

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19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 6 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 5 April 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	2,423,998	-	(38,848)	1,026,169	-	3,411,319
Listed investments	1,077,642	-	-	(406,519)	28,480	699,603
	3,501,640	-	(38,848)	619,650	28,480	4,110,922
General funds						
General Funds	1,060,514	335,200	(373,260)	(619,650)	-	402,804
Total Unrestricted funds	4,562,154	335,200	(412,108)	-	28,480	4,513,726
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	57,193	-	-	-	-	57,193
Mental Health & Socially Isolated	32,770	-	-	-	-	32,770
Creative Cabin	1,197	-	-	-	-	1,197
Energy Efficiency	27,874	-	-	-	-	27,874
Arts Award	8,730	24,375	(33,004)	-	-	101
Medway Chinese New Year	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-	-
Arts Council England	-	144,444	(144,444)	-	-	-
Chatham Town Centre Forum	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-	-
Medway Chatham Carnival	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
	127,764	196,319	(204,948)	-	-	119,135
Total of funds	4,689,918	531,519	(617,056)	-	28,480	4,632,861

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 5 April 2023* £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	*2,441,698*	*-*	*(27,642)*	*9,942*	*-*	*2,423,998*
Listed investments	*1,608,632*	*-*	*-*	*(376,753)*	*(154,237)*	*1,077,642*
	4,050,330	*-*	*(27,642)*	*(366,811)*	*(154,237)*	*3,501,640*
General funds						
General Funds	*790,430*	*293,977*	*(390,704)*	*366,811*	*-*	*1,060,514*
Total Unrestricted funds	*4,840,760*	*293,977*	*(418,346)*	*-*	*(154,237)*	*4,562,154*
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	*57,193*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*57,193*
Mental Health & Socially Isolated	*55,180*	*-*	*(22,410)*	*-*	*-*	*32,770*
Creative Cabin	*1,197*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*1,197*
Energy Efficiency	*-*	*35,538*	*(7,664)*	*-*	*-*	*27,874*
Arts Award	*13,653*	*25,000*	*(29,923)*	*-*	*-*	*8,730*
Arts Council England	*1,000*	*13,515*	*(14,515)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Young at Art	*1,978*	*-*	*(1,978)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Creative Medway	*1,500*	*22,990*	*(24,490)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Green wall Project	*1,166*	*-*	*(1,166)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Project activities	*6,500*	*1,340*	*(7,840)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Fun Palace	*-*	*10,000*	*(10,000)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Chatham Town Centre Forum	*343*	*-*	*(343)*	*-*	*-*	*-*
	139,710	*108,383*	*(120,329)*	*-*	*-*	*127,764*
Total of funds	*4,980,470*	*402,360*	*(538,675)*	*-*	*(154,237)*	*4,689,918*

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated funds
These funds represent the fixed assets of the charity split between its tangible fixed assets and investments.

Unrestricted funds
Funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. The total fund balance represents the charity's free reserves.

Restricted funds
Restricted funds are those held by the charity for a specific purpose. Details of specific restricted funds are:

Synagogue - Mr Halpern left £100,000 in his will to the charity, restricted to the maintenance and upkeep of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue.

Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art - Mrs Halpern donated £100,000 to the charity, restricted to the provision of mental health support, and support to the socially isolated, through the Arts.

Creative Cabin - Grant for the purchase and upkeep of a Creative Cabin.

Energy Efficiency - Grant to cover the cost of changing the current lighting in Building A and B to LED, to reduce energy costs.

Arts Award - This was towards the Arts Award for a total of £25,000.

Young at Art - Young at Art project grant.

Creative Medway - Money held to support the delivery of Creative Medway. This group is developing the creative strategy and the creative compact for Medway, and represents the creative industries at the regional and local area.

Green Wall Project - Funding to develop and improve the external environment of the Halpern Conservancy Building.

Project Activities - Funding to cover a range of creative activities, workshops and engagement related to our major events.

Fun Palace - Funding to deliver our winter science/arts festival.

Arts Council England - Capital funding for installation of solar panels, new roof for A-block, and a series of smaller improvements to the fabric building.

Medway Chinese New Year - This funding supported the return of the Medway Chinese Festival, the largest Lunar festival in the UK oustide of London.

Chatham Town Centre Forum - This funding supported a range of community events in Chatham, primarily the Chatham Carnival.

Medway Chatham Carnival - This funding supported a range of community events in Chatham, primarily the Chatham Carnival and Medway Fun Palace.

Transfers between funds
A transfer is made from unrestricted funds to cover restricted project overspends. A transfer is also made between unrestricted funds and designated funds for movements in tangible and investment fixed assets.

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20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,411,319	-	3,411,319
Fixed asset investments	699,603	-	699,603
Debtors due after more than one year	421,516	-	421,516
Current assets	61,716	119,135	180,851
Creditors due within one year	(80,428)	-	(80,428)
Total	4,513,726	119,135	4,632,861

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	*Restricted funds 2023 £*	*Total funds 2023 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*2,423,998*	-	*2,423,998*
Fixed asset investments	*1,077,642*	-	*1,077,642*
Debtors due after more than one year	*102,723*	-	*102,723*
Current assets	*1,010,755*	*127,764*	*1,138,519*
Creditors due within one year	*(52,964)*	-	*(52,964)*
Total	*4,562,154*	*127,764*	*4,689,918*

21. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(57,057)	*(290,552)*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	38,850	*27,573*
Gains/(losses) on investments	(28,480)	*154,237*
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(30,741)	*(42,091)*
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(255,996)	*78,713*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	29,907	*(20,636)*
Net cash used in operating activities	(303,517)	*(92,756)*

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22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Cash in hand	84,584	*479,484*
Cash held by portfolio manager	17,659	*517,015*
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	*(1,829)*
Total cash and cash equivalents	102,243	*994,670*

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 6 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 5 April 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	479,484	(394,900)	84,584
Bank overdrafts repayable on demand	(1,829)	1,829	-
Liquid investments	517,015	(499,356)	17,659
	994,670	(892,427)	102,243

24. Capital commitments

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	-	*24,737*

25. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £1,005 (2023: £Nil) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

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26. Operating lease commitments

At 5 April 2024 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Not later than 1 year	30,720	*25,953*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	61,440	*72,000*
	92,160	*97,953*

The following lease payments have been recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial activities:

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Operating lease rentals	30,993	*31,020*

27. Related party transactions

The Charity has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charity at 5 April 2024 (2023: none).

28. Post balance sheet events

In December 2024 there was a fire at Nucleus Main Arts Centre, which is located in Chatham High Street, which has damaged part of the infrastructure. This has led to letting of the artists studios being suspended until damages can be rectified. The charity has appropriate insurance in place to recover the resulting loss of income.

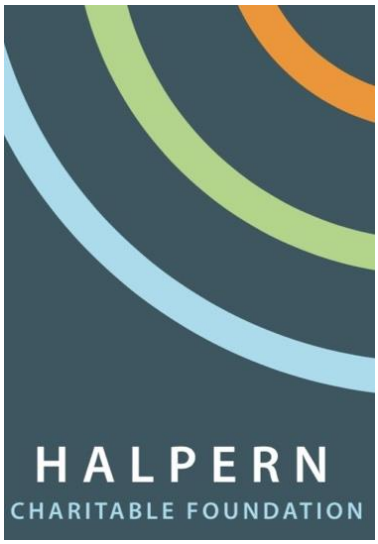
THE HALPERN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

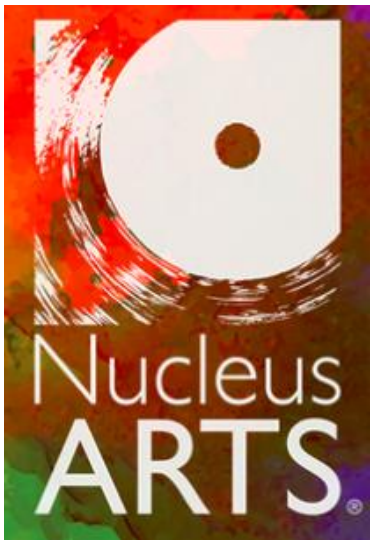
England & Wales - Charity number 1096478

Accounts

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The Halpern Charitable Foundation











Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2023

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2022/23 AT A GLANCE

13 Community creative groups

3 Public art galleries

48 Affordable studios

Most of our groups are free - the rest are subsidised

This year we...

Provided over 12,000 creative community sessions

Held over 60 free exhibitions, and supported hundreds of artists to display their work

This year we have launched...

- A new community festival
- A new international art conference
- Won awards for health innovation and family arts activities

We have...

Supported around 100 partner organisations

And represented the creative sector over 20 committees

www. Nucleusarts.com

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Statement from the chair

In our 20th Anniversary Year, I am delighted to present the Halpern Charitable Foundation 2022/23 Annual Report.

Like all organisations, HCF/Nucleus Arts has been working against an unprecedented background of financial challenge. Squeezed between the vice of record cost rises, insatiable demand, and falling levels of external funding availability, HCF has performed skilfully to rise the increased need. We continue to expand our services, strengthening partnerships, and finding new ways to meet the needs created by the wider environment.

The charity has had a number of key foci over the year that will stand it in good stead for the future. By seeking to build relationships, we are well placed to capitalise on new funding sources as they become available. Keeping our aims and audience at the forefront of our thinking, we are building the foundations of future success, particularly in the areas of mental health and wellbeing – success that has been recognised through the winning of a number of awards. We have sought to develop our infrastructure, investing in energy saving measures, and, significantly reducing our environmental impact. Most recently we have invested in new facilities to help us meet the financial pressures.

As has been the case for the past few years, we know that the next 12 months will bring new challenges. We will continue to be squeezed, and we will continue to receive ever greater demand. Despite this, I am confident that we can continue to meet these difficulties head on, and deliver excellent services to Medway and beyond.

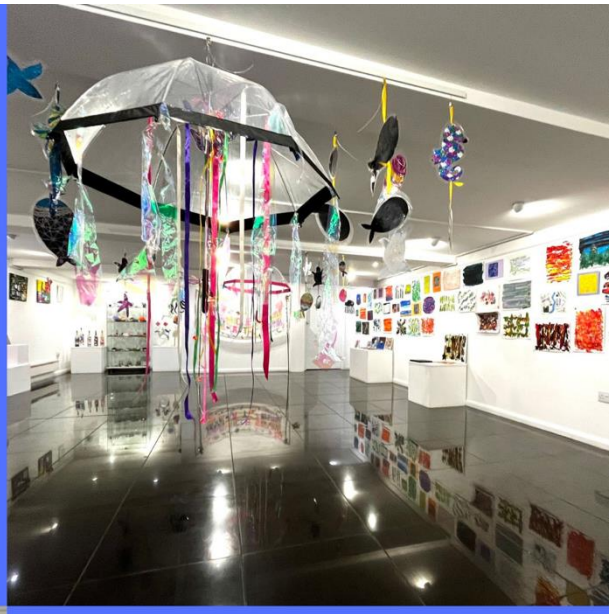
On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank our stalwart team staff and volunteers for their incredible work over the past twelve months. Our organisation is ultimately built on our people, and I am proud to be part of such an enthusiastic and dedicated team.

Peter Martin
Chair of Trustees – Halpern Charitable Foundation

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'I FELT LIKE I HAD WALKED INTO A COLOURFUL, CREATIVE WORLD IN WHICH TO ENJOY AND EXPLORE!

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT





'THIS IS GOING TO BE SO MUCH FUN."

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

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Summary of Achievements in 2022/23

The year 22/23 is a particularly special one for HCF as it marks 20 years since the charity was founded by the Halpern family. In that time the charity has grown to support thousands of people across Medway and north Kent, we engage in huge areas of policy relating to creativity, health, culture and society, and now cover five sites, with a sixth in development.

The period covered by this report has proven to be another successful year in terms of delivery of services and support to of beneficiaries and the wider community of Medway. It has not, however been an easy year by any means. Whilst the shadow of Covid has begun to receded, this has been replaced by the resultant impacts of the Cost-of-Living crisis. As a result of this, demand for our core services has increased, pressure on budgets has skyrocketed, and the availability of income has been tightly squeezed. This impact has affected third sector organisations across Medway, and, given our leadership position within the community, we have been keen to help where we can. Yet, we have worked hard to meet these challenges, adopting new approaches and plans to ensure our communities are served.

Nucleus Art Centre



Our primary site remains our original location in Chatham, home to the larger of our galleries, our large community room and our arts workshop, kiln, and the majority of our artist studios. It is also home to the award-winning Café Nucleus, our closest partner, whose presence is absolutely essential to attracting new visitors. In normal times this site allows us to support many other charities and community groups. Some groups, such as, Club Ausome and BeLive, we were essential in establishing, whilst others, such as Porchlight, Be You and the Paramount Foundation have used our subsidised or free spaces, such as the creative cabin, in order to deliver their work.

We continue to develop this site, with the intention of futureproofing, reducing costs, and showing what can be done within existing infrastructure. We have secured a substantial Arts Council England grant to improve the fabric of the building and to install solar electricity generation. We have also invested in energy saving measures, such moving away from gas, installing central heating boosters, low energy heating/air con, low energy lighting and other measures. We hope to significantly reduce our carbon footprint, and become far more energy efficient.

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HeArt of the Community



The HeArt of the Community space that we run, set in Chatham's Pentagon Shopping Centre, is dedicated to partnership use. This essential community space is perfectly placed for partners to use at very low-cost, enabling events that could not otherwise happen. There are many examples of such activities - for example, Rock School, which is delivered alongside the Paramount Foundation and enables children, who would otherwise not get the chance, to receive music lesson experiences across a range of instruments, inspiring them to engage with music. The local Victim Support branch, Improving Mental Health Provision, and the Prince's Trust all deliver vital support sessions from the site. Local quilting and sewing groups meet there regularly, as do the Medway Art and Craft Adventure CIC and many others, providing community activities that are essential to mental health and wellbeing.

Unfortunately, the HeArt is due to be returned to Medway Council in 23/24 as part of its conversion to a medical centre.

Nucleus Hub



The Nucleus Hub, located on Chatham's Military Road, is an important part of our pipeline of creative career development. Working with Café Nucleus, the space hosts an inviting and relaxing café, where artists can display their works for sale, whilst towards the rear of this is a somewhat subtle community space and internet café. This little room provides an essential safe, semi-private space. The space is regularly used by those, such as therapists and community workers, who need to meet with clients in a non-threatening public area, with the benefit of some privacy. The space is also regularly used by small charity and community group partners as an area to hold meetings without the cost of hiring a room.

Above the café is our suite of subsidised offices supporting small creative business. This year we were delighted to invite the amazing charities, Arches Local and Starling Support to the site, and look forward to working closely with them.

Maidstone Road

Our discrete site on Chatham's Maidstone Road provides ten supported flats for those affected by mental health issues. For many of the residents this represents the first stable home that they have had, giving them the opportunity to build lives for themselves. Support for the residents and the management of the building is delivered through our mental health partner Choice Support.

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Halpern Conservancy Building



The Halpern Conservancy Building is on Rochester's historic high street. The building is home to the newest and biggest Café Nucleus, which recently secured both the Taste of Kent's Kent Hospitality Business of the Year and Kent Food and Drink Business of the Year, making it officially the best place to eat in the county.

Whilst still new, the building contributes significantly to the charity's partnership and engagement work. Our gallery, the Halpern Pop, has a more commercial focus, as needed by our artists, and yet has also hosted community shows, including for schools and fundraisers for other charities. The Conservancy is also home to our makerspace and digital classroom, the 'LightBox' - a facility featuring equipment such as 3D printers and pens, greenscreen, digital art facilities and small making equipment.



Medway ArtBox

The Medway ArtBox is our latest and smallest space. This tiny gallery was adopted by HCF to provide public arts access on the Street. Located on Rochester High Street between the Conservancy and the Guildhall Museum, the LightBox has been home to numerous mini-exhibitions, seed swaps engagement activities and art give-aways where members of the public can take home donated pieces.

Rainham

We have also invested in a new site in Rainham, Medway. This building will serve to increase of creative workspace capacity, and give us a base in another part of the area, allowing us to better support the communities in Gillingham and Rainham. Once again we are partnering with Café Nucleus for this site, which will help us to generate additional income for the charity.

I feel like I'm in another world when I come here (HCF). I can switch off and relax. I'm so glad I found you.

Engagement

The past year has been one of considerable recognition of the value of our engagement work, which is particularly appropriate in our 20th anniversary year. We were honoured to be recognised for our engagement by being named as a finalist is the 2022 Kent Charity of the Year awards, topped only when we were awarded the top prize, Best Family Arts Activity of the Year, at the national, Arts Council-supported, Fantastic for Families Awards. This wider recognition of our work is also reflected in the increased interest in advice and partnership from other organisations. This drive for excellence has continued into the 23/24 and, at the time of writing, we are aware of a number of further awards that we have been nominated for.

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Evaluation and Development

We are continuing to develop our on evaluation and development around the professionalisation of 'Arts for Health.' The approaches are:

1) The Nucleus Matrix – a 'universal' approach for the planning and evaluation of interventions.
2) MIAHAI (Minimum Information About a Health Arts Intervention) – A global language for the communicating, sharing and development of Arts for Health.

We have been developing a consortium of interest around this programme, including the NHS Business Improvement Group, Medway Voluntary Action, University of Kent, VCS Transformation Academy and Medway Council. It is this work, linking the NHS and charities together that led to our Healthwatch Award, and the partnerships developed through this continue to strengthen our wider delivery. We are also part of university-led research funding applications related to this work, including a collaboration with Greenwich University, University of Kent, and the local NHS, exploring the use of creativity in 'Living Labs,' as a tool to better understand health. Other major applications in this space include joint applications with Medway Public Health and arts partners on creative interventions in deprived areas. We eagerly await the results of these applications.

Under 18s support

Invigorated by our national award, we continue to develop our programme for younger people.

Our weekly Babies and Parents art group, 'Mini-Nucleus' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/mininucleus) is the first stage in this programme. Now moved onto our main site, this group that encourages 0-4-year-olds and their parents to take part in messy play/art activities. The aim of this group is to help the children to develop their social and creative skills, but also to provide new parents an opportunity to socialise with one another, creating new friendship groups and a feeling of community, tackling the significant issues around social isolation and loneliness that can result from the life-changing event that is having a child. This year has seen some lovely collaboration between the minis and our Teen groups, culminating the teens building a Christmas installation and Grotto for their mini friends! We hope to add additional sessions in 23/24, in conjunction with Child Friendly Medway, and to deliver these sessions across Medway's Community Hubs.



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Young people can graduate from Mini Nucleus to our monthly 'Lego and Art club', a Saturday morning session where children and their parents can come along and build Lego and engage in arts activities, This group is particularly appealing to dads, and helps encourage play skills. This group is hugely popular, and is regularly over-subscribed.

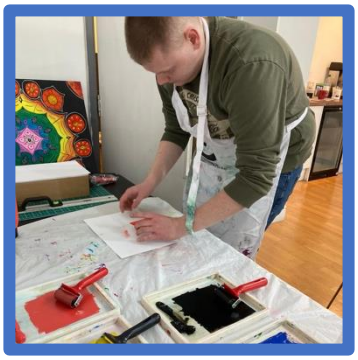


Our programme of 'Arts Award' courses (https://www.nucleusarts.com/artsaward) which normally run throughout the year, enable us to support young people with limited educational chances to gain both useful qualifications and experience of a career in art by meeting and working with our resident artists. These activities are generously funded by the Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust, allowing us to run them at a highly subsidised cost and maintain very small class sizes, which benefits the young people we work with. The programme features five different levels from the beginners Explore and Discover levels up to Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. These latter levels are accredited by Trinity College London and are the equivalent of good GCSE qualifications. We were delighted to work with a number of schools and charities to deliver these activities with their most vulnerable young people. In particular we have been developing relationships with a Foetal Alcohol Charity to develop ArtsAward classes specifically for their young people.



Our support for young people aged 13-17, 'TeenArt' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/teenart) and 'Digital TeenArt' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/digital-teen-art-1) continue .

Both of these groups target young people, to build confidence, community and skills. TeenArt tends to focus on physical activities, such as drawing, painting, costume making etc, whereas Digital Teen Art focusses on digital skills.



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The two groups have particularly enjoyed working to support our other events and activities, from creating works for Carnival, FunPalace, and LightNights, to volunteering at events, to working with their mini compatriots in Mini Nucleus and Lego and Art Club. The community and sense of belonging that these young people have developed, has given them new confidence, and a greater sense of self-worth, that has carried over into their wider lives.







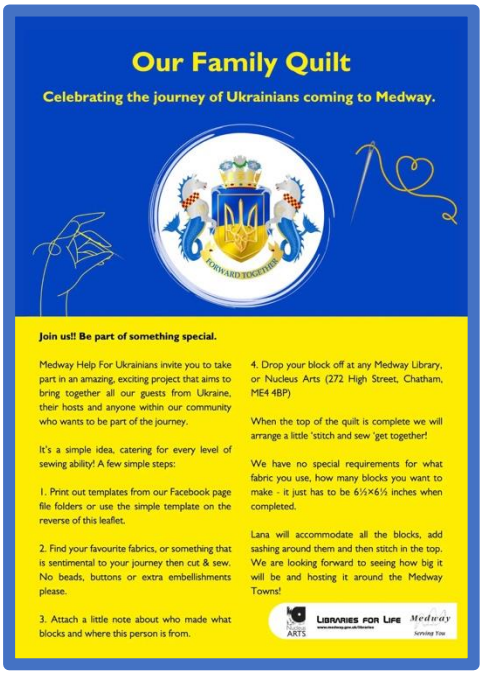
This year also saw the launch of Doodle and Draw. A fantasy-themed drawing club aimed at 11-18 year olds, taking place in Chatham Library on Saturday afternoons. This project is delivered in conjunction with Child Friendly Medway and Medway Libraries, with the latter taking bookings on our behalf (https://bit.ly/3UGNENv). By taking place at the weekend, these sessions have opened up our services to a new audience, and the theme has proven particularly attractive to boys, who are sometimes underrepresented in our activities. This group has proven so popular, that we are in discussions with Child Friendly Medway to create a Doodle and Draw Junior, aimed at 7-11 year olds in 23/24.

In addition to working directly with young people, this year we sought to engage more directly with schools. In partnership with Animate Arts and Child Friendly Medway we launched 'Inspire & Do' a series of free professional development classes, aimed at supporting primary school teachers to improve their creative curriculum provision. This programme went beyond the usual approach to teaching just techniques, but also assisted the teachers in where they could get additional advice, access to funding, and other sources of support. This initial course was hugely successful, supporting dozens of edutcators, and benefiting the hundreds of school children that they teach. The next series of Inspire & Do is due to begin in autumn 2023.





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We were also proud to partner with Medway Help for Ukraine, to create, Khudozhniy Klub, an art group for Ukrainian refugee families. This group, which crosses over between our adult and children's programmes, seeks to help these refugee families to build a sense of community during their say in the UK, and also to provide opportunities to help them to bond with their host families.

In addition to providing in-person arts activities, we also created arts packs for use at home and supported the groups wider integration efforts, by hosting their English Language Lessons. We also worked closely with the group to host an exhibition to display a 'community quilt,' created by people from across the refugee and Medway population. We aim to work with CentrePoint Arts and Refugee Week, to do more to celebrate this community in 23/24.

Over 18s support

As is the case every year demand for our over 18s support continues to grow. We work very closely with Medway's Public Health Team, and the NHS to ensure our work is rooted in evidence and need. Their latest Health and Wellbeing Survey provides estimates of key health states and risk factors at Medway ward and Primary Care Network (PCN) level (https://tinyurl.com/MedwayPHData). These data shows need for improvements in mental health/wellbeing, with around 20% of respondents, believing their life has little/no worth. Equally, the survey shows significant social isolation, anxiety, and loneliness issues, factors that have been shown to impact health as badly as smoking and drinking . In Medway these factors present at higher levels than the national averages, equating to greater demands on already stretched public service, and as a result we are seeing that impact in the numbers of people coming to us for support.



Our weekly 'Social Art' club (https://www.nucleusarts.com/social-art) continues to present the gold standard for our groups, and is the model on which other activities are based.



This group is aimed at a broad community of people, and is particularly attractive to those with physical and learning difficulties, as well as the socially isolated with health needs. It runs on a weekly basis and is successful due to the strong sense of community that exists within its participants. Activities are always designed to be easily accessible with a very low barrier to participation. The participants gain a real sense of achievement, learning new skills and demonstrable improvements in wellbeing. This group regularly books out within hours of new spaces being made available, and there is always a waiting list for cancellations.

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For those with a more skills focus, our fortnightly 'Young at Art' group is aimed at anyone aged 55 years and older, who are looking to learn new things whilst making friends. These free classes are delivered alongside a professional artist who will teach skills and techniques at a more in-depth level than our other groups. Like social art, the group remains hugely popular, with all places booked up rapidly, as are new dates are released. We are seeking funding to expand the provision of these groups, and make them available in venues outside of Chatham.





The over 55s are further supported introduction of 'jumpstART'. Like Young at Art, this artist-led group allows participant to engage in a variety of workshops such as ceramics, resin jewellery and even learning how to digitally illustrate. The group meets, and whilst not free, it the charges vary to cover the cost of the artist/activity, and are significantly lower-priced compared to similar activities locally. We are currently reviewing the success of this programme, with a view to expanding it further.





This year also saw 'Chat, Connect, Create' take place. Funded by Porchlight, these two weekly groups supported a small number of particularly vulnerable people to develop skills and a sense of community for over 18s but in a smaller, more discrete group. Hugely successful, with incredible outcomes, these two groups culminated in the participants presenting their work in a public exhibition 'Wonderland' in the Halpern Gallery. Being a pilot project, and designed to last only a year the funding for these particular groups, has finished, however we have successfully supported the individuals into a self-directed group of their own, and are looking to take the lessons learned in application to support cohorts. Although not public at the time of writing, this work has been nominated for a national award, due in late 2023.



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Other engagement

As always, our engagement activities are in no way limited only to those that we deliver ourselves. Given the scale of demand and need for our work in Medway, HCF works in partnership with dozens of other groups and organisations to support their work, and in some cases, directly delivering activities on behalf of others. Key examples of this work include:



One of our best-established partnerships continues to be with Arches Local, Medway's 'Big Local' organisation, whose work targets the very vulnerable populations in Luton and Chatham.

We have delivered a wide range of regular and one-off activities under their banner, or in partnership. These include 'Fit and Fed,' a series of drop-in sessions that take place during school holidays to ensure that children receive good quality sports and creative activities, whilst also ensuring that these children receive a good meal at times when free school meals are unavailable.

Outside of school holidays we support 'Arts and Crafts at the Arches.' This is a free weekly creative group for families, although delivered broadly in the vein of Social Art. Here participants can drop in and engage in creative activities, build a supportive community, and gain information about additional services and support that they might require.

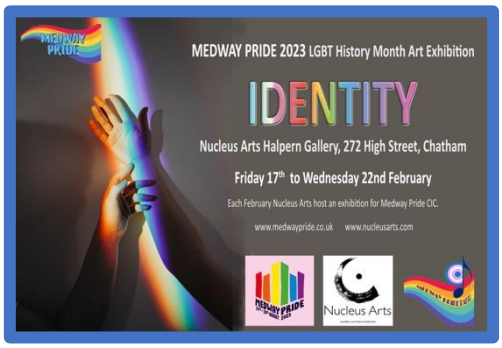


Other activities delivered with Arches Local, include providing creative sessions within residential home settings. This is an area of particular interest for us, and we are looking for opportunities to deliver and expand this work to make it a regular part of our programme.



One excellent example of this was our collaboration with Age UK Kent, working with their community to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, back in 2022. Working with our partners we delivered four Jubilee-themed arts sessions at our main Chatham Site, followed by an open day at the Age UK itself, where the participants were able to show off their work.

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We have also work very closely with Medway Pride and Medway Pride Radio to support the LGBTQ+ community across Medway. Activities such the LGBT History Month exhibition 'IDENTITY' allowed local creatives from the community to show off their talent and celebrate who they are.

We worked with the community to host and support a small art group for LGBTQ+ youth, to give a safe space where they could meet and mix, and not have to hide their identity. We also supported some of the less happy activities that afflict the community, such as awareness raising events, held memorials for Trans Day of Remembrance, and hosted a memorial event for Brianah Ghey.



We were also honoured to host a visit by US LGBTQ+ campaigner Mark Segal, during his UK tour.

Our work with the community, has meant that we are seen as a safe environment by our LGBTQ+ partners, and were delighted to work with Be You to host their youth group on our site.

Events

As with engagement, our programme of events has been particularly strong during our 20th Anniversary year.



Our events programme opened with the Medway Print Festival, an annual event where print-makers from across the area come together to show off their skills. Amongst the highlights of this event were the MPF22 exhibitions which took place in the Halpern and POP Galleries at the end of June



This event was followed by our 20th anniversary programme, consisting of exhibitions, workshops and culminating in our anniversary party in June. These events were a great opportunity to show off all that we had achieved over the past 20 years, and take time to celebrate the incredible artists who had worked with us over the years.

July saw an exceptionally busy period for the team as we delivered not one but four major events in quick succession.

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First up was Chatham Carnival which took place on Saturday 9 July with two walking carnival processions. Throughout the day there was live music, theatre, and stalls featuring local community organisations and projects. The Pentagon Centre hosted free wrestling shows and a vintage toy fayre. Medway Pride Radio compered the event and entertain the visitors with music through the day from a main stage in Military Square.

The theme running through event was to celebrate a number of important anniversaries in Chatham including 20 years of Nucleus Arts, 60 Years of Canterbury Christ Church University, 20 years of the Universities at Medway, 15 years of Love Music Hate Racism and 40 years since the Falklands war. The event was led by the Medway Town Crier and the Mayor. It was estimated that almost 23,000 people attended the day, with almost 420 people volunteering and supporting the event, from running stalls and activities, to the stage acts and parade participants. The event got good media coverage ahead of time, appearing on BBC Radio Kent, Heart, KMFM, MPR, and KMTV, as well as in the Kent Online. The event was a major partnership activity, led by HCF and involving 43 partner organisations. It looks set to become a regular part of the Medway calendar.





Following quickly up on this was the three-day Kent International Arts Conference (https://www.kartscon.com/). Initially a collaboration between Wernbourgh College and HCF, we were supported by Medway Council and Creative Medway to put on this very successful networking and learning event for both Medway, and the global arts community. Artists visited Rochester from around the world to share skills and experiences of being a creative.



The event was hugely well received, and has already secured support and interest from additional partners for the 2023 event.



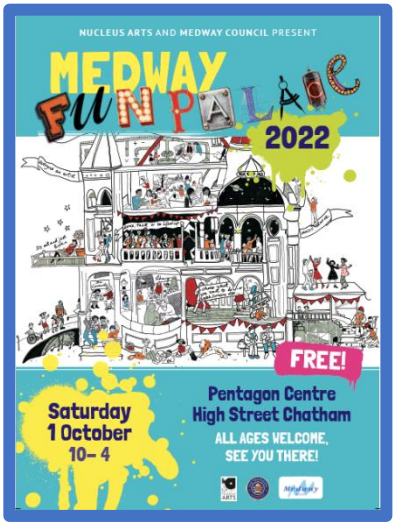
Whilst all this excitement was going on, we were of course celebrating Medway Open studios 2022. The event gives the public the opportunity to visit practicing artists in their studios. Artists from across our sites took part in this Medway Tradition, with open days held across the week-long festival.

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Our final event of July was supporting the Medway Gaming and Creative Festival. This two-day event took place on Chatham Historic Dockyard, and we were pleased to attend in the capacity of running the creative zone. The event was a brilliant opportunity to give our younger volunteers some incredible experience of engaging with the wider public.

In October we continued our events programme with the HCF tradition of hosting the national award-winning Medway Fun Palace. Taking place at the Pentagon Centre in Chatham, we led a consortium consisting of partners such as Medway Council, Medway Libraries, Fun Palaces, Kent university, MidKent College, Chatham Historic Dockyard, Medway Pride Radio, Rochester Bridge Trust, Medway Youth Service, Child Friendly City, Creative Medway, Medway Youth Council, Skills for Life Trust, Creative Estuary Producers' Network, Ideas Test and many more. We had a strong and full programme of events and activities – including live animals, silent disco, and Doc Yards Science show. The event was a huge success and engaged over six-thousand of people both in the Pentagon, and also hundreds more through parallel events at the library service.





In November, we were honoured to be able to support the Medway Youth Awards, sponsoring and presenting the award for creativity. This excellent event showcases the amazing work done by Medway's young people, and served to highlight HCF's central role in Medway's community.



Our calendar year ended as it had in in 2021 with our staff supporting the Medway Pride Radio Community Panto. As well as writing the script and offering space for rehearsals, our staff also undertook a number of acting roles in this fun community event.

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Our final engagement event of the financial year was potentially the most ambitious event that HCF has ever put on. Commissioned by Medway Council we took part in the Chatham Light Nights weekend, a town-wide arts festival. For our contribution we converted our main site, in Chatham, into a fully immersive theatre seven-zone theatre experience. Visitors went on a magical night-time journey, traveling through the river and meeting colourful costumed characters along the way, exploring the river bed, meeting ghostly pirates in sunken shipwrecks, exploring our submarine, dancing in our underwater silent disco, and finally freeing our mermaid. Our event ran for two nights, with over 2,000 visitors passing through. We engaged all of our community groups in the process of making this, involving over 140 people in making hundreds of individual artworks, eight professional artists, and dozens of volunteer actors and technicians.

In addition to our activity, we worked with the Chatham Historic Dockyard to host a two-week preview of their Monsters of the Deep Exhibition, which also attracted large numbers of visitors,

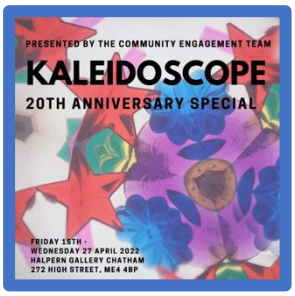


Gallery

Our galleries have also been incredibly busy over the period, providing over 60 free-to-public exhibitions over the 22/23 period. The majority of these have been artist-led events, or exhibitions by schools and community groups, however we also held special shows for our 20th Anniversary, the Summer and Winter exhibitions, and of course the Light Nights show mentioned above . On top of this, we have had a regular programme of events in the Medway Art Box in Rochester. All of these exhibitions have offered the public the opportunity to engage with contemporary arts from across Medway and North Kent, however there have been some particularly notable activities that warrant a special mention.

Kaleidoscope

Kicking of our anniversary celebrations we had Kaleidoscope For two weeks in April we proudly to showed off a selection of the artworks created by our various community groups over the previous year. Featuring close to one hundred works, the show was a chance to applaud the talent of our participant community.



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Studio
In a similar vein, Studio brought together HCF artists past and present to show off the incredible professional talent that has held a studio with HCF. These incredible artists exhibited their work alongside quotes and memories of their time with HCF and how were able to help them.

Summer Exhibition
The Halpern Gallery's annual Summer Exhibitions are our, annual open call events. Artists are encouraged to submit three pieces, one of which will be shown. Over 100 artists took part in each of these events, with over 160 unique artists represented across the two shows. The exhibitions featured work from a variety of disciplines.



Wider Community Engagement
Our work extends beyond our own work leverages our experience and resources to benefit the wider communities that we serve. By representing the creative community across a wide range of local and regional committees and networks we are a major voice for the creative community.

We are active members of the Kent Creative Network, host the monthly North Kent Meetings which returned this year.

We are active members of the Council-led Medway Cultural Partnership, where we chair the important 'Shared Ambition' sub-committee, and play an active role in the central Compact committee.

We are a founding member of the Medway Arts Forum, an organisation-led group representing the grass-roots artist community, and we have been involved in a number of initiatives with members of this group.

We are leading members of the new Medway CAN anti-obesity initiative, a council funded programme aimed at improving health in the area. We hold a position on the steering committee and grants board.

We are leading members of the MVA Leaders Network, supporting the work of, and providing a voice for charities and community having taken key roles in the transformation academy and alliance initiatives.

We represent the charitable sector on the Medway and Swale Social Prescribing Board, where we work with the NHS and other funders to shape the interaction of the third sector with health

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providers. We also sit on the Medway and Swale Health and Care Partnership (HACP) and the HaCP Digital and BI Board, where we look at how the NHS and VCS can better work together.

We have supported wider committees such as the Social Isolation Forum and the Medway Innovation Board: here we explore how arts and creativity can play their role in tackling mental health, loneliness and social isolation. We are also leading members of the Mental Health Practitioners group.

We continue to play a significant role in supporting Council-led regeneration projects such as the High Street Heritage Action Zone in Chatham Intra. We represent small- and microbusiness and the creative industries on the Medway for Business Forum, and creative business on the Rochester and Chatham Town Forums, vice-chairing the latter.

We have also continued our ongoing support for the University of Kent Employability rewards scheme, designed to offer opportunities and work experience to high achieving university students. Through this we offer internships, experience days and work-shadowing to inspire art-related graduates.

Summary

The last year has been one of ongoing challenge. Covid may have receded for now, but this has been replaced with its legacy, a significant mental health and wellbeing crisis, and a crippling cost of living crisis driven by energy prices, global unrest and austerity. Despite this, HCF has continued to rise to the challenges presented to us, staying agile and flexible, making the most of every opportunity, and squeezing what we can out of the funding available.

We remain at the centre of Medway's community, building resources, creating activities, linking communities and ensuring that we are truly at the nucleus of everything is going on. We work across the length and breadth of Medway, maximising the potential of arts and creativity to affect positive change in areas as broad as regeneration and economy, to health and wellbeing. We are widely recognised as the go-to partner for organisations as diverse as the NHS, local government, colleges and universities, tourist attractions, and business groups. Our 'can do' attitude means that we offer useful impacts to these larger organisations who respect what we do and the work that we deliver.

This respect and kudos, all comes down to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers. From the Trustees who keep us in compliance with legislation and rules, to our small staff team who go above and beyond what is expected of them, to our talented artists, participants and volunteers who embrace our little charity like an extended family. I am grateful, proud and thankful to be able to work with them. Each time I get to talk about what HCF does, the scale of our impact, the reach of work, and the leverage that we produce, I am honoured to be part of this organisation. The next year will be no easier than the last, delivering our work and meeting the demands put on us by our community will be an even greater challenge, but it is a challenge that I know we can rise to, and I look forward to continuing to shout about the amazing work HCF does.

Dr David Stokes
Chief Executive Officer, The Halpern Charitable Foundation

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'I LOVE THE COMMUNITY, THE PEOPLE AND HAVING SOMEWHERE LOVELY TO BRING MY BABY '

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT





'CALMS ME DOWN WHEN ANXIOUS, WOULD LOVE TO COME MORE OFTEN'

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

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Objectives and Activities

About the Halpern Charitable Foundation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation was established in 2002 with three primary aims; to provide affordable space for artists to work and exhibit in Medway; to help people with mental and/or physical illness/disability; and as a backstop for the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, should it ever be in real financial difficulty with no other avenue left. Since that time the HCF's remit has evolved and grown to:

1. To increase access to the arts across the region through: the provision of affordable work and exhibition space; supporting arts education through outreach and events; advocacy of the arts at partnership groups; and supporting the cultural regeneration of the Medway towns.

2. Helping people affected by mental health and social isolation through: the provision of affordable, stable, housing; the provision of arts and therapy activities; supporting other third sector organisations; and advocacy at partnership groups.

3. Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue with fundraising advice and as a backstop.

The Foundation's Objects are:

1. The relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people.

2. To assist in maintaining, repair, mature, preserve, improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, its monuments, fixtures, fittings, furniture and other chattels.

3. To advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the Arts; in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

Vision

We believe in a world where everyone can express their creativity, no matter their age, background, status or health. By making the arts open and accessible to all we aim to promote creative thinking, support the creative economy, and use the healing power of the arts to improve mental and physical health.

Our values

- **Community:** We will foster and inspire a community which is inclusive, diverse and accessible, and which always prioritises mutual support.

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- **Representation:** We are the voice of artists in Medway, and will do everything we can to understand and represent their best interests.
- **Adaptability:** As the world changes, so will the best ways to improve the lives of people through engagement with the arts. HCF will work to provide the most impactful, relevant support at the right time.
- **Empowerment:** Everyone deserves to feel confident, informed and in control of their and/or their lives. We will utilise the arts to uplift the people in our community to become advocates and to support others.
- **Integrity:** We work for the arts and local community, and will be transparent in what we do and why. We will use our resources when and where they will have the greatest impact.

Strategy

In 2023/24, we hope to be emerging from the cost-of-living crisis, with a focus on establishing financial stability through the investment into a new site in Rainham, and major investments in our infrastructure. This will have impacts on the charity, our beneficiaries and our partners. The plan continues with our four primary delivery strands; **Sustainability, Membership, Engagement, and Recognition.** Whilst outside factors will significantly impact on our ability to drive this forward, the following thinking will guide our actions.

Sustainability – Whilst HCF is blessed with very generous financial backing resulting in annual dividends and rental income, our expenditure still exceeding our income if investments are excluded, leading to a draw down on these funds, indeed we have seen a fall in the value of these funds due to the volatility of the financial markets. These cost increases are likely worsen as energy costs drive inflation at unprecedented levels. We aim to address this situation through both raising income by investment in fundraising, commerce and service delivery, and also by looking to reduce our overheads by setting stricter budgets and investing in energy saving technology. We had intended to capitalise on our close relationship with the award-winning café Nucleus, by opening a new Rainham site in 22/23, but delays in this project has forced this into 23/24. We will also install our solar panels and other energy saving investments funded by a significant capital grant from the Arts Council. The intention had been for this to take place in 22/23, but this project was also delayed into 23/24. In 23/24 we also plan to launch initiatives to attract funding from patrons with a passion for the arts, and set up a regular donation programme.

Membership – As described last year we will use the next two years to further develop our offer to artists, and those with an interest in the arts. We are seeking funding to develop a package of support that enables them to grow their recognition and businesses, whilst our work around the evaluation of Arts-for-Health, is drawing significant attention from key partners. We also intend to offer a subscription service for non-resident artists, to access some of the support of those holding studios with us.

Engagement – We will be putting significant efforts into the development of our engagement activities. We will seek to increase public attendance at our various festivals and events, including our Chatham Carnival and the Medway Fun Palace. We also aim to work with

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Medway's Chinese community to bring back the Chinese New Year Festival in 2024. We will increase access to arts-related education through the provision of CPD for teachers, and we will work with partners to raise our public profile. We will grow and expand our outreach and support for the socially isolated, seeking grant funding and service contracts to achieve this. By the end of this plans period, we will increase the amount of therapy-related arts-based outreach activity. We will also develop our excellent relationships with the award-winning Cafe Nucleus to continue to entice people to our sites, and convert them to gallery/activity visitors.

Recognition - HCF's name, brand and messaging will continue to be developed as this underpins our communications and fundraising. We will seek to review and improve our online presence, investigating new platforms appropriate to our audiences, and improving the routes of navigation through our website. We will also focus on gaining further recognition through awards, press and events.

We deliver our objects in the following ways:

- Supporting the Arts community

Nucleus Members
We offer a wide and comprehensive package of support for our artists including:

- Affordable studio space.
- Opportunities to exhibit their art.
- Networking opportunities.
- Public engagement opportunities.
- Access to occasional training opportunities.
- Access to workshop space and facilities.
- Access and support for setting up classes and workshops.
- Support in selling their art online.

Wider Artist/Creative Community
We support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Offer opportunities to exhibit artwork across.
- Offer access to workshop space and facilities.
- Promote local partner arts events.
- Host and support our own programme of public arts events.
- Host and support local and regional arts networks.
- Advocate for a greater engagement with the arts community through statutory and business communities.
- Engage in regeneration - focusing on presenting Medway as an arts hub.

General Public/Wider community
We will utilise the following activities to engage the General Public with the arts/creative world:

- We host a range of public arts events, and work with statutory and business groups to expand and promote these.
- We offer access to art classes, education, facilities and workshops.

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- We offer access to free gallery exhibitions.
- We offer a range of creative family sessions.
- Offer affordable meeting and community space.
- Provide volunteering opportunities.
- Provide educational opportunities related to the arts, notably the 'Arts Award,' programme.
- Support the cultural regeneration of Medway.
- We work with Café Nucleus to entice the public to our venues, and to provide community space.

- Supporting the socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised including people affected by mental health issues

We support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Provide affordable, secure, housing for people affected by mental health problems.
- Provide and expand our own range of on-site arts-therapy-related activities – including a range of free events.
- Provide and expand our own range of outreach arts-therapy-related activities.
- Provide engagement space for partner organisations to engage with the public.
- Work with and facilitate wider partnerships with partners engaging with vulnerable groups.
- Provide affordable meeting and conference space for partner organisations.

- Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue

We will honour the legacy of our founders Hilary and Marie Halpern by continuing support the Chatham Memorial Synagogue through the following ways:

- Provide fundraising resource
- Support the development of a sustainable fundraising strategy

Public Benefit

The Governing Body has complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit by the Charity Commission.

Plans for 2023/24

2023/24 will be a year of consolidation and growth for us. Our major focus will be tackling the ongoing issues around funding and spend. We will tackle our energy costs, invest in approaches to reduce usage, arrest energy loss, and install solar panels on the main Chatham site. We will also invest heavily in the new site in Rainham, which we hope will raise significant income for us, whilst setting a marker for growing services in the town and neighbouring Gillingham.

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We will aim to further expand HCF's outreach services, in particular in those areas where the Cost-of-living crisis and Ukrainian war continues to create new need. We will work with partners such as Public Health, the NHS and Child Friendly Medway to explore where the need is most. We will also work with academic partners to explore activities such as living-labs, where our expertise in creative activities and wellbeing can come to the fore.

Across the year we will again host a range of events, including our usual Open Studios, Fun Palace, Carnival and other events, including light nights if the 2024 event is confirmed. We will also look to bring back the Chinese New Year Festival, working with the local community.

We will again support activities such as the University of Kent Employability Points programme, Medway LGBTQ+ awards and Medway Youth awards.

We will continue to develop our package of artist support, implementing further initiatives to improve support and retention.

We will further expand our local gallery network, looking for wider initiatives with which to engage.

We will deliver a full series of high-quality arts exhibitions across our galleries.

We will look to formally incorporate the charity.

We will put in significant effort to support major initiatives such as, Medway CAN, Creative Medway and Child Friendly Medway.

Volunteers

Working with the MVA Transformation Academy we are developing new rules and approaches to engage new people into volunteering roles across Medway. We have been central to developing a volunteers training programme and charter, which puts us at the forefront of volunteer support locally.

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Finances and Governance

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) shows total income for the year was £402,360. A slight increase in income compared to the prior year £401,275. The charity received just over £108k in restricted grants as detailed in the statement of funds note. The value of charitable investments has reduced this year primarily due to market volatility, but we hope that this will improve in 23/24.

Total expenditure amounted to £538,675, a slight increase on £504,077 in the prior year. This has been driven by inflationary pressures, such as energy and staff costs.

The SoFA shows an overall decrease in funds. Total reserves at the end of the year were £4.69m, of which £127,764 are restricted, £3.5m are designated/fixed assets and £1.06m are unrestricted, including shares as detailed in the statement of funds note.

Going concern
After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Financial risk management objectives and policies
The Foundation is aware that despite its fundamental strength a shortfall in income could make it less effective. Causes could be poor returns from investments, poor investment strategy, prolonged recession, prolonged downturn of property market reduces lease values, non-payment of rent. Outcome could be intervention by Charity Commission.

To minimise these risks, HCF practices excellent business management, good procurement and income control. The Trustees oversee statutory financial reporting, investment strategy, audit functions, budgeting and financial risk management. In 17/18 HCF adopted a new procurement policy and other working policies and these are being monitored for effectiveness. It continues to review its investment strategy and appraises performance regularly against peer group and market indices. We appraise new business opportunities and have proposals to extend our service areas. Shared cost allocation has been reviewed. A long-term maintenance programme (Planned Preventative Maintenance) is being put in place and will be reviewed annually. HCF is fundamentally strong and continues to work on its long-term sustainability.

Principal risks and uncertainties
HCF has reviewed all principal risks as part of our Board Risks Register, and has undertaken appropriate measures to minimise these risks. These include:

Risk	Mitigation
Safety risks	Regular reviews of our activities and relevant legislation. Policies in place to ensure appropriate practices, for example, safeguarding of vulnerable people, DBS checks etc. Regular inspections of the site to ensure a safe working environment.

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	Trained first aiders. Good external security and CCTV on site. Up to date risk registers. Close monitoring of the Pandemic situation, and the use of infection mitigation controls
Reputational risks	Clear expectations of conduct with staff and volunteers. Wide involvement in local committees boards and events. Clear thinking around ethics, diversity, environment etc.
Operational risks	Clear staff and volunteers policies. Strong financial procedures. Clear lines of accountability.
Strategic risks	Established strategy Review by Board of Trustees

Reserves policy
HCF has a policy to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 6-12 months:

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our work.
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities.
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income.

The board of trustees will review the above criteria with reference to HCF's strategy and Annual Plan and determine the target level of free reserves to meet these.
In particular, we will retain sufficient reserves:

- to assist in the preservation of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue as per our charitable objectives.
- to enable the HCF to cover a further 24 months of essential expenditure as identified by the risk-based method of calculating reserves.

The Board of Trustees will at times designate funds from free reserves for significant project costs or replacement of major assets.

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Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Halpern Charitable Foundation began operating in June 2002, and is governed by a Trust Deed dated March 2003, amended on 20th April 2010.

The charity is unincorporated, but incorporated its Trustees on 21st October 2013. The principal objects of the charity are:

> a) the relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people;
>
> b) to assist in maintaining repair restore preserve improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue its monuments fixtures fittings furniture and other chattels;
>
> c) to advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the arts in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

There have been no changes in the objectives since the last annual report.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

There should at all times be at least three trustees.

New trustee appointments are made by a resolution passed at a special meeting.

In selecting persons to be appointed, existing trustees take account of any areas of special knowledge relating to the Foundation's activities which could be improved at trustee level as detailed in the Foundation Governance Handbook.

Specific searches are then carried out for persons with the required area of expertise. All prospective trustees are interviewed by one or two existing trustees to ascertain their suitability for the position.

Trustees may serve a three-year term, and may be reappointed.

Trustees receive no remuneration, but may receive out of pocket expenses.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are given an induction into the charity, its governance, and specifics of its activities.

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Training is regularly sought for all trustees, new and old, as appropriate, and updates from the Charity Commission are always passed on electronically.

Pay policy for staff

As a small employer with limited resources, it is very important that we effectively use the money we have available for remuneration. This policy describes the broad principles that we will follow as an employer when setting and reviewing pay.

This policy applies to all staff working for us either on a casual, fixed term or permanent basis. The organisation does not usually employ agency workers. In the event that we do, we will ensure that pay for longer term agency workers (who are with us for a continuous period of over 12 weeks) is comparable to the pay offered for directly employed staff who carry out comparable work.

Pay policy principles:

- Pay equality

The organisation strives to be an equal opportunity employer. This means our intention is to treat all staff equitably with regards to the terms and conditions of employment offered, including pay. The board will review pay levels from time to time to identify and address any anomaly.

- The living wage (as set by the Living Wage Foundation)

The organisation fully supports the living wage and will aim to pay at this level, subject to affordability. Living wage figures are usually announced annually in November and we will take the figure into account when reviewing pay.

Organisational structure and decision making

The Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the Charity. As a Board, led by the Chair, they ensure that all Strategic decisions are taken appropriately. They then delegate Operational decisions to the Director in line with the HCF Governance Handbook.

Related party relationships

Halpern Charitable Foundation was set up by Hilary Halpern who also had started Halpern Properties Ltd some years earlier. There had, historically, been some overlap of HCF trustees and HPL directors, and HCF undertook some of its activities from within HPL premises. There are no longer any overlapping trustees/ directors.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

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Trustees' indemnities

The charity has purchased insurance to protect the trustees from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on charity business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity 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 charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Trustees, and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:
Peter Martin
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Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 04 February 2024

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Trustees and Officers

Peter Martin (Chair)

Jacqueline Shicluna

Geoff Harvey

Paula Gregory

Vince Maple

Anil Aggarwal

Charlotte Walker

Chief Executive Officer

David Stokes

Charity registered number

1096478

Principal office

272 High Street
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4BP

Independent Auditors

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

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Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 5 April 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 5 April 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience in the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Date:

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

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Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 5 April 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	51,288	108,383	159,671	*155,446*
Charitable activities	5	200,598	-	200,598	*209,196*
Investments	6	42,091	-	42,091	*36,633*
Total income		293,977	108,383	402,360	*401,275*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	11,406	-	11,406	*10,523*
Charitable activities		406,940	120,329	527,269	*493,554*
Total expenditure		418,346	120,329	538,675	*504,077*
Net expenditure before net (losses)/gains on investments		(124,369)	(11,946)	(136,315)	*(102,802)*
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(154,237)	-	(154,237)	*75,620*
Net movement in funds		(278,606)	(11,946)	(290,552)	*(27,182)*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,840,760	139,710	4,980,470	*5,007,652*
Net movement in funds		(278,606)	(11,946)	(290,552)	*(27,182)*
Total funds carried forward		4,562,154	127,764	4,689,918	*4,980,470*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 37 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

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Balance Sheet
As at 5 April 2023

	Note	2023 £		*2022 £*	
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		2,423,998		*2,441,698*
Investments	13		1,077,642		*1,608,632*
			3,501,640		*4,050,330*
Current assets					
Debtors	14	240,967		*220,118*	
Investments	15	517,015		*138,200*	
Cash at bank and in hand		479,484		*642,978*	
		1,237,466		*1,001,296*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(49,188)		*(71,156)*	
Net current assets			1,188,278		*930,140*
Total net assets			4,689,918		*4,980,470*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	18		127,764		*139,710*
Unrestricted funds	18		4,562,154		*4,840,760*
Total funds			4,689,918		*4,980,470*

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:
Peter Martin
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Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)
Date: 04 February 2024

The notes on pages 37 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2023

1. General information

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales, charity number 1096478. The principal place of activity is 272 High St, Chatham ME4 4BP. The objects and aims of the Charity are set out in the Trustees' Report. The financial statements are prepared in pounds sterling, being the functional currency of the Charity.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (January 2022) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) which has since been withdrawn.

The Halpern Charitable Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees and CEO assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees and CEO make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

The trustees and CEO have carefully considered whether the charity remains to be a going concern and have concluded that no material uncertainties exist and there is sufficient evidence for the charity to remain a going concern.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Taxation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Halpern Charitable Foundation is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land	- Nil
Freehold property	- 125 years straight line
Property improvements	- 20 years straight line
Plant and machinery	- 5 years straight line
Office equipment	- 5 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- 50 years straight line

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Current asset investments are short term, highly liquid investments recognised at their transaction cost. They are not part of the charity's long term investment strategy and are those which are held for resale or pending their sale and cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

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3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

With respect to the next reporting period for the year ended 5 April 2024 the most significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity are the level of investment return, particularly in-light of the potential volatility of the investment market due to the cost of living crisis and the onset of the war in Ukraine at the start of 2023.

Critical areas of judgment:

There are no significant judgements in the relation to the above accounting policies that have a material impact on the financial statements other than the revaluation of listed investments.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	**Restricted funds 2023 £**	**Total funds 2023 £**	*Total funds 2022 £*
Donations	47,271	-	47,271	*16,856*
Legacies	-	-	-	*14,282*
Grants	4,017	108,383	112,400	*113,580*
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	*10,728*
	51,288	108,383	159,671	*155,446*
Total 2022	*89,909*	*65,537*	*155,446*	

Other than utilising the UK government's Job Retention Scheme in 2022, the Charity received no other grants from the government. There were no unfilled conditions or contingencies.

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5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Nucleus Arts Centre	130,372	130,372	*137,164*
Chatham HeArt	24	24	*25*
Chatham Creative Hub	22,174	22,174	*23,316*
Maidstone Road	36,881	36,881	*36,970*
Halpern Conservancy	11,147	11,147	*11,721*
	200,598	200,598	*209,196*
Total 2022	*209,196*	*209,196*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Dividend income	39,868	39,868	*36,567*
Bank interest	2,223	2,223	*66*
	42,091	42,091	*36,633*
Total 2022	*36,633*	*36,633*	

7. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Investment management fees	11,406	11,406	*10,523*
Total 2022	*10,523*	*10,523*	

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8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Nucleus Arts Centre	109,418	225,518	334,936	*325,844*
Chatham HeArt	3,401	15,780	19,181	*18,064*
Chatham Creative Hub	8,138	15,780	23,918	*46,687*
Halpern Conservancy	63,039	86,195	149,234	*102,959*
	183,996	343,273	527,269	*493,554*
Total 2022	*174,775*	*318,779*	*493,554*	

Analysis of direct costs

	Nucleus Arts Centre 2023 £	Chatham HeArt 2023 £	Nucleus Hub 2023 £	Halpern Conservancy 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Staff costs	61,657	-	-	12,842	74,499	*66,334*
Staff and agency related costs	836	-	-	-	836	*12,918*
Other direct costs	11,401	-	1,689	-	13,090	*24,055*
Advertising and marketing	222	-	-	-	222	*777*
Technology costs	376	-	-	-	376	*158*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	1,137	284	1,307	15,538	18,266	*11,536*
Rent and rates	10,635	192	-	19,277	30,104	*33,212*
Energy	23,097	2,925	-	13,201	39,223	*5,225*
Insurance	-	-	-	55	55	*3,839*
Other premises expenditure	16	-	5,142	2,126	7,284	*16,712*
Bank charges and interest	41	-	-	-	41	*9*
	109,418	3,401	8,138	63,039	183,996	*174,775*
Total 2022	*112,473*	*4,040*	*32,625*	*25,637*	*174,775*	

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8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Nucleus Arts Centre 2023 £	Chatham HeArt 2023 £	Nucleus Hub 2023 £	Halpern Conservancy 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Staff costs	113,645	8,742	8,742	43,710	174,839	*150,565*
Depreciation	20,353	-	-	7,289	27,642	*30,473*
Staff and agency related costs	8,027	622	622	3,112	12,383	*2,872*
Advertising and marketing	6,744	519	519	2,594	10,376	*11,392*
Technology costs	711	55	55	273	1,094	*6,255*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	10,991	846	846	4,225	16,908	*18,864*
Rent and rates	3,397	261	261	1,306	5,225	*3,286*
Energy	10,148	780	780	3,904	15,612	*27,366*
Insurance	11,675	898	898	4,491	17,962	*14,715*
Other premises expenditure	1,652	127	127	635	2,541	*3,580*
Statutory audit	4,505	347	347	1,731	6,930	*7,280*
Accountancy and bookkeeping	443	34	34	170	681	*12,623*
Legal fees	4,430	336	336	1,680	6,782	*14,760*
Bad debts and write offs	-	-	-	-	-	*(758)*
Bank charges and interest	911	69	69	347	1,396	*1,711*
Other support costs	27,886	2,144	2,144	10,728	42,902	*8,179*
Governance costs	-	-	-	-	-	*5,616*
	225,518	15,780	15,780	86,195	343,273	*318,779*
Total 2022	*213,371*	*14,024*	*14,062*	*77,322*	*318,779*	

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9. Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £	*2022* *£*
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	5,350	*5,300*
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor in respect of:		
Taxation compliance services	150	*150*
All non-audit services not included above	656	*446*

10. Staff costs

	2023 £	*2022* *£*
Wages and salaries	229,795	*199,589*
Social security costs	14,199	*12,394*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,344	*4,916*
	249,338	*216,899*

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	*2022* *No.*
Employees	12	*11*

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No.	*2022* *No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	-

The total amount of any employee benefits received by key management personnel, including employer pension contributions, for their services to the charity total £69,807 (2022: £65,538).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2022 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 5 April 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred *(2022 - £NIL)*.

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12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost					
At 6 April 2022	2,607,370	4,046	17,192	12,666	2,641,274
Additions	7,664	-	2,209	-	9,873
At 5 April 2023	2,615,034	4,046	19,401	12,666	2,651,147
Depreciation					
At 6 April 2022	181,441	4,046	10,289	3,800	199,576
Charge for the year	24,297	-	3,023	253	27,573
At 5 April 2023	205,738	4,046	13,312	4,053	227,149
Net book value					
At 5 April 2023	2,409,296	-	6,089	8,613	2,423,998
At 5 April 2022	*2,425,929*	-	*6,903*	*8,866*	*2,441,698*

13. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Valuation	
At 6 April 2022	1,608,632
Additions	49,348
Disposals	(399,341)
Revaluations	(180,997)
At 5 April 2023	1,077,642

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	2023 £	2022 £
Investments at fair value comprised of:		
Equities	620,738	*889,747*
Bonds	236,015	*330,221*
Alternatives & Multi-Assets	220,890	*367,235*
	1,077,643	*1,587,203*

14. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due after more than one year		
Other debtors	102,723	-
	102,723	-
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	10,710	*13,693*
Other debtors	120,142	*183,579*
Prepayments and accrued income	7,392	*22,846*
	240,967	*220,118*

15. Current asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Unlisted investments (liquid)	517,015	*138,200*

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank overdrafts	1,829	-
Trade creditors	14,416	*23,984*
Other taxation and social security	9,950	*7,729*
Other creditors	2,600	*6,299*
Accruals and deferred income	20,393	*33,144*
	49,188	*71,156*

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17. Financial instruments

	2023 £	*2022* *£*
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	1,077,642	*1,608,632*

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise fixed asset listed investment shares.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Charity is that of the volatility in equity and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities, particularly currency risk, and within particular sectors or sub-sectors. The Charity's investment portfolio generates a significant proportion of the Charity's total income which funds its charitable activities. Should this be impacted due to volatility, the Charity is fortunate to have other sufficient liquid assets to fund its operations.

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18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 5 April 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	2,441,698	-	(27,642)	9,942	-	2,423,998
Investment share fixed asset	1,608,632	-	-	(376,753)	(154,237)	1,077,642
	4,050,330	-	(27,642)	(366,811)	(154,237)	3,501,640
General funds						
General Funds	790,430	293,977	(390,704)	366,811	-	1,060,514
Total Unrestricted funds	4,840,760	293,977	(418,346)	-	(154,237)	4,562,154
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	57,193	-	-	-	-	57,193
Mental Health & Socially Isolated	55,180	-	(22,410)	-	-	32,770
Creative Cabin	1,197	-	-	-	-	1,197
Energy Efficiency	-	35,538	(7,664)	-	-	27,874
Arts Award	13,653	25,000	(29,923)	-	-	8,730
Social Art	1,000	13,515	(14,515)	-	-	-
Young at Art	1,978	-	(1,978)	-	-	-
Creative Medway	1,500	22,990	(24,490)	-	-	-
Green wall Project	1,166	-	(1,166)	-	-	-
Project activities	6,500	1,340	(7,840)	-	-	-
Fun Palace	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Other	343	-	(343)	-	-	-
	139,710	108,383	(120,329)	-	-	127,764
Total of funds	4,980,470	402,360	(538,675)	-	(154,237)	4,689,918

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 5 April 2022* £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	*2,454,039*	-	*(30,473)*	*18,132*	-	*2,441,698*
Investment share fixed asset	*1,287,657*	-	-	*245,355*	*75,620*	*1,608,632*
	3,741,696	-	*(30,473)*	*263,487*	*75,620*	*4,050,330*
General funds						
General Funds	*1,123,864*	*335,738*	*(405,685)*	*(263,487)*	-	*790,430*
Total Unrestricted funds	*4,865,560*	*335,738*	*(436,158)*	-	*75,620*	*4,840,760*
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	*57,193*	-	-	-	-	*57,193*
Mental Health & Socially Isolated	*64,500*	-	*(9,320)*	-	-	*55,180*
Creative Cabin	*2,893*	-	*(1,696)*	-	-	*1,197*
Energy Efficiency	*395*	-	*(395)*	-	-	-
Arts Award	*10,900*	*24,276*	*(21,523)*	-	-	*13,653*
Volunteers	*1,567*	-	*(1,567)*	-	-	-
Social Art	*500*	*500*	-	-	-	*1,000*
Lightbox	*2,166*	-	*(2,166)*	-	-	-
Young at Art	*1,978*	-	-	-	-	*1,978*
Intern	-	*1,000*	*(1,000)*	-	-	-
Creative Medway	-	*17,500*	*(16,000)*	-	-	*1,500*
Green wall Project	-	*1,166*	-	-	-	*1,166*
Forward Together	-	*2,495*	*(2,495)*	-	-	-
Project activities	-	*7,424*	*(924)*	-	-	*6,500*
Fun Palace	-	*10,000*	*(10,000)*	-	-	-
Other	-	*1,176*	*(833)*	-	-	*343*
	142,092	*65,537*	*(67,919)*	-	-	*139,710*

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

Total of funds	*5,007,652*	*401,275*	*(504,077)*	*-*	*75,620*	*4,980,470*

Designated funds
These funds represent the fixed assets of the charity split between its tangible fixed assets and investments.

Unrestricted funds
Funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. The total fund balance represents the charity's free reserves.

Restricted funds
Restricted funds are those held by the charity for a specific purpose. Details of specific restricted funds are:

Synagogue - Mr Halpern left £100,000 in his will to the charity, restricted to the maintenance and upkeep of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue.

Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art - Mrs Halpern donated £100,000 to the charity, restricted to the provision of mental health support, and support to the socially isolated, through the Arts.

Creative Cabin - Grant for the purchase and upkeep of a Creative Cabin.

Energy Efficiency - Grant to cover the cost of changing the current lighting in Building A and B to LED, to reduce energy costs.

Arts Award - This was towards the Arts Award for a total of £25,000.

Volunteers - To aid in staff welfare, travel and staffing costs of the Charity.

Social Art - In association with Cole Charity.

Lightbox - Grant towards what was the Maker Space project.

Community Engagement - Grant made to cover costs of achieving community engagement.

Young at Art - Young at Art project grant.

Intern - Funds to cover the pay of the intern, taken on at Nucleus Arts.

Creative Medway - Money held to support the delivery of Creative Medway. This group is developing the creative strategy and the creative compact for Medway, and represents the creative industries at the regional and local area.

Green Wall Project - Funding to develop and improve the external environment of the Halpern Conservancy Building.

Forward Together - Funding to produce a one-off art installation to build community and a sense of pride in Medway.

Project Activities - Funding to cover a range of creative activities, workshops and engagement related to our major events.

Fun Palace - Funding to deliver our winter science/arts festival.

Transfers between funds
A transfer is made from unrestricted funds to cover restricted project overspends. A transfer is also made between unrestricted funds and designated funds for movements in tangible and investment fixed assets.

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19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,423,998	-	2,423,998
Fixed asset investments	1,077,642	-	1,077,642
Debtors due after more than one year	102,723	-	102,723
Current assets	1,006,979	127,764	1,134,743
Creditors due within one year	(49,188)	-	(49,188)
Total	4,562,154	127,764	4,689,918

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	*Restricted funds 2022 £*	*Total funds 2022 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*2,441,698*	-	*2,441,698*
Fixed asset investments	*1,608,632*	-	*1,608,632*
Current assets	*861,586*	*139,710*	*1,001,296*
Creditors due within one year	*(71,156)*	-	*(71,156)*
Total	*4,840,760*	*139,710*	*4,980,470*

20. Capital commitments

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	24,737	-

21. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £Nil (2022: £Nil) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

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22. Operating lease commitments

At 5 April 2023 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Not later than 1 year	25,953	*24,860*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	72,000	*72,273*
Later than 5 years	-	*24,000*
	97,953	*121,133*

The following lease payments have been recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial activities:

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Operating lease rentals	31,020	*29,810*

23. Related party transactions

The Charity has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charity at 5 April 2023.

THE HALPERN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1096478

Accounts

The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2022

HALPERN
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

2021/22 AT A GLANCE

9 Community creative groups

3 Public art galleries

48 Affordable studios

Most of our groups are free - the rest are subsidised

This year we...



Provided 58 public art exhibitions, including professional artists and community shows

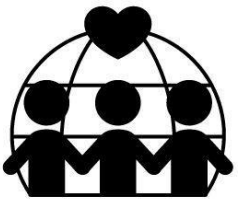
Delivered community festivals , shows activities and even a pantomime





Opened our new gallery in a phone box!

Started THREE new community groups



We have...



Supported around 100 partner organisations

And represented the creative sector on over 20 committees



Nucleus ARTS

www. Nucleusarts.com

HALPERN

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Statement from the chair

Welcome to the Halpern Charitable Foundation 2021/22 Annual Report.

As with the previous year any statement about the past year is inevitably going to focus the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This crisis has impacted every element of the charity's delivery, for both good and bad. However, against this background, HCF has performed brilliantly, expanding the breadth and scale of the work that they do, and building relationships that will serve the charity well into the future .

As always, community has been at the heart of HCF's work. Every penny that we generate goes towards developing services, improving our facilities for the benefit of our community or strengthening the voice of the creative sector. HCF has created new activities, new events and made use of new approaches to grow the charity even under the challenging times, and I am proud of what they have done. I am particularly proud too of the work that HCF is pioneering relating to embedding evaluation and development into the field of arts for health. This work has such incredible potential to change how the use of arts in a health setting is viewed by the NHS. It is no exaggeration to say that this novel work has the potential to be truly revolutionary.

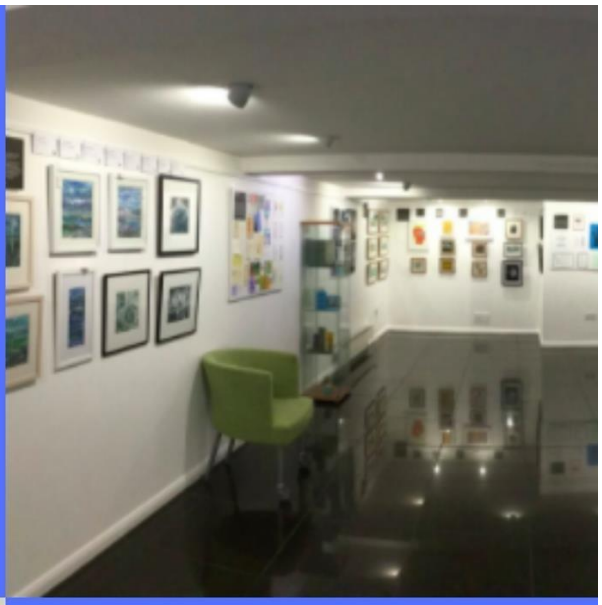
We know that the next 12 months will bring new challenges. There are dark clouds looming on the horizon that herald a further increase in demand for our services, coupled with greater pressures on finances. However, seeing how well HCF has responded to the pandemic I know that we have the skills, network, and people to see us through.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank our dedicated team staff and volunteers for their incredible work over the past twelve months. The ultimate success of our charity comes from our people, and they are our greatest strength.

Peter Martin
Chair of Trustees – Halpern Charitable Foundation

'I AM THOROUGHLY ENJOYING BEING INVOLVED WITHIN A CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT SURROUNDED BY FELLOW CREATIVE PEOPLE. AS AN ARTIST THIS IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT FOR SELF-DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONAL GROWTH'

NUCLEUS STUDIO ARTIST





'FOR ME IT IS THE SOCIAL ASPECT THAT I MOST LOOK FORWARD TO - THE ACTIVITIES, THE ART, ARE JUST A BONUS'

SOCIAL ART PARTICIPANT

Summary of Achievements in 2021/22

This year has been another incredible, if challenging year for HCF.

Covid has of course continued to be a major factor for the organisation, particularly for the first part of the year affecting every aspect of our work, from the confidence of our attendees, availability of funding sources, and the health of our volunteers and staff.

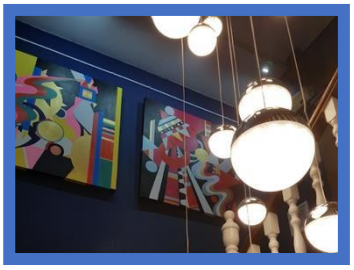
Despite this, HCF has massively risen to the challenge, working with community partners large and small to not only deliver our key services, but to actually expand and develop our work.

As always, our physical estate is central to our delivery approach.

Nucleus Art Centre



Our primary site remains our original location in Chatham, home to the larger of our galleries, our large community room and our arts workshop, kiln, and the majority of our artist studios. It is also home to the award-winning Café Nucleus, our closest partner, whose presence is absolutely essential to attracting new visitors. In normal times this site allows us to support many other charities and community groups. Some groups, such as, Club Ausome and BeLive, we were essential in establishing, whilst others, such as Porchlight, Improving Mental Health Provision and the Paramount Foundation have used our subsidised or free spaces, such as the creative cabin, in order to deliver their work.



During the pandemic we have continued to take opportunities to develop and improve the site, at a time when it would cause less disruption. Our studios have continued to see near-full occupancy throughout the year – and there remains a significant waiting list for creative workspace – something that we are looking expand upon with partners such as Medway Council. The Halpern Gallery has reopened for much of the year, available for community and public shows. It remains a very popular exhibition venue and a crucial resource for supporting local artists and creatives at all stages in their careers, allowing them to build their reputations and exhibit their work affordably and within their local community.

HeArt of the Community



The HeArt of the Community space that we run, set in Chatham's Pentagon Shopping Centre, is dedicated to partnership use. This essential community space is perfectly placed for partners to use at very low-cost, enabling events that could not otherwise happen. There are many examples of such activities - for example, Rock School, which is delivered alongside the Paramount Foundation and enables children, who would otherwise not get the chance, to receive music lesson experiences across a range of instruments, inspiring them to engage with music. The local Victim Support branch, Improving Mental Health Provision, and the Prince's Trust all deliver vital support sessions from the site. Local quilting and sewing groups meet there regularly, as do the Medway Art and Craft Adventure CIC and many others, providing community activities that are essential to mental health and wellbeing.

Over the last year, the HeArt space has been a vital open space, enabling in-person meetings, cultural activities, and work space to support Medway's charitable and cultural sectors.

Nucleus Hub



The Nucleus Hub, located on Chatham's Military Road, is an important part of our pipeline of creative career development. Working with Café Nucleus, the space hosts an inviting and relaxing café, where artists can display their works for sale, whilst towards the rear of this is a somewhat subtle community space and internet café. This little room provides an essential safe, semi-private space. The space is regularly used by those, such as therapists and community workers, who need to meet with clients in a non-threatening public area, with the benefit of some privacy. The space is also regularly used by small charity and community group partners as an area to hold meetings without the cost of hiring a room. Above the café is our suite of subsidised offices supporting small creative business. This year we were delighted to invite the amazing mental health Charity Megan CIC to the site, and look forward to working closely with them.

Maidstone Road

Our discrete site on Chatham's Maidstone Road provides ten supported flats for those affected by mental health issues. For many of the residents this represents the first stable home that they have had, giving them the opportunity to build lives for themselves. Support

for the residents and the management of the building is delivered through our mental health partner Choice Support.

Halpern Conservancy Building



The Halpern Conservancy Building is on Rochester's historic high street. The building is home to the newest and biggest Café Nucleus, which recently secured both the Taste of Kent's Kent Hospitality Business of the Year and Kent Food and Drink Business of the Year, making it officially the best place to eat in the county.

Whilst still new, the building contributes significantly to the charity's partnership and engagement work. Our gallery, the Halpern Pop, has a more commercial focus, as needed by our artists, and yet has also hosted community shows, including for schools and fundraisers for other charities. The Conservancy is also home to our makerspace and digital classroom, the 'LightBox' - a facility featuring equipment such as 3D printers and pens, greenscreen, digital art facilities and small making equipment.



Medway ArtBox

The Medway ArtBox is our latest and smallest space. This tiny gallery was adopted by HCF to provide public arts access on the Street. Located on Rochester High Street between the Conservancy and the Guildhall Museum, the LightBox has been home to numerous mini-exhibitions, seed swaps engagement activities and art give-aways where members of the public can take home donated pieces.

I feel like I'm in another world when I come here (HCF). I can switch off and relax. I'm so glad I found you.

Engagement

Despite the difficult times our engagement team took a pragmatic and positive approach to ensure that we could continue to deliver and even grow the vital programme of activities that we deliver. This flexible approach meant that we could balance the social and community needs of our participants against the complications and risk-avoidance required to keep our vulnerable people safe. Even as the country has continued to open up, we have sought to maintain that balance, retaining hygiene measures, ventilation, limiting group numbers, and

retaining online and telephone booking requirements. This approach means that our participants feel safe, and supported at our activities, and as a result, demand remains high.

Evaluation and Development

A major piece of work that we have been working on is around the professionalisation of 'Arts for Health.' The Arts for Health movement is widely recognised as having huge potential for tackling health issues and generating significant savings for national health budgets, but a lack of professional structure and standards, means that it is not considered to be a reliably measurable approach by funders, and as a result this leads to underfunding, lack of support and a lack of development for Arts for Health organisations.

HCF is relatively unusual in the scope of the work that we deliver, from perinatal all the way through life to near-end-of-life wellbeing support (delivered with partners), and encompassing an incredibly diverse range of people. To address this breadth of work we have been developing a suite of tools to ensure that we can share our approaches and evaluations within the team. The approaches are unusual in the sense that they have been developed by practitioners, and are designed to provide objective measures of impact. The approaches are:

1) The Nucleus Matrix – a 'universal' approach for the planning and evaluation of interventions.
2) MIAHAI (Minimum Information About a Health Arts Intervention) – A global language for the communicating, sharing and development of Arts for Health.

We presented these approaches at a university seminar, to a wide variety of partner organisations. This elicited a great deal of interest, and as a result we are now working with the University of Kent and the NHS to develop and refine the approaches, with the aim that they might be rolled out across the South East of England as the standard approach. The approaches have also received significant interest from other organisations, and the aim is that this might become the basis of an agreed standard approach to the evaluation and sharing of Arts for Health interventions globally.

Under 18s support

As mentioned above, we are really proud that we can provide services for all age groups, and at all stages of life – whoever you are, you are welcome at Nucleus Arts. Despite the restrictions that Covid has imposed, we have now returned to a full and expanded suite of young people's support.

Our programme begins with the weekly Babies and Parents art group, 'Mini-Nucleus'. This group that allows 0-4-year-olds and their parents to engage in fun messy play/art activities. The aim of this group is to help the children to develop their social and creative skills, but also to provide new parents an opportunity to socialise with one another, creating new friendship groups and a feeling of community, tackling the significant issues around social isolation and loneliness that can result from the life-changing event that is having a child. This year has seen everything from discos, to a visit from Father Christmas in our very own Grotto!

Following Mini-Nucleus young people can move on to our monthly 'Lego and Art club', a Saturday morning session where children and their parents can come along and build Lego and engage in arts activities. This group is hugely popular, and is regularly over-subscribed.

Our programme of 'Arts Award' courses (https://www.nucleusarts.com/artsaward) which normally run throughout the year, enable us to support young people with limited educational chances to gain both useful qualifications and experience of a career in art by meeting and working with our resident artists. These activities are generously funded by the Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust, allowing us to run them at a highly subsidised cost and maintain very small class sizes, which benefits the young people we work with. The programme features five different levels from the beginners Explore and Discover levels up to Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. These latter levels are accredited by Trinity College London and are the equivalent of good GCSE qualifications. This programme was again disrupted by Covid during the 21/22 year, but in now up and running and supplemented by our Discover at Home approach that allows under 11s to complete the introductory level at home. We are looking to expend this programme in 22/23 with a new Digital Arts Award in the Lightbox.



Our support for young people aged 13-17, 'TeenArt' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/teenart) has been a huge success, to the point that we have created a second group, 'Digital TeenArt' (https://www.nucleusarts.com/digital-teen-art-1). Both of these groups target young people, to build confidence, community and skills. TeenArt tends to focus on physical activities, such as drawing, painting, costume making etc, whereas Digital Teen Art focusses on digital skills. As well as individual work, the groups have been involved in significant community activity, such as designing the logos for Medway Youth, and creating backgrounds and costumes for our greenscreen activity at the record-breaking FunPalace 2021, as well as manning the stall and engaging with the thousands of participants.



In addition to these existing activities, there are a number of groups for young people and families that we are aiming to launch in 22/23. These include:

1) A trans-arts youth group in partnership with Medway Pride Radio, aimed at encouraging very vulnerable Transexual youth to feel safe in our spaces and integrate into existing clubs.
2) Dungeons and Drawing, an art and drama-based club, in partnership with Medway Libraries and Child Friendly Medway, that will take place weekly from Twydall Library.
3) Khudozhniy Klub, an art group for Ukrainian refugee families, in partnership with Medway Help for Ukraine.

We are also seeking funding to expand Mini-Nucleus in other locations.

Over 18s support

Demand for our over 18s support continues to grow. Globally, the burden of mental health and loneliness in adults has grown dramatically, and we are seeing that impact in the numbers of people coming to us for support. As a result, we have greatly expanded our provision, creating two new groups, but even with these, our services remain oversubscribed.



Our weekly 'Social Art' club remains one of our most popular groups, and is the standard model on which other activities are based.

This group is aimed at a broad community of people, and is particularly attractive to those with physical and learning difficulties, as well as the socially isolated with health needs. It runs on a weekly basis and is successful due to the strong sense of community that exists within its participants. Activities are always

designed to be easily accessible with a very low barrier to participation. The participants gain a real sense of achievement, learning new skills and demonstrable improvements in wellbeing.



Our free fortnightly 'Young at Art' group is aimed at anyone aged 55 years and older. These free classes are delivered alongside a professional artist who will teach skills and techniques at a more in-depth level than our other groups. The group remains very popular, with all places booked up rapidly, as are new dates are released. As restrictions on group activities eased, we spoke with this group about their interest in developing a new group with a greater emphasis on skills development, and it was emphatically agreed that there was a demand for this.



This demand was met with the introduction of 'jumpstART'. This artist-led group allows participant to engage in a variety of workshops such as ceramics, resin jewellery and even learning how to digitally illustrate. The group meets monthly at present, and whilst not free, it the charges vary to cover the cost of the artist/activity, and are significantly lower-priced compared to similar activities locally.



The second of the new groups for 21/22 is 'Chat, Connect, Create.' Funded by Porchlight, this weekly group supports a small group of people to develop skills and a sense of community for over 18s but in a smaller, more discrete group. Although very new, the group is already fully subscribed and receiving excellent feedback. We are aim to launch a second Chat, Connect, Create group in 22/23 to meet the growing demand.

Other engagement

As always, our engagement activities are in no way limited only to those that we deliver ourselves. HCF works in partnership with dozens of other groups and organisations to support their work, and in some cases, directly delivering activities on behalf of others.



One of our best-established partnerships is with Arches Local, Medway's 'Big Local' organisation, whose work targets the very vulnerable populations in Luton and Chatham.

We have delivered a wide range of regular and one-off activities under their banner, or in partnership. These include 'Fit and Fed,' a series of drop-in sessions that take place during school holidays to ensure that children receive good quality sports and creative activities, whilst also ensuring that these children receive a good meal at times when free school meals are unavailable.



Outside of school holidays we support 'Arts and Crafts at the Arches.' This is a free weekly creative group for families, although delivered broadly in the vein of Social Art. Here participants can drop in and engage in creative activities, build a supportive community, and gain information about additional services and support that they might require.

Other activities delivered with Arches Local, include providing creative sessions within residential home settings. Here we provide much needed community participation to a group that was particularly impacted by the Covid restrictions. As the pandemic starts to stabilise we would be keen to do more to support this group.



Online we continued to develop videos and activities for people to undertake at home, as well as growing our reach through social media platforms.

We continued to use our already established Waghorn Sez brand to deliver a number of programmes of daily creative art challenges through Facebook and Twitter, both for ourselves and partnering with other organisations. For example, local Asthma Charity, MASH, took over Waghorn Sez for 25 days as part of their 25th anniversary celebrations. Such collaborations serve to both support our core audience, who may well benefit from these allied services, but also to reach new audiences for our own groups and activities.





In addition to online content, we have continued to produce 'Nucleus Social', our 32-page magazine, featuring craft activities, interviews, puzzles, and games; both print and digital versions made available on our website (https://www.nucleusarts.com/nucleus-social-magazine). Working with large numbers of partners, including faith groups, community welfare groups, the new Mutual Aid Road Reps, and Medway's library network, we produced further editions, including special editions commissioned for Medway's public health teams to accompany school food packages. To date over 55,000 copies of the magazine have gone out to vulnerable households across Medway in the past 2years. The Nucleus Social remains an important vehicle for our wider outreach, and will do for some time. We aim to create a special edition of the magazine for or 20th anniversary celebrations in 22/23.

Events

As with engagement, our programme of events has bounced back stronger than ever.



In June we were honoured to support the regional Estuary Festival, hosting the 'Tales of Lands and Seas' poetry event. This consisted of the of 'The Mermaid of the Estuary' film, as well as poetry and live music activities that were available live and streamed online.



This event was swiftly followed by the Medway Print Festival, an event where print-makers from across the area come together to show off their skills. Amongst of the highlights of this event was a the MPF21 exhibition which took place in the Halpern Gallery at the end of June

One lady disclosed that she was worried about her test result, and wanted to talk to me (HCF staff) as she had no one else to confide in.



Next up, we were heavily involved in supporting Medway Rapture, providing much of the 'Creative' in the Gaming and Creative festival. Over the two days we worked with thousands of participants, providing free gaming-themed art activities, such a bag-stencilling and badge making.

After Rapture we undertook small supporting roles in a wide variety of Medway's summer events programme. From supporting Medway's first in-person Pride, to Electric Medway festival: a hybrid festival of online activities and physical installations organised by our partners at Sparked Echo, to the Sticks and Stones Festival, through to the Mason Mile Again, we offered a mixture of practical support, such as providing venue space, promoting opportunities to our community, and marketing of these event, as well as having stalls.

In October we delivered, what was probably the biggest event we have yet delivered, Medway Fun Palace 202. As well as being be the largest event HCF has ever run, and was also likely to have been the largest Fun Palace in the world at that time. Taking place at the Pentagon Centre in Chatham, we led a consortium consisting of partners such as Medway Council, Medway Libraries, Fun Palaces, Kent university, MidKent College, Chatham Historic Dockyard, Medway Pride Radio, Rochester Bridge Trust, Medway Youth Service, Child Friendly City, Creative Medway, Medway Youth Council, Skills for Life Trust, Creative Estuary Producers' Network, Ideas Test and many more. We had a strong and full programme of events and activities – including Titan the Robot and Doc Yards Science show. The event was a huge success and engaged over six thousand of people both in the Pentagon, and also hundreds more through parallel events at the library service.





With Covid risks rising in November, we felt that it was aging important to support the annual Remembrance Day activities in Medway. Working with partners we re-edited our 2020 video of Laurence Binyon's poem 'For the Fallen.' The video featured members of the public, uniformed and community groups and key public figures, of all ages, reading lines from the poem followed by a heads-bowed, minutes silence. The video was played widely online and in local media.

Remembrance was a continuing theme as we support Medway Pride Radio, Kent Police, First Choice Healthcare, Metro and a variety of support groups in celebrating Trans Day of Remembrance. This event saw a number of memorial activities, artworks and talks in the HeArtspace, to acknowledge the lives lost due to hate and bigotry around the world.





On a happier note, we were delighted to support Medway Pride Radio's Do-Good Friday Event. This event saw volunteers using our Chatham site as a base for a wide variety of happiness-generating activities, events and programming. From random acts of kindness, rewards to deserving people (huge thanks to Café Nucleus for providing prizes) to live music, this event crated a lovely buzz as we moved in to the festive season.

Our final event of 2021, was the Intra Panto. This event, delivered in collaboration with Hempstead Players, Medway Pride Radio, Chatham Intra HAZ, and Medway Little Theatre, saw us write, cast and perform a pantomime within six weeks of the idea starting. The final piece was performed live in front of a cast of local families, and recorded for broadcast over the festive break on Pride Radio.



I'm a stay-at-home mum so this is the only time I get to meet up with other adults to have a chat

Gallery

Our galleries have also been incredibly busy over the period, providing almost 60 free-to-public exhibitions over the 21/22 period. The majority of these have been artist-led events, or exhibitions by schools and community groups. All of these exhibitions have offered the public the opportunity to engage with contemporary arts from across Medway and North Kent, however there have been some particularly notable activities that warrant a special mention.

Figures

We were honoured to support the work of artists Nigel Adams in his work to mark the human impact of Covid by producing an artwork featuring 100,000 figures, representing the lives lost. This artwork invited artists and community groups to participate, and HCF were delighted to be able to offer facilities, materials and marketing to boost this super-human effort.

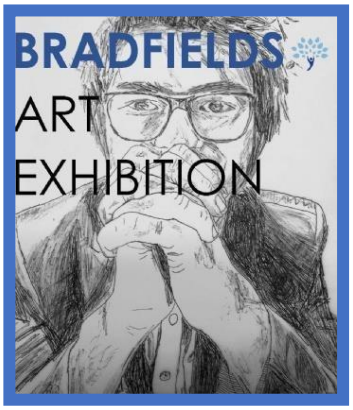




Medway Pride Exhibition
Celebrating our links with partners at MPR we were very proud to host the annual LGBT+ History month exhibition. This open call to LGBT+ and allied artists was supported by dozens of submissions and a garnered a significant amount of loacal interest.



Medway Open Studios
Again, we welcomed the public to explore the hidden creative work spaces and secret studios across Medway as part of a collaborative event. Along the trail you can take part in art activities and events, view exhibitions, talk to the artists, buy art and crafts, and see first-hand the array of artistic talent. In addition to opening our, studios we also hosted the event exhibition.



Bradfield's School
Exhibition of art from Bradfield's Academy a special educational needs school in Chatham. The event is one of the real highlights of our programme, showcasing their student's work, which includes portraits, sculptures, photography.

Summer Exhibition
The Halpern Gallery's annual Summer Exhibition, is our annual open call event. Artists are encouraged to submit three pieces, one of which will be shown. Around 100 artists took part in this event featuring work from a variety of disciplines.



Highlight of my week. Wish we could have longer as it gets me away from my loneliness

Wider Community Engagement
Another key element of our work related to how we can leverage our experience and resources to benefit the wider communities that we serve. By representing the creative community across a wide range of local and regional committees and networks we are a major voice for the creative community.

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2022

We are active members of the Kent Creative Network and host the monthly North Kent Meetings which returned this year

We are active members of the Council-led Medway Cultural Partnership, which has now been replaced by the Cultural Medway Compact. Here, we chair the important 'Shared Ambition' sub-committee, and play an active role in the central Compact committee.

We are a founding member of the Medway Arts Forum, an organisation-led group representing the grass-roots artist community, and we have been involved in a number of initiatives with members of this group.

We are leading members of the new Medway CAN anti-obesity initiative, a council funded programme aimed at improving health in the area. We hold a position on the steering committee and grants board.

We are leading members of the MVA Leaders Network, supporting the work of, and providing a voice for charities and community having taken key roles in the transformation academy and alliance initiatives.

We represent the charitable sector on the Social Prescribing network where we work with the NHS and other funders to shape the interaction of the third sector with health providers.

We have supported wider committees such as the Social Isolation Forum and the Medway Innovation Board: here we explore how arts and creativity can play their role in tackling mental health, loneliness and social isolation. We are also leading members of the Mental Health Practitioners group.

We continue to play a significant role in supporting Council-led regeneration projects such as the High Street Heritage Action Zone in Chatham Intra. We represent small- and microbusiness and the creative industries on the Medway for Business Forum, and creative business on the Rochester and Chatham Town Forums, vice-chairing the latter.

We have also continued our ongoing support for the University of Kent Employability rewards scheme, designed to offer opportunities and work experience to high achieving university students. Through this we offer internships, experience days and work-shadowing to inspire art-related graduates.

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2022

Summary

The past twelve month have continued to be one of the most difficult and challenging periods that charities and society have ever had to face. We have seen incomes affected, groups cancelled or remodelled, demand surging, costs rising, and we have been impacted by staff and volunteer sickness. Yet despite the complexity and impacts of these challenges, HCF has risen to meet them with all the bravery, creativity and passion at our disposal, and as a result the charity has thrived, and even grown what we do.

We have proven to our partners, whether statutory (Medway Council, NHS, Arts Council etc), industry organisations (MVA, Creative Medway, Medway Diversity Forum etc), education (Universities and Schools), or the dozens of charities we work alongside, that we are the 'go-to' partner for delivery in Medway. The number of events and activities we have been asked to support over the 22/23 financial year is incredible. The new community groups and activities planned for the year will see the breadth of our work expand again, supporting Trans youth, Ukrainian refugee families, and significantly more services for vulnerable adults. The programme of research that we are commencing with partners such as the university of Kent, MVA and the NHS, to professionalise the arts-for-health sector should have far reaching, even global, impacts, which we hope will ultimately benefit everyone. This year we are already finalists for two prestigious awards, the regional Kent Community Charity of the Year, and the national Fantastic For Families award, which is testament to this impact.

Of course, this can only happen because of the dedication, imagination and drive of our staff and volunteers. From our Trustee board who set our strategy and keep us in compliance with legislation and rules, our amazing staff team who deliver so much, to such high quality on minimal budgets, and of course our artists and volunteers who give up their time to make everything happen. I am incredibly proud to work with them all.

We know that 22/23 is going to be a challenge, with the immense impact of the cost-of-living crisis, compounded by the war in Ukraine, this is likely to be an even greater than the recent pandemic. We know that demand will go up, whilst we will be buffeted by rising costs, and likely falling incomes. The impacts of this are unclear, but given the resilience of our staff and community, I remain confident that we will continue to thrive.

Dr David Stokes
Chief Executive Officer, The Halpern Charitable Foundation

'THERE'S A LOT BEING CREATED AT SOCIAL ART – NOT JUST THE ART ITSELF. FRIENDSHIPS, A SENSE OF SELF, AND A FEELING OF WELLBEING ARE POSITIVE OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT'

VISITING JOURNALIST





'I COME HERE AND THE WORLD IS OUT THERE."

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2022

Objectives and Activities

About the Halpern Charitable Foundation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation was established in 2002 with three primary aims; to provide affordable space for artists to work and exhibit in Medway; to help people with mental and/or physical illness/disability; and as a backstop for the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, should it ever be in real financial difficulty with no other avenue left. Since that time the HCF's remit has evolved and grown to:

1. To increase access to the arts across the region through: the provision of affordable work and exhibition space; supporting arts education through outreach and events; advocacy of the arts at partnership groups; and supporting the cultural regeneration of the Medway towns.

2. Helping people affected by mental health and social isolation through: the provision of affordable, stable, housing; the provision of arts and therapy activities; supporting other third sector organisations; and advocacy at partnership groups.

3. Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue with fundraising advice and as a backstop.

The Foundation's Objects are:

1. The relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people

2. To assist in maintaining, repair, mature, preserve, improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, its monuments, fixtures, fittings, furniture and other chattels

3. To advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the Arts; in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

Vision

We believe in a world where everyone can express their creativity, no matter their age, background, status or health. By making the arts open and accessible to all we aim to promote creative thinking, support the creative economy, and use the healing power of the arts to improve mental and physical health

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2022

Our values

- **Community:** We will foster and inspire a community which is inclusive, diverse and accessible, and which always prioritises mutual support.
- **Representation:** We are the voice of artists in Medway, and will do everything we can to understand and represent their best interests.
- **Adaptability:** As the world changes, so will the best ways to improve the lives of people through engagement with the arts. HCF will work to provide the most impactful, relevant support at the right time.
- **Empowerment:** Everyone deserves to feel confident, informed and in control of their and/or their lives. We will utilise the arts to uplift the people in our community to become advocates and to support others.
- **Integrity:** We work for the arts and local community, and will be transparent in what we do and why. We will use our resources when and where they will have the greatest impact.

Strategy

In 2022/23, we hope to be emerging from the pandemic and instead will be looking to respond to the expected impacts of the cost-of-living crisis. This will have impacts on the charity, our beneficiaries and our partners We aim, as far as possible, to deliver a strategy to focus on financial sustainability and delivering the vision of the organisation. The plan has four primary delivery strands; **Sustainability, Membership, Engagement, and Recognition.** Whilst outside factors will significantly impact on our ability to drive this forward, the following thinking will guide our actions

Sustainability – Whilst HCF is blessed with very generous financial backing resulting in annual dividends and rental income, our expenditure is currently still exceeding our income if investments are excluded, leading to a draw down on these funds. This is only going to get worse due to the massive rises in energy, material and staffing costs, It is essential that we address this situation through both raising income by investment in fundraising, commerce and service delivery, and also by looking to reduce our overheads by setting stricter budgets and investing in energy saving technology. We will also capitalise on our close relationship with the award-winning café Nucleus, in particular by looking to open a new Rainham site which has the potential to generate significant revenue for the charity. We are also looking at investing in energy saving technology, solar tiles, and water saving approaches. We have been offered a significant capital grant from the Arts Council to help with this and are planning on how we might install this.

Membership – We will use the next three years to further develop our offer to artists. Working with our community we will develop a package of support that enables them to grow their recognition and businesses. We will develop a range of social and information events, and identify ways to facilitate the sale of artworks online. We will also raise the profile of our gallery and studios, particularly utilising the opportunities of Medway Light Nights, the 2024 Festival, and our work around the evaluation of Arts-for-Health.

Engagement – We will be putting significant efforts into the development of our engagement activities. We will seek to increase public attendance at our various festivals and events, including our Chatham Carnival and the Medway Light Nights. We will increase access to arts-related education, and we will work with partners to raise our public profile. We will grow and expand our outreach and support for the socially isolated, seeking grant funding and service contracts to achieve this. By the end of this plans period, we will increase the amount of therapy-related arts-based outreach activity. We will also develop our excellent relationships with the award-winning Cafe Nucleus to continue to entice people to our sites, and convert them to gallery/activity visitors.

Recognition -, HCF's name, brand and messaging need to be developed as a priority as this underpins our communications and fundraising. Visually, the look of our materials is already coalescing in to a clean, modern, and professional brand, and we are working to update all of our materials in this way.

We deliver our objects in the following ways:
- Supporting the Arts community

Nucleus Members
We offer a wide and comprehensive package of support for our artists including:

- Affordable studio space.
- Opportunities to exhibit their art.
- Networking opportunities.
- Public engagement opportunities.
- Access to occasional training opportunities.
- Access to workshop space and facilities.
- Access and support for setting up classes and workshops.
- Support in selling their art online.

Wider Artist/Creative Community
We support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Offer opportunities to exhibit artwork across.
- Offer access to workshop space and facilities.
- Promote local partner arts events.
- Host and support our own programme of public arts events.

- Host and support local and regional arts networks.
- Advocate for a greater engagement with the arts community through statutory and business communities.
- Engage in regeneration - focusing on presenting Medway as an arts hub.

General Public/Wider community

We will utilise the following activities to engage the General Public with the arts/creative world:

- We host a range of public arts events, and work with statutory and business groups to expand and promote these.
- We offer access to art classes, education, facilities and workshops.
- We offer access to free gallery exhibitions.
- We offer a range of creative family sessions.
- Offer affordable meeting and community space.
- Provide volunteering opportunities.
- Provide educational opportunities related to the arts, notably the 'Arts Award,' programme.
- Support the cultural regeneration of Medway.
- Support Medway's 'City of Culture' bid.
- We work with Café Nucleus to entice the public to our venues, and to provide community space.
- Supporting the socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised including people affected by mental health issues

We support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Provide affordable, secure, housing for people affected by mental health problems.
- Provide and expand our own range of on-site arts-therapy-related activities – including a range of free events.
- Provide and expand our own range of outreach arts-therapy-related activities.
- Provide engagement space for partner organisations to engage with the public.
- Work with and facilitate wider partnerships with partners engaging with vulnerable groups.
- Provide affordable meeting and conference space for partner organisations.
- Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue

We will honour the legacy of our founders Hilary and Marie Halpern by continuing support the Chatham Memorial Synagogue through the following ways:

- Provide fundraising resource
- Support the development of a sustainable fundraising strategy

Plans for 2022/23

2022/23 will be a celebratory year for HCF in light of our 20th Anniversary, and this will be a major theme for the year. We will host a series of special gallery exhibitions showcasing the artists that we have supported over the past 20 years. We will also hold one or more 'Thank You' events for our supporters and partners. We will also host a celebratory Anniversary event.

At the time of writing the Covid-19 crisis still in full effect, but with some hope for improvement towards the end of the year. We are again, working with a high degree of caution and flexibility whilst aiming to deliver the best service that we can.

With that in mind, it is our intention that during 2022/23 we will seek to further develop our financial growth and stability and are currently exploring a number of opportunities to address this.

We will aim to further expand HCF's outreach services, in particular in those areas where the Cost-of-living crisis and Ukrainian war has created new need. We are currently exploring the possibility of developing new services, and to tackle the expected rise in mental health issues. This work will be funded through grants and contacts.

Across the year we will again host a range of events, including our usual Open Studios, Fun Palace, events. Indeed, we have received a pledge of funding to deliver Fun Palace as major Medway event. We will also support other arts-related festivals such as Medway Light Nights and the Medway Gaming festival, working closely with partners. We will also look to work with partners through our involvement in Love Chatham to deliver a Chatham Carnival.

We will again support activities such as the University of Kent Employability Points programme and Medway Youth awards.

We will continue to develop our package of artist support, implementing further initiatives to improve support and retention. We applied to be an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation.

We will further expand our local gallery network, looking for wider initiatives with which to engage.

We will deliver a full series of high-quality arts exhibitions across our galleries.

We will look to formally incorporate the charity.

We will put in significant effort to support major initiatives such as, Medway CAN, Creative Medway and Child Friendly Medway.

Volunteers

Over the last year we have been in a position to begin to utilise our volunteers again. Our continued support and contact with our volunteers, has meant they were keen and ready to return to their former roles assisting at workshops. We are developing new rules and approaches to engage new people into volunteering roles.

Finances and Governance

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) shows total income for the year was £401,275, a significant increase in income compared to the prior year (£283,065). The charity received just over £65k in restricted grants as detailed in the statement of funds note, and an additional £11k in Covid support. Income from charitable activities has increased this year primarily as a result of rent-suspensions during the lockdown, and the loss of some tenants during Covid. All of our space is now full, and we expect to see this return in 22/23

Total expenditure amounted to £504,077 an increase on £459,837 in the prior year. Despite the pandemic, our core costs have remained similar, and we have invested heavily in developing our estate during the lockdown periods. We have however achieved some success through our energy saving measures.

The SoFA shows an overall decrease in funds of £27,182. Total reserves at the end of the year were £4.9m, of which £140k are restricted, £4.0m are designated/fixed assets and £790k are unrestricted, including shares as detailed in the statement of funds note.

Going concern
After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Financial risk management objectives and policies
The Foundation is aware that despite its fundamental strength a shortfall in income could make it less effective. Causes could be poor returns from investments, poor investment

strategy, prolonged recession, prolonged downturn of property market reduces lease values, non-payment of rent. Outcome could be intervention by Charity Commission.

To minimise these risks, HCF practices excellent business management, good procurement and income control. The Trustees oversee statutory financial reporting, investment strategy, audit functions, budgeting and financial risk management. In 17/18 HCF adopted a new procurement policy and other working policies and these are being monitored for effectiveness. It continues to review its investment strategy and appraises performance regularly against peer group and market indices. We appraise new business opportunities and have proposals to extend our service areas. Shared cost allocation has been reviewed. A long-term maintenance programme (Planned Preventative Maintenance) is being put in place and will be reviewed annually. HCF is fundamentally strong and continues to work on its long-term sustainability.

Principal risks and uncertainties

HCF has reviewed all principal risks as part of our Board Risks Register, and has undertaken appropriate measures to minimise these risks. This includes:

Risk	Mitigation
Safety risks	- Regular reviews of our activities and relevant legislation. - Policies in place to ensure appropriate practices, for example, safeguarding of vulnerable people, DBS checks etc. - Regular inspections of the site to ensure a safe working environment. - Trained first aiders. - Good external security and CCTV on site. - Up to date risk registers. - Close monitoring of the Pandemic situation, and the use of infection mitigation controls
Reputational risks	- Clear expectations of conduct with staff and volunteers. - Wide involvement in local committees' boards and events. - Clear thinking around ethics, diversity, environment etc.
Operational risks	- Clear staff and volunteers policies. - Strong financial procedures. - Clear lines of accountability.
Strategic risks	- Established strategy - Review by Board of Trustees

Reserves policy
HCF has a policy to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 6-12 months:

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our work
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income.

The board of trustees will review the above criteria with reference to HCF's strategy and Annual Plan and determine the target level of free reserves to meet these.
In particular, we will retain sufficient reserves:

- to assist in the preservation of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue as per our charitable objectives
- to enable the HCF to cover a further 24 months of essential expenditure as identified by the risk-based method of calculating reserves

The Board of Trustees will at times designate funds from free reserves for significant project costs or replacement of major assets.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Halpern Charitable Foundation began operating in June 2002, and is governed by a Trust Deed dated March 2003, amended on 20th April 2010.

The charity is unincorporated, but incorporated its Trustees on 21st October 2013. The principal objects of the charity are:

a) the relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people;

b) to assist in maintaining repair restore preserve improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue its monuments fixtures fittings furniture and other chattels;

c) to advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the arts in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

There have been no changes in the objectives since the last annual report.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

There should at all times be at least three trustees.

New trustee appointments are made by a resolution passed at a special meeting.

In selecting persons to be appointed, existing trustees take account of any areas of special knowledge relating to the Foundation's activities which could be improved at trustee level as detailed in the Foundation Governance Handbook.

Specific searches are then carried out for persons with the required area of expertise. All prospective trustees are interviewed by one or two existing trustees to ascertain their suitability for the position.

Trustees may serve a three-year term, and may be reappointed.

Trustees receive no remuneration, but may receive out of pocket expenses.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are given an induction into the charity, its governance, and specifics of its activities.

Training is regularly sought for all trustees, new and old, as appropriate, and updates from the Charity Commission are always passed on electronically.

Pay policy for staff

As a small employer with limited resources, it is very important that we effectively use the money we have available for remuneration. This policy describes the broad principles that we will follow as an employer when setting and reviewing pay.

This policy applies to all staff working for us either on a casual, fixed term or permanent basis. The organisation does not usually employ agency workers. In the event that we do, we will ensure that pay for longer term agency workers (who are with us for a continuous period of over 12 weeks) is comparable to the pay offered for directly employed staff who carry out comparable work.

Pay policy principles:

- Pay equality

The organisation strives to be an equal opportunity employer. This means our intention is to treat all staff equitably with regards to the terms and conditions of employment offered, including pay. The board will review pay levels from time to time to identify and address any anomaly.

- The living wage (as set by the Living Wage Foundation)

The organisation fully supports the living wage and will aim to pay at this level, subject to affordability. Living wage figures are usually announced annually in November and we will take the figure into account when reviewing pay.

Organisational structure and decision making

The Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the Charity. As a Board, led by the Chair, they ensure that all Strategic decisions are taken appropriately. They then delegate Operational decisions to the Director in line with the HCF Governance Handbook.

Related party relationships

Halpern Charitable Foundation was set up by Hilary Halpern who also had started Halpern Properties Ltd some years earlier. There had, historically, been some overlap of HCF trustees and HPL directors, and HCF undertook some of its activities from within HPL premises. There are no longer any overlapping trustees/ directors.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Trustees' indemnities

The charity has purchased insurance to protect the trustees from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on charity business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim.

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2022

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity 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 charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 28 January 2023

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisors for the year ended 5 April 2022

Trustees

Peter Martin (Chair)
Jacqueline Shicluna
Geoff Harvey
Paula Gregory
Vince Maple
Anil Aggarwal (appointed 15 January 2022)
Sharon Dosanjh
Charlotte Walker

Chief Executive Officer

David Stokes

Charity registered number

1096478

Principal office

272 High Street
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4BP

Independent Auditors

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 5 April 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 5 April 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience in the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (continued)

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

30 January 2023

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 5 April 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	89,909	65,537	155,446	*123,009*
Charitable activities	5	209,196	-	209,196	*125,394*
Investments	6	36,633	-	36,633	*34,662*
Total income		335,738	65,537	401,275	*283,065*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	10,523	-	10,523	*6,945*
Charitable activities	8	425,635	67,919	493,554	*452,892*
Total expenditure		436,158	67,919	504,077	*459,837*
Net expenditure before net gains on investments		(100,420)	(2,382)	(102,802)	*(176,772)*
Net gains on investments		75,620	-	75,620	*139,566*
Net movement in funds		(24,800)	(2,382)	(27,182)	*(37,206)*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,865,560	142,092	5,007,652	*5,044,858*
Net movement in funds		(24,800)	(2,382)	(27,182)	*(37,206)*
Total funds carried forward	16	4,840,760	139,710	4,980,470	*5,007,652*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 37 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet
As at 5 April 2022

	Note		2022 £		*2021* *£*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		2,441,698		*2,454,039*
Investments	11		1,608,632		*1,287,657*
			4,050,330		*3,741,696*
Current assets					
Debtors	12	220,118		*221,184*	
Investments	13	138,200		*383,739*	
Cash at bank and in hand		642,978		*715,884*	
		1,001,296		*1,320,807*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(71,156)		*(54,851)*	
Net current assets			930,140		*1,265,956*
Total net assets			4,980,470		*5,007,652*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	16		139,710		*142,092*
Unrestricted funds	16		4,840,760		*4,865,560*
Total funds			4,980,470		*5,007,652*

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)
Date: 28 January 2023

The notes on pages 37 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2022

1. General information

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales, charity number 1096478. The principal place of activity is 272 High St, Chatham ME4 4BP. The objects and aims of the Charity are set out in the Trustees' Report. The financial statements are prepared in pounds sterling, being the functional currency of the Charity.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (January 2022) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) which has since been withdrawn.

The Halpern Charitable Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees and CEO assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.The trustees and CEO make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

The trustees and CEO have carefully considered whether the charity remains to be a going concern and have concluded that there is sufficient evidence for them to remain a going concern.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Previously income received in respect of Maidstone Road has been classified as investment income. The property at Maidstone Road provides ten supported flats for those affected by mental health issues. As this represents part of the Foundation's charitable objectives, this income has been reclassified as income from charitable activities in these financial statements.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Taxation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Halpern Charitable Foundation is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land	- Nil
Freehold property	- 125 years straight line
Property improvements	- 20 years straight line
Plant and machinery	- 5 years straight line
Office equipment	- 5 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- 50 years straight line

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

With respect to the next reporting period for the year ended 5 April 2022, the most significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity are the level of investment return, particularly in-light of the potential volatility of the investment market due to the ongoing Covid-19 global pandemic throughout 2021.

Changes in accounting estimate:

Included in tangible fixed assets is 'other fixed assets' which comprise a sculpture commissioned specifically for the Foundation in 2007. In previous years the Trustees have not considered it necessary to depreciate the asset due to its specialised nature, however during the year the Trustees reviewed the Useful Economic Lives (UEL) of tangible fixed assets and now consider the asset to have a useful life of 50 years, effective from the date of purchase. A depreciation charge of £3,800 has been processed in these financial statements which is equivalent to 15 years. As this charge is not considered to be material, no prior year adjustment has been considered necessary.

Critical areas of judgment:

There are no significant judgements in the relation to the above accounting policies that have a material impact on the financial statements other than the revaluation of listed investments.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	**Restricted funds 2022 £**	**Total funds 2022 £**	*Total funds 2021 £*
Donations	16,856	-	16,856	*848*
Legacies	14,282	-	14,282	-
Grants	48,043	65,537	113,580	*82,596*
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	10,728	-	10,728	*39,565*
	89,909	65,537	155,446	*123,009*
Total 2021	*84,085*	*38,924*	*123,009*	

Other than utilising the UK government's Job Retention Scheme, the Charity received no other grants from the government. There were no unfilled conditions or contingencies.

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*As restated Total funds 2021 £*
Nucleus Arts Centre	137,164	137,164	*55,695*
Chatham HeArt	25	25	*132*
Chatham Creative Hub	23,316	23,316	*16,261*
Maidstone Road	36,970	36,970	*36,779*
Halpern Conservancy	11,721	11,721	*16,527*
	209,196	209,196	*125,394*
Total 2021 as restated	*125,394*	*125,394*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*As restated Total funds 2021 £*
Dividend income	36,567	36,567	*33,849*
Bank interest	66	66	*813*
	36,633	36,633	*34,662*
Total 2021 as restated	*34,662*	*34,662*	

7. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Investment management fees	10,523	10,523	*6,945*
Total 2021	*6,945*	*6,945*	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Nucleus Arts Centre	112,473	213,371	325,844	*264,642*
Chatham HeArt	4,040	14,024	18,064	*17,687*
Chatham Creative Hub	32,625	14,062	46,687	*48,177*
Halpern Conservancy	25,637	77,322	102,959	*119,482*
Synagogue	-	-	-	*2,904*
	174,775	318,779	493,554	*452,892*
Total 2021	*154,975*	*297,917*	*452,892*	

Analysis of direct costs

	Nucleus Arts Centre 2022 £	Chatham HeArt 2022 £	Nucleus Hub 2022 £	Halpern Conservancy 2022 £
Staff costs	55,325	-	-	11,009
Staff and agency related costs	12,918	-	-	-
Other direct costs	22,882	-	-	1,173
Advertising and marketing	777	-	-	-
Technology costs	158	-	-	-
Maintenance of premises and equipment	-	34	1,112	10,390
Rent and rates	10,500	2,818	18,000	1,894
Energy	-	1,188	8,029	(3,992)
Insurance	-	-	3,839	-
Other premises expenditure	9,913	-	1,645	5,154
Bank charges and interest	-	-	-	9
	112,473	4,040	32,625	25,637

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

	Synagogue 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Staff costs	-	66,334	*43,495*
Staff and agency related costs	-	12,918	*2,335*
Other direct costs	-	24,055	*5,606*
Advertising and marketing	-	777	*4,140*
Technology costs	-	158	*945*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	-	11,536	*27,345*
Rent and rates	-	33,212	*32,229*
Energy	-	5,225	*29,477*
Insurance	-	3,839	*1,917*
Other premises expenditure	-	16,712	*7,047*
Bank charges and interest	-	9	*439*
	-	174,775	*154,975*

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Nucleus Arts Centre 2022 £	Chatham HeArt 2022 £	Nucleus Hub 2022 £	Halpern Conservancy 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Staff costs	97,868	7,528	7,528	37,641	150,565	*172,262*
Depreciation	22,471	-	-	8,002	30,473	*22,042*
Staff and agency related costs	-	582	582	1,708	2,872	*6,896*
Advertising and marketing	7,119	548	586	3,139	11,392	*12,128*
Technology costs	5,060	171	171	853	6,255	*1,596*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	16,926	277	277	1,384	18,864	*22,124*
Rent and rates	2,755	76	76	379	3,286	*3,758*
Energy	20,379	998	998	4,991	27,366	*13,147*
Insurance	9,613	729	729	3,644	14,715	*14,396*
Other premises expenditure	2,381	171	171	857	3,580	*3,245*
Statutory audit	4,732	364	364	1,820	7,280	*4,900*
Accountancy and bookkeeping	8,205	631	631	3,156	12,623	*12,601*
Legal fees	9,594	738	738	3,690	14,760	*122*
Bad debts and write offs	(758)	-	-	-	(758)	-
Bank charges and interest	1,410	43	43	215	1,711	*991*
Other support costs	-	1,168	1,168	5,843	8,179	*7,565*
Governance costs	5,616	-	-	-	5,616	*144*
	213,371	14,024	14,062	77,322	318,779	*297,917*

9. Staff costs

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Wages and salaries	199,589	*201,732*
Social security costs	12,394	*9,842*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	4,916	*4,183*
	216,899	*215,757*

9. Staff costs (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	*2021* *No.*
Employees	11	*11*

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The key management personnel of the charity comprises the trustees and CEO. The total aggregate amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contribution and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the charity was £65,538 (2021: £64,256).

During the year no Trustees received any remuneration, benefits-in-kind or reimbursement of expenses (2021: £Nil).

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost					
At 6 April 2021	2,589,238	4,046	17,192	12,666	2,623,142
Additions	18,132	-	-	-	18,132
At 5 April 2022	2,607,370	4,046	17,192	12,666	2,641,274
Depreciation					
At 6 April 2021	157,349	4,046	7,708	-	169,103
Charge for the year	24,092	-	2,581	3,800	30,473
At 5 April 2022	181,441	4,046	10,289	3,800	199,576
Net book value					
At 5 April 2022	2,425,929	-	6,903	8,866	2,441,698
At 5 April 2021	*2,431,889*	-	*9,484*	*12,666*	*2,454,039*

11. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Valuation	
At 6 April 2021	1,287,657
Additions	289,673
Disposals	(49,985)
Revaluations	81,287
At 5 April 2022	1,608,632

12. Debtors

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	13,693	*8,695*
Other debtors	183,579	*205,701*
Prepayments and accrued income	22,846	*6,788*
	220,118	*221,184*

13. Current asset investments

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Unlisted investments (liquid)	138,200	*383,739*

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Trade creditors	23,984	*21,174*
Other taxation and social security	7,729	*5,791*
Other creditors	3,849	*736*
Accruals and deferred income	35,594	*27,150*
	71,156	*54,851*

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Deferred income at 6 April 2021	775	*1,700*
Resources deferred during the year	-	*775*
Amounts released from previous periods	(775)	*(1,700)*
	-	*775*

15. Financial instruments

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	1,608,632	*1,287,657*

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise fixed asset listed investment shares.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Charity is that of the volatility in equity and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities, particularly currency risk, and within particular sectors or sub-sectors. The Charity's investment portfolio generates a significant proportion of the Charity's total income which funds its charitable activities. Should this be impacted due to volatility, the Charity is fortunate to have other sufficient liquid assets to fund its operations.

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 6 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 5 April 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	2,454,039	-	(30,473)	18,132	-	2,441,698
Investment share fixed asset	1,287,657	-	-	245,355	75,620	1,608,632
	3,741,696	-	(30,473)	263,487	75,620	4,050,330
General funds						
General Funds	1,123,864	335,738	(405,685)	(263,487)	-	790,430
Total Unrestricted funds	4,865,560	335,738	(436,158)	-	75,620	4,840,760
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	57,193	-	-	-	-	57,193
Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art	64,500	-	(9,320)	-	-	55,180
Creative Cabin	2,893	-	(1,696)	-	-	1,197
Energy Efficiency	395	-	(395)	-	-	-
Arts Award	10,900	24,276	(21,523)	-	-	13,653
Volunteers	1,567	-	(1,567)	-	-	-
Social Art	500	500	-	-	-	1,000
Lightbox	2,166	-	(2,166)	-	-	-
Young at Art	1,978	-	-	-	-	1,978
Intern	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-	-
Creative Medway	-	17,500	(16,000)	-	-	1,500
Green wall Project	-	1,166	-	-	-	1,166
Forward Together	-	2,495	(2,495)	-	-	-
Project activities	-	7,424	(924)	-	-	6,500
Fun Palace	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Other	-	1,176	(833)	-	-	343
	142,092	65,537	(67,919)	-	-	139,710
Total of funds	5,007,652	401,275	(504,077)	-	75,620	4,980,470

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 5 April 2021* £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
	2,428,550	-	*(22,042)*	*47,531*	-	*2,454,039*
	923,612	-	-	*224,479*	*139,566*	*1,287,657*
	3,352,162	-	*(22,042)*	*272,010*	*139,566*	*3,741,696*
General funds						
	1,522,724	*244,141*	*(370,991)*	*(272,010)*	-	*1,123,864*
Total Unrestricted funds	*4,874,886*	*244,141*	*(393,033)*	-	*139,566*	*4,865,560*
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	*60,097*	-	*(2,904)*	-	-	*57,193*
Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art	*86,612*	-	*(22,112)*	-	-	*64,500*
Creative Cabin	*4,485*	-	*(1,592)*	-	-	*2,893*
Energy Efficiency	*395*	-	-	-	-	*395*
Arts Award	*7,438*	*21,775*	*(18,313)*	-	-	*10,900*
Volunteers	*3,845*	-	*(2,278)*	-	-	*1,567*
Social Art	*500*	-	-	-	-	*500*
Lightbox	*6,600*	*2,900*	*(7,334)*	-	-	*2,166*
Community Engagement	-	*7,500*	*(7,500)*	-	-	-
Young at Art	-	*2,495*	*(517)*	-	-	*1,978*
Intern	-	*4,254*	*(4,254)*	-	-	-
	169,972	*38,924*	*(66,804)*	-	-	*142,092*
Total of funds	*5,044,858*	*283,065*	*(459,837)*	-	*139,566*	*5,007,652*

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated funds
These funds represent the fixed assets of the charity split between its tangible fixed assets and investments.

Unrestricted funds
Funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. The total fund balance represents the charity's free reserves.

Restricted funds
Restricted funds are those held by the charity for a specific purpose. Details of specific restricted funds are:

Synagogue - Mr Halpern left £100,000 in his will to the charity, restricted to the maintenance and upkeep of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue.

Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art - Mrs Halpern donated £100,000 to the charity, restricted to the provision of mental health support, and support to the socially isolated, through the Arts.

Creative Cabin - Grant for the purchase and upkeep of a Creative Cabin.

Energy Efficiency - Grant to cover the cost of changing the current lighting in Building A and B to LED, to reduce energy costs.

Arts Award - This was towards the Arts Award for a total of £21,775.

Volunteers - To aid in staff welfare, travel and staffing costs of the Charity.

Social Art - In association with Cole Charity.

Lightbox - Grant towards what was the Maker Space project.

Community Engagement - Grant made to cover costs of achieving community engagement.

Young at Art - Young at Art project grant.

Intern - Funds to cover the pay of the intern, taken on at Nucleus Arts.

Creative Medway - Money held to support the delivery of Creative Medway. This group is developing the creative strategy and the creative compact for Medway, and represents the creative industries at the regional and local area.

Green Wall Project - Funding to develop and improve the external environment of the Halpern Conservancy Building.

Forward Together - Funding to produce a one-off art installation to build community and a sense of pride in Medway.

Project Activities - Funding to cover a range of creative activities, workshops and engagement related to our major events.

Fun Palace - Funding to deliver our winter science/arts festival.

Transfers between funds
A transfer is made from unrestricted funds to cover restricted project overspends. A transfer is also made between unrestricted funds and designated funds for movements in tangible and investment fixed assets.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,441,698	-	2,441,698
Fixed asset investments	1,608,632	-	1,608,632
Current assets	861,586	139,710	1,001,296
Creditors due within one year	(71,156)	-	(71,156)
Total	4,840,760	139,710	4,980,470

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	*Restricted funds 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*2,454,039*	-	*2,454,039*
Fixed asset investments	*1,287,657*	-	*1,287,657*
Current assets	*1,178,715*	*142,092*	*1,320,807*
Creditors due within one year	*(54,851)*	-	*(54,851)*
Total	*4,865,560*	*142,092*	*5,007,652*

18. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £Nil (2021: £673) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

19. Operating lease commitments

At 5 April 2022 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

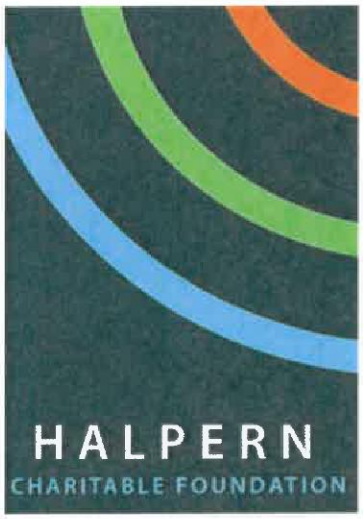
	2022 £	*2021 £*
Not later than 1 year	24,860	*29,810*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	72,273	*72,684*
Later than 5 years	24,000	*48,000*
	121,133	*150,494*

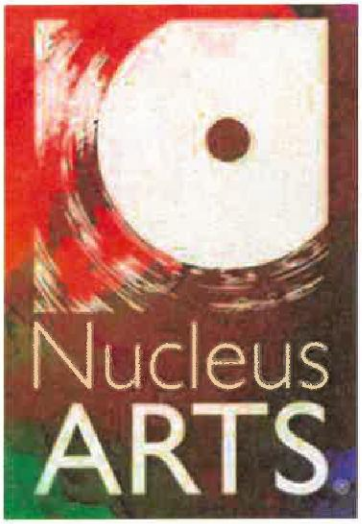
THE HALPERN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1096478

Accounts

The Halpern Charitable Foundation





Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2021

2020/21 AT A GLANCE

6 Community creative groups

2 Public art galleries

48 Affordable studios

Most of our groups are free - the rest are subsidised

This year we...

Produced over 35,000 creative packs for vulnerable families

Delivered or supported more than a dozen events, activities and festivals

Responding to Covid, we have launched...

3x 'Waghorn Sez' daily art challenge series, featuring over 40 unique activities

A recipe book for Medway Food bank

Dozens of free video tutorials, online activities and work sheets

We have...

Supported around 100 partner organisations

And represented the creative sector on 18 committees

www. Nucleusarts.com

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Statement from the chair

Welcome to the Halpern Charitable Foundation 2020/21 Annual Report.

Any statement about the past year is inevitably going to focus the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This global crisis has impacted on every single aspect of our work, from the support we provide to our artists to the activities that we deliver, and to our extensive work with partners too. However, I am proud of how our whole organisation, our staff, volunteers, artists, trustees, and partners pulled to together and, despite the significant difficulties, have delivered an incredible amount of impact and value to both the creative sector and Medway more widely.

We have faced the challenges of the pandemic head on. We have sought to secure the safety of our staff and community first, then turned theirs and our talents towards making the biggest possible difference to those people hardest hit by this historic event. Where the pandemic, or the subsequent regulations to tackle it, have thrown up barriers we have skirted these, finding new and innovative ways to deliver on our charitable objectives. Where we have seen need, we have been flexible and agile enough to embrace these challenges, and to directing our creative minds to finding solutions and support, all the time underlining the incredible value of the creative sector to wider society.

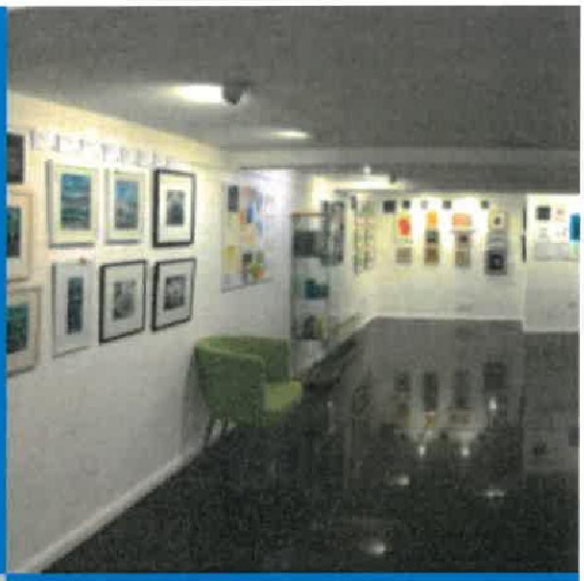
For all the harms and misery that it has caused, the pandemic has offered us the chance to work with new and different organisations, and to also develop stronger and deeper relationships with existing partners. The crisis has highlighted our value, and strengthened our reputation as a 'go-to' partner for not only arts organisations, but those working across health, community, regeneration and business too. And whilst the pandemic still has much time to run, we know that the relationship developed through these partnerships mean that we will come out of the other side stronger than before.

It is, of course, no exaggeration to say that none of this would be possible without the tremendous passion, dedication and hard work of HCF's staff and volunteers. Faced with the uncertainty, worry and disruption of the crisis, they have nonetheless approached their tasks with tremendous creativity and commitment towards making a difference, and it is this passion that has driven the successes that we have achieved. On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank them for their incredible work over the past twelve months, and I look forward to seeing just what HCF might achieve in the next year.

Peter Martin
Chair of Trustees – Halpern Charitable Foundation

'I AM THOROUGHLY ENJOYING BEING INVOLVED WITHIN A CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT SURROUNDED BY FELLOW CREATIVE PEOPLE. AS AN ARTIST THIS IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT FOR SELF-DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONAL GROWTH'

NUCLEUS STUDIO ARTIST





'FOR ME IT IS THE SOCIAL ASPECT THAT I MOST LOOK FORWARD TO - THE ACTIVITIES, THE ART, ARE JUST A BONUS'

SOCIAL ART PARTICIPANT

Summary of Achievements in 2020/21

What a year, it has been for HCF!

Like every organisation in the UK and globally, the year 20/21 has been dominated by the global Covid-19 pandemic. In order just to survive, let alone thrive, in such a continually shifting, changing situation, we have had to be flexible and adaptable in our approaches, snapping up opportunities to help where we can, fighting fires where they have occurred, and focussing on getting our community through the difficult period. As a result of these challenges, our strategy for the year has, necessarily, had to be adaptable too. Yet this flexibility did not mean that we were simply reactive; in fact, we went into the period, knowing that it would be difficult, and so developed three guiding principles against which we would develop all of our work for the year:

1) Protect our resident creatives, service users & staff
2) Support our community
3) Contribute to wider society Covid responses.

Principle 1) focussed on keeping our people safe, by establishing a Covid-safe environment, whether that meant providing PPE and cleaning products, investing in new cleaning equipment, such as our new fogging machine, or even restricting and closing facilities, and using the furlough scheme, where necessary.

Principle 2) meant doing all we could to support our community. This meant everything from making regular welfare calls to service users and volunteers , through to helping our residents to apply for funding and support from the government. On top of this we sought ways to continue our normal work as much as we could in such difficult circumstance, finding new and innovative ways to deliver our usual support to our community.

Principle 3) was all about leveraging our time and resources to help with the wider activities in place to tackle the impacts of the pandemic. These actions might be offering advice in the myriad of committees and actions groups that we engaged with, developing new products, services and resources, through to offering space, admin support and reach to partners.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic HCF remains a charity at the heart of Medway, and our response to the pandemic reflects this. We are proud of the high level of engagement with other organisations, massively leveraging our assets through partners to maximise the benefits to those we seek to support.

As always our physical estate is central to our delivery approach. Although a little side-lined by the impacts of the pandemic, our five sites remain at the core of our work.

Nucleus Art Centre



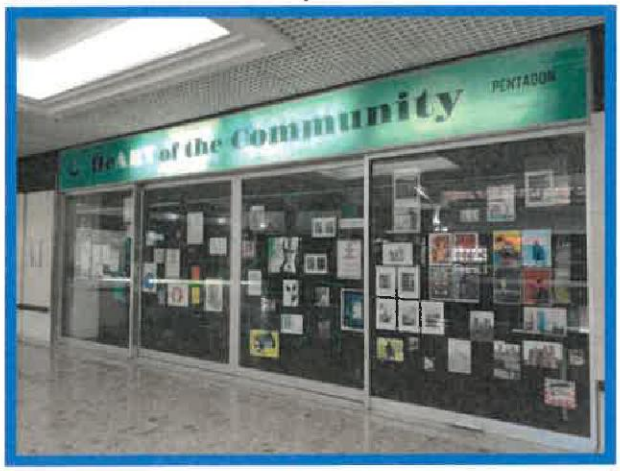
Our primary site remains our original location in Chatham, home to the larger of our galleries, our large community room and our arts workshop, kiln, and the majority of our artist studios. It is also home to the award-winning Café Nucleus, our closest partner, whose presence is absolutely essential to attracting new visitors. In normal times this site allows us to support many other charities and community groups. Some groups, such as, Club Ausome and BeLive, we were essential in establishing, whilst others, such as Porchlight, Improving Mental Health Provision and the Paramount Foundation have used our subsidised or free spaces, such as the creative cabin, in order to deliver their work.



During the pandemic we took the opportunity to develop and upgrade many aspects of the site, at a time when it would cause less disruption. The upgrades have included new and more secure doors, improvements to the outside space, and the re-development of our office to enable a more open, Covid secure working environment. We have also decorated throughout, replacing many of the plain white walls with colour and motifs that reflect our brand. Other than during the first lockdown when we closed and suspended rents, our studios have seen near-full occupancy throughout the year – and there remains a significant waiting list for rooms. The Halpern Gallery has been closed for much of the year, but as and when regulations have allowed it has been open for community and public shows; a crucial resource for supporting local artists and creatives at all stages in their careers, allowing them to build their reputations and exhibit their work affordably and within their local community.



HeArt of the Community



The HeArt of the Community space that we run, set in Chatham's Pentagon Shopping Centre, is dedicated to partnership use. This essential community space is perfectly placed for partners to use at very low-cost, enabling events that could not otherwise happen. There are many examples of such activities - for example, Rock School, which is delivered alongside the Paramount Foundation and enables children, who would otherwise not get the chance, to receive music lesson experiences across a range of instruments, inspiring them to engage with music. The local Victim Support branch, Improving Mental Health Provision, and the Prince's Trust all deliver vital support sessions from the site. Local quilting and sewing groups meet there regularly, as do the Medway Art and Craft Adventure CIC and many others, providing community activities that are essential to mental health and wellbeing.

Over the last year, the HeArt space has been a vital open space, enabling in-person meetings, cultural activities, and work space to support Medway's charitable and cultural sectors.

Nucleus Hub

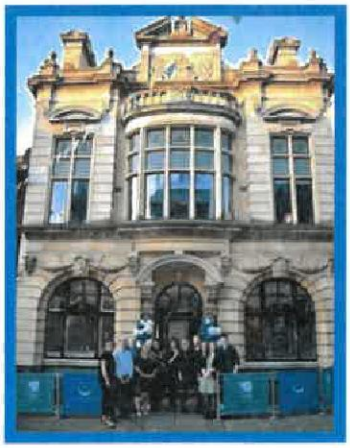
The Nucleus Hub, located on Chatham's Military Road, is an important part of our pipeline of creative career development. Working with Café Nucleus, the space hosts an inviting and relaxing café, where artists can display their works for sale, whilst towards the rear of this is a somewhat subtle community space and internet café. This little room provides an essential safe, semi-private space. The space is regularly used by those, such as therapists and community workers, who need to meet with clients in a non-threatening public area, with the benefit of some privacy. The space is also regularly used by small charity and community group partners as an area to hold meetings without the cost of hiring a room.



Above the café is our suite of subsidised offices supporting small creative business. This year we were delighted to invite the amazing mental health Charity Megan CIC to the site, and look forward to working closely with them.

Maidstone Road
Our discrete site on Chatham's Maidstone Road provides ten supported flats for those affected by mental health issues. For many of the residents this represents the first stable home that they have had, giving them the opportunity to build lives for themselves. Support for the residents and the management of the building is delivered through our mental health partner Choice Support.

Halpern Conservancy Building
The Halpern Conservancy Building is on Rochester's historic high street. The building is home to the newest and biggest Café Nucleus, which recently secured both the Taste of Kent's Kent Hospitality Business of the Year and Kent Food and Drink Business of the Year, making it officially the best place to eat in the county.



Whilst still new, the building contributes significantly to the charity's partnership and engagement work. Our gallery, the Halpern Pop, has a more commercial focus, as needed by our artists, and yet has also hosted community shows, including for schools and fundraisers for other charities. The Conservancy is also home to our new makerspace and digital classroom, the 'LightBox' - a facility featuring equipment such as 3D printers and pens, greenscreen, digital art facilities and small making equipment. We are currently developing a programme of art classes from the site, starting with a beginners' drawing course.

Friendships, a sense of self, and a feeling of wellbeing are positive Outcomes of Social Art

Engagement
In normal times, our programmes of arts engagement aim to deliver our objective of giving everyone the opportunity to engage with the arts, and in particular to find ways to support those affected by loneliness, social isolation, and mental health issues. Throughout the Covid crisis, the need for such services has increased substantially, whilst our ability to provide this in-person was significantly reduced. This caused us to rethink what we could achieve and how we could deliver it. Also, it meant that we had to think a lot more about we target our audiences, as whilst it was easy enough to put services online, many of our community were unable to access online services, meaning that we had to consider how else we might engage with them. At the time of writing this report the Covid crisis is showing some signs of improvement, but the risk of resurgence remains, and the issues are the same. However, we have developed a considerable skill set to better tackle these problems.

Under 18s support

We are really proud that we can provide services for all age groups, and at all stages of life – whoever you are you are welcome at Nucleus Arts. During much of the Covid crisis our in-person services have been curtailed. However, we continue to try to deliver what we can, whilst ensuring a safe and hygienic environment. The first group that we support is our weekly Babies and Parents art group, 'Mini-Nucleus'. This is usually a drop-in group that allows 0-4-year-olds and their parents to engage in fun messy play/art activities. The aim of this group is to help the children to develop their social and creative skills, but also to provide new parents an opportunity to socialise with one another, creating new friendship groups and a feeling of community, tackling the significant issues around social isolation and loneliness that can result from the life-changing event that is having a child. After a significant hiatus, we are currently experimenting with bringing the activity back, however with smaller numbers of people, and using a booking system rather than as a drop in. Bookings can be made online, by telephone, or in person at our office.

In normal times, Children would move on from Mini-Nucleus to join our monthly 'Lego and Art club', a Saturday morning session where children and their parents can come along and build Lego and engage in arts activities. This activity is currently on hold due to the high risk that such activity raises. Playing with Lego is a contact activity, and much of the joy that the club brought was related to exploring the pieces, sharing and swapping, rebuilding and adapting what went before. We considered holding this class with sanitised packets of bricks, but we decided that it wasn't practical or safe for staff. We hope to restart this group in the autumn if safety allows.

Our programme of 'Arts Award' courses which normally run throughout the year, enable us to support young people with limited educational chances to gain both useful qualifications and experience of a career in art by meeting and working with our resident artists. Thanks to the generous funding of the Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust, we are able to run at a highly subsidised cost and maintain very small class sizes, which benefits the young people we work with. The programme features five different levels from the beginners Explore and Discover levels up to Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. These latter levels are accredited by Trinity College London and are the equivalent of good GCSE qualifications. Our programme was initially disrupted by Covid, however as time progressed, we have successfully brought the affected cohort through to a successful completion of their qualifications. We have also started experimenting with a wide range of initiatives to expand the impact of these activities; from developing an Arts Award Discover at Home initiative, to acquiring six laptops for our students to borrow, through to developing an exciting new partnership with Great Leaps, to co-deliver Arts Awards to special needs schools and young offenders; Arts Award's importance to our programme is increasing rapidly. We were also awarded UCA KaMCOP Community partner status, enabling us to access additional resources and materials to expand this work.

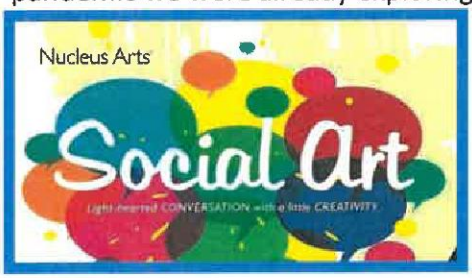


'Re-stArt' our drop-in art group for young people aged 13-17, has been renamed 'TeenArt' to better reflect the community that this serves. Unfortunately, this free after-school group which allows young people to explore their own art projects in a safe, supportive environment, had to be postponed, due to the pandemic, particularly whilst schools were closed. This didn't stop the group from creating a digital installation for the ElectricMedway festival. Medway's Greatest Hero (https://nucleusartsrestart.wixsite.com/medwaysgreatesthero) was a public vote for the greatest Medway resident, from a shortlist selected by the group. They built a website, wrote and recorded videos making the case for each candidate, and put these out to select the greatest of them all. We are looking to restart our TeenArt activities in the autumn.



Over 18s support

Our weekly 'Social Art' club has always been one of the most popular groups, and prior to the pandemic we were already exploring how we might tackle the demand.



Unfortunately, the community served by this activity is one of the most vulnerable to Covid-19, and so this activity was the first to be postponed, and is also proving one of the trickiest to restart. Enforcing social distancing, effective hand hygiene, and small numbers are all significant barriers to this group happening, due to the range of needs supported. Equally, implementing an effective booking system too can cause issues around confusion and clarity. At present we aim to evaluate the effectiveness of our other re-openings and look to trial some sessions in the autumn.



Our free fortnightly 'Young at Art' group is aimed at anyone aged 55 years and older. These classes are delivered alongside a professional artist who will teach skills and techniques at a more in-depth level than our other groups. As with all groups this one was suspended during the worst of the pandemic. However, due to the nature and abilities of the community, this class was the first that we were able to return, albeit in a controlled and limited way. Since the relaxation of restrictions in 2021, we have been allowing small groups to attend, provided that they book in using the NHS App, maintain effective distancing and have previously reserved a place. The group has proved to be very popular, all places were booked up rapidly, as are new dates when they are released. The hope is that as restrictions are eased, we can increase places on this activity, and possibly run it more frequently.

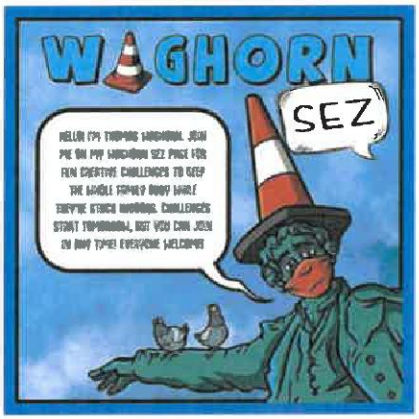
Other engagement



As with so many of our programmes, we were simply unable to conduct our engagement programmes with residential homes and other activities as usual. However, because of the closure of so many in-person activities we turned all of our engagement attention towards finding ways to support our community without requiring in-person activity.

The first, and most straightforward, of these approaches, was the creation of online content. Using our Facebook Page we created a wealth of activity sheets, tutorials and other activities for people to try out during the lockdowns. From creating 'zenes,' to printing activities, to origami, we posted regular activities, and sought feedback from our users to ensure that we were providing what they needed.

We also produced video activities for a range of age groups and interests, which we posted up on YouTube. For example, we created videos on 'How to create a Gif' (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVbzXwc-J2s) and 'How to create a fabric Notebook' (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WLgSvkyKNI).

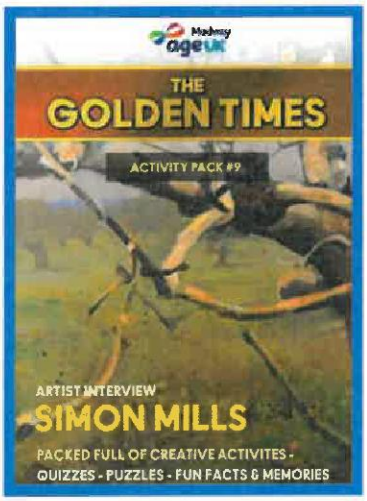


Utilising our already established Waghorn Sez platform, we also undertook a number of programmes of daily creative art challenges, for lockdown, Christmas and half-terms. The activities were often shorter and targeted towards a 'quirkier' audience, and they were particularly popular amongst families, who could usually undertake them using materials found around the home. In total, many thousands of families engaged with these activities, and we later worked with Medway Council's A Better Medway team to deliver a targeted series of half-term activities which tied in with their official Wellbeing campaign.

Of course, online activities are only suitable for a proportion of the community. Even if the content were applicable to everyone, NHS data suggest that around 22% of the population are digitally excluded,[1] and due to the demographic make-up of the communities that we serve, we believe that this exclusion is proportionally higher amongst our outreach users. Therefore, we needed to develop effective ways to support and engage these communities. We started by investigating whether we could access time on local television or radio, and later looked into establishing our own community radio station. Unfortunately, the prohibitive costs of the latter would have limited us to an online-only radio station, which would not have solved our digital exclusion issues!

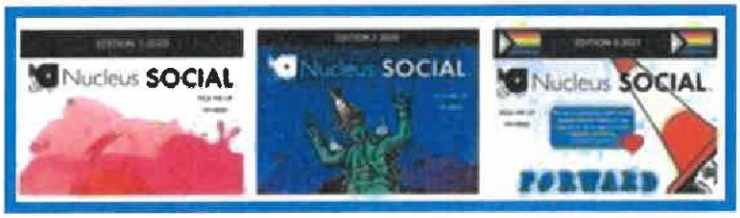


In the end our approach evolved from two separate partnership projects where we were providing vital support. Working with partners at Arches Local, we produced packs of craft materials that were delivered to local schools, residential and nursing homes. These packs were hugely popular and in great demand, although the costs were prohibitively high to produce in any great scale. We have also been working with AgeUK Medway and Medway Council, to produce content for their weekly Mental Health magazines which was delivered to around 800 vulnerable and elderly residents in their own homes.



As we started to develop the distribution networks and publishing skills for these activities, we recognised that a substantial craft activity magazine could provide the mechanism that we needed to reach our community, especially if the activities did not require specialist materials.

[1] https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/our-work/digital-inclusion/what-digital-inclusion-is



We eventually produced the Nucleus Social, a 32-page magazine, featuring craft activities, interviews, puzzles, and games; 2000 copies were printed and a digital version made available on our website (https://www.nucleusarts.com/nucleus-social-magazine). Working with large numbers of partners, including faith groups, community welfare groups, the new Mutual Aid Road Reps, and Medway's library network, we produced further editions, including special editions commissioned for Medway's public health teams to accompany school food packages. To date over 35,000 copies of the magazine have gone out to vulnerable households across Medway. The Nucleus Social remains an important vehicle for our wider outreach, and will do for some time.



Inspired by the success of our magazine, we wanted to do something more practical to support those affected by the pandemic. From our membership of the Medway Council Covid Emergency Food Project, we were acutely aware of the massive increase in reliance on food banks in Medway and the impact that this was having on the mental health and self-esteem of the clients. Working with Medway Foodbank, we learned that many people do not know how to cook the food that they receive, so in order to make the experience more pleasant, we produced a recipe book to accompany the packs. The book contained a week's worth of recipes and ideas, and was based on the recipe cards provided by food delivery services.

I'm so grateful – it looks brilliant – easy to read and adapt the recipes etc

Events

As with engagement, our programme of events has been hugely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. However, we have not let that stop us doing everything we can to bring arts and culture to Medway and beyond.



Following a hiatus due to the first lockdown, our first event of the pandemic was in support of Medway Open Studios. This event is a hugely important opportunity to build community interaction between the artist community and the wider public. With access to studios closed due to the pandemic, the event consisted of online tours of many of the different artists spaces in Medway, live video demonstrations, and beautiful images shared by local artists.



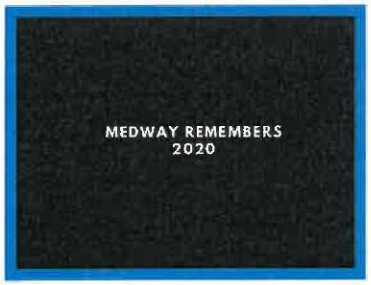
We were honoured to be able to support Medway's first LGBTQAI+ Pride festival, Gravesham and Medway Virtual Pride, which was delivered online. The event was devised, organised, and delivered by our partners at the Medway Gender and Sexual Diversity Centre. However, at HCF we were able to offer some physical space, marketing, and fundraising support for the event. We even helped to develop content including supportive videos and by delivering the Great Nucleus Pride Quiz.

We followed Pride with support for the Electric Medway festival: a hybrid festival of online activities and physical installations organised by our partners at Sparked Echo. Again, we offered a mixture of practical support, such as providing venue space, promoting opportunities to our community, and marketing the event, as well as developing the Medway's Greatest Hero with our teen group.

With other activities postponed, our next big event was the annual Medway Fun Palace. This year the event was, of course, virtual, and along the theme of 'Pass It On' – sharing skills and ideas.



On the first weekend in October, we launched our Fun Palace page (https://www.nucleusarts.com/fun-palace), which featured creative games, puzzles and activities, as well as a library of new activity videos, featuring everything from how to arrange flowers to rocket science!



With Covid restrictions still in place in November, we were acutely aware of just how important acts of collective remembrance were at this time. For this reason, we felt that it was particularly important to support the annual Remembrance Day activities in Medway. With the usual parades cancelled, we wanted to give uniformed groups and communities the opportunity to pay their respects, resulting in our producing a video of Laurence Binyon's poem 'For the Fallen.' The video featured members of the public, uniformed and community groups and key public figures, of all ages, reading lines from the poem followed by a heads-bowed, minutes silence. The video was used as part of the official livestream of the event by the local TV station. The video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6AbTqDSDY8) has been watched over 10,000 times across various partners' platforms, and has received excellent feedback.

We were proud to support efforts to collect and distribute resources to the needy. We provided space for collection and packing days for toys for vulnerable children, and proudly supported Medway Rugby Club's efforts to close the digital divide in schools. This project sought to collect and renovate old computers and laptops and provide them to schools in need. We were able to support this by providing a number of old computers, which went on to help school children working from home in the lock-down.



We supported the Love Chatham Christmas campaign, although it was somewhat derailed by the subsequent lockdown. Our team both designed the Love Chatham Christmas logo and created and implemented the marketing of this campaign to get people to support their high street by shopping locally.



We have supported a variety of wider regional and national initiatives, such as Creativity and Wellbeing Week, The Great Get Together, and National Art in Care Homes Day. We also supported the delivery of Arts Award Discover at Home, enabling young people to work towards certificate in arts.

We were honoured to support the work of artists Nigel Adams in his work to mark the human impact of Covid by producing an artwork featuring 100,000 figures, representing the lives lost. This artwork invited artists and community groups to participate, and HCF were delighted to be able to offer facilities, materials and marketing to boost this super-human effort.





Finally, we were proud to be able to support the Medway Art Box project. This initiative, which is led by a collective of artists, aims to make arts accessible to the public. By unofficially adopting an otherwise working, but unloved, phone box, the artists have used the space to create a tiny art gallery on Rochester's High Street, whilst keeping the phone box open. All of the artworks are donated by local artists, and they are free for members of the public to take. During the worst periods of the lockdown, the artworks were removed to reduce the risk of Covid spreading.

I'm not particularly creative – but I love coming to Social Art to meet this fantastic mixed bunch of people

Wider Community Engagement

Another key element of our work related to how we can leverage our experience and resources to benefit the wider communities that we serve. By representing the creative community across a wide range of local and regional committees and networks we are a major voice for the creative community.

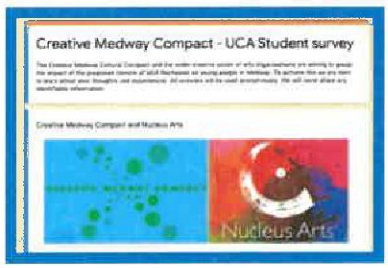
We are active members of the Kent Creative Network, and prior to the pandemic hosted the monthly North Kent Meetings. As restrictions come to an end, we are keen to resume our activities.

We are active members of the Council-led Medway Cultural Partnership, which has now been replaced by the Cultural Medway Compact. Here, we chair the important 'Shared Ambition' sub-committee, and play an active role in the central Compact committee.

We are a founding member of the Medway Arts Forum, an organisation-led group representing the grass-roots artist community, and we have been involved in a number of initiatives with members of this group.

We are a key partner in Medway Council's bid for City of Culture 2025. In addition to supporting general activities and providing meetings space, we also chair the Fundraising Advisory Group, helping to develop a strategy to fund the bid and subsequent activity.

We are a member of the MVA Covid Response Network, and the MVA Third-Sector Leaders' Network – working with charitable organisations from across Medway to improve the strength and visibility of the sector.



We are a leading partner in initiatives to prevent the loss of the University of Creative Arts and mitigate its impact. We have hosted meetings and planning sessions, and also are in the process of undertaking research to inform our response.

We have supported wider committees such as the Social Isolation Forum and the Medway Innovation Board: here we explore how arts and creativity can play their role in tackling mental health, loneliness and social isolation. We are also leading members of the Mental Health Practitioners Network, and have just been invited to a position on the Medway Challenge steering group.

We have played a significant role in supporting Council-led regeneration projects such as the High Street Heritage Action Zone in Chatham Intra. We represent small- and microbusiness and the creative industries on the Medway for Business Forum, and creative business on the Rochester and Chatham Town Forums, vice-chairing the latter. We also chaired the Forward Together Medway bid for community renewal funding, a 25-partner cultural activity bid which is currently awaiting a decision by government.

We have also continued our ongoing support for the University of Kent Employability rewards scheme, designed to offer opportunities and work experience to high achieving university students. Through this we offer internships, experience days and work-shadowing to inspire art-related graduates. This year, we were delighted to recruit our intern, Chloe, to join the team on a full-time basis.

On top of all of this, our staff have volunteered widely to support Covid response initiatives across Medway. From running befriending/contact activities, to volunteering for organisations such as the Mutual Aid Road Reps scheme. As always, HCF staff went above and beyond the call of duty in their support of Medway's community.

Summary

The past twelve month has been one of the most difficult and challenging periods of modern times. We have been faced with significant threats to the health of our community, rapidly changing regulations and requirements, significant impacts to our working practice and to our income. Yet throughout all of this, we have adapted and evolved to face these challenges, we have turned trials into opportunities, and problems into strengths. We have come out of the past year with a strengthened reputation as a good, reliable partner and a leading light in Medway. We have demonstrated, again and again, the power, value and impact that the creative sector can make in tackling issues, supporting the economy, and improving the quality of life for Medway's people.

This success comes from the strength of our team, our staff, our volunteers, and our trustees. Throughout all the difficulties and tests thrown at us, it has been their courage, intelligence and determination that has seen us through, and I am honoured to have worked with them. I could not be prouder of how the Halpern Charitable Foundation has continued to make such a significant impact during the pandemic, and whilst the next 12 months will also be challenging, I am confident that we will continue to thrive.

Dr David Stokes
Chief Executive Officer, The Halpern Charitable Foundation

'THERE'S A LOT BEING CREATED AT SOCIAL ART – NOT JUST THE ART ITSELF. FRIENDSHIPS, A SENSE OF SELF, AND A FEELING OF WELLBEING ARE POSITIVE OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT'

VISITING JOURNALIST





"I COME HERE AND THE WORLD IS OUT THERE."

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANT

The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2021

Objectives and Activities

About the Halpern Charitable Foundation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation was established in 2002 with three primary aims; to provide affordable space for artists to work and exhibit in Medway; to help people with mental and/or physical illness/disability; and as a backstop for the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, should it ever be in real financial difficulty with no other avenue left. Since that time the HCF's remit has evolved and grown to:

1. To increase access to the arts across the region through: the provision of affordable work and exhibition space; supporting arts education through outreach and events; advocacy of the arts at partnership groups; and supporting the cultural regeneration of the Medway towns.

2. Helping people affected by mental health and social isolation through: the provision of affordable, stable, housing; the provision of arts and therapy activities; supporting other third sector organisations; and advocacy at partnership groups.

3. Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue with fundraising advice and as a backstop.

The Foundation's Objects are:

1. The relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people

2. To assist in maintaining, repair, mature, preserve, improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, its monuments, fixtures, fittings, furniture and other chattels

3. To advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the Arts; in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

Vision

We believe in a world where everyone can express their creativity, no matter their age, background, status or health. By making the arts open and accessible to all we aim to promote creative thinking, support the creative economy, and use the healing power of the arts to improve mental and physical health

Our values

- **Community:** We will foster and inspire a community which is inclusive, diverse and accessible, and which always prioritises mutual support.
- **Representation:** We are the voice of artists in Medway, and will do everything we can to understand and represent their best interests.
- **Adaptability:** As the world changes, so will the best ways to improve the lives of people through engagement with the arts. HCF will work to provide the most impactful, relevant support at the right time.
- **Empowerment:** Everyone deserves to feel confident, informed and in control of their and/or their lives. We will utilise the arts to uplift the people in our community to become advocates and to support others.
- **Integrity:** We work for the arts and local community, and will be transparent in what we do and why. We will use our resources when and where they will have the greatest impact.

Strategy

In 2020/21, aside responding to covid and our three 'emergency principles' of Protect, Support and Contribute, this year we continued as far as possible to deliver a strategy to focus on financial sustainability and delivering the vision of the organisation. The plan has four primary delivery strands; **Sustainability, Membership, Engagement, and Recognition.** Whilst the pandemic has significantly impacted on our ability to drive this forward, the following thinking has guided our actions

Sustainability – Whilst HCF is blessed with very generous financial backing resulting in annual dividends and rental income, our expenditure is currently still exceeding our income, leading to a draw down on these funds. It is essential that we address this situation through both raising income by investment in fundraising, commerce and service delivery, and also by looking to reduce our overheads by setting stricter budgets and investing in energy saving technology. Much of the proposed service growth in this plan will be driven through grant funding and service contracts, facilitated by a focus on communications and better implementation of full cost recovery models. We will also capitalise on our close relationship with the award-winning café Nucleus, in particular by investing in our new Rochester site which has the potential to generate significant revenue for the charity. By the end of this period is expected that we will be breaking even on costs, with the aim of generating a surplus in subsequent years for re-investment into the charity.

Of course, this is one area that has been particularly affected by the lockdowns, reducing our rental and gallery incomes, and eliminating the profit share from the café. We are hopeful that this will improve over the next 12 months.

Membership – We will use the next three years to further develop our offer to artists. Working with our community we will develop a package of support that enables them to grow their recognition and businesses. We will develop a range of social and information events, and identify ways to facilitate the sale of artworks online. We will also raise the profile of our gallery and studios, particularly utilising the opportunities of Medway's 2025 City of Culture bid, and taking by taking local and regional leadership role in all things related to creativity.

Engagement – We will be putting significant efforts into the development of our engagement activities. We will seek to increase public attendance at our various festivals and events, we will increase access to arts-related education, and we will work with partners to raise our public profile. We will grow and expand our outreach and support for the socially isolated, seeking grant funding and service contracts to achieve this. By the end of this plans period, we will increase the amount of therapy-related arts-based outreach activity. We will also develop our excellent relationships with the award-winning Cafe Nucleus to continue to entice people to our sites, and convert them to gallery/activity visitors.

Again this has been impacted by the pandemic lockdowns, and the cancellation/postponement of events. Despite this, we have had some considerable success in 20/21, and have already received funding for opportunities in 21/22.

Recognition - Finally, HCF's name, brand and messaging need to be developed as a priority as this underpins our communications and fundraising. Visually, the look of our materials is already coalescing in to a clean, modern, and professional brand, and we are working to update all of our materials in this way. However there needs to be some clear thinking on how we communicate what HCF is and does, and how it is distinct from our better-known delivery arm Nucleus Arts. The name "Halpern Charitable Foundation" implies that we are a grant making organisation and does not effectively communicate our role and purpose – it may be that this better is contracted to Halpern Foundation for everyday use, but it is certainly the case that more work is needed to ensure that the parent organisation becomes better known, at least to funders and statutory bodies. A review of this brand will be conducted within the period, alongside the development of new websites for both HCF and Nucleus. This initial work has already begun but will need to involve a wide range of stakeholders, and this is likely to take it into the 2022 period, with a potential full brand re-launch to coincide with the charity' 20th anniversary celebrations.

We deliver our objects in the following ways:

- Supporting the Arts community

Nucleus Members
We offer a wide and comprehensive package of support for our artists including:

- Affordable studio space.
- Opportunities to exhibit their art.
- Networking opportunities.
- Public engagement opportunities.
- Access to occasional training opportunities.
- Access to workshop space and facilities.
- Access and support for setting up classes and workshops.
- Support in selling their art online.

Wider Artist/Creative Community
We support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Offer opportunities to exhibit artwork across.
- Offer access to workshop space and facilities.
- Promote local partner arts events.
- Host and support our own programme of public arts events.
- Host and support local and regional arts networks.
- Advocate for a greater engagement with the arts community through statutory and business communities.
- Engage in regeneration - focusing on presenting Medway as an arts hub.

General Public/Wider community
We will utilise the following activities to engage the General Public with the arts/creative world:

- We host a range of public arts events, and work with statutory and business groups to expand and promote these.
- We offer access to art classes, education, facilities and workshops.
- We offer access to free gallery exhibitions.
- We offer a range of creative family sessions.
- Offer affordable meeting and community space.
- Provide volunteering opportunities.
- Provide educational opportunities related to the arts, notably the 'Arts Award,' programme.
- Support the cultural regeneration of Medway.

- Support Medway's 'City of Culture' bid.
- We work with Café Nucleus to entice the public to our venues, and to provide community space.
-

- Supporting the socially isolated, vulnerable and marginalised including people affected by mental health issues

We support the wider arts/creative/maker community through the following activities:

- Provide affordable, secure, housing for people affected by mental health problems.
- Provide and expand our own range of on-site arts-therapy-related activities – including a range of free events.
- Provide and expand our own range of outreach arts-therapy-related activities.
- Provide engagement space for partner organisations to engage with the public.
- Work with and facilitate wider partnerships with partners engaging with vulnerable groups.
- Provide affordable meeting and conference space for partner organisations.

- Supporting the Chatham Memorial Synagogue

We will honour the legacy of our founders Hilary and Marie Halpern by continuing support the Chatham Memorial Synagogue through the following ways:

- Provide fundraising resource
- Support the development of a sustainable fundraising strategy

Plans for 2021/22

At the time of writing the Covid-19 crisis still in full effect, but with some hope for improvement towards the end of the year. We are again, working with a high degree of caution and flexibility whilst aiming to deliver the best service that we can.

With that in mind, it is our intention that during 2021/22 we will seek to further develop our financial growth and stability and are currently exploring a number of opportunities to address this.

We will aim to further expand HCF's outreach services, in particular in those areas where the Covid crisis has created new need. We are currently exploring the possibility of developing

services to address bereavement services, and to tackle the expected rise in mental health issues. This work will be funded through grants and contacts.

Across the year we will again host a range of events, if distancing allows, including our usual Open Studios, Fun Palace, events. Indeed, we have received a pledge of funding to deliver Fun Palace as major Medway event. We will also support other arts-related festivals such as NeuroFest and the Medway Gaming festival, working closely with partners. We will also look to work with partners through our involvement in Love Chatham to deliver our postponed and expanded ArtsFest into a wider Medway Arts & Culture festival in preparation for the City of Culture bid.

We will again support activities such as the University of Kent Employability Points programme and Medway Youth awards.

We will continue to develop our package of artist support, implementing further initiatives to improve support and retention. We are exploring opportunities to apply to be a National Portfolio Organisation.

We will further expand our local gallery network, looking for wider initiatives with which to engage.

We will deliver a full series of high-quality arts exhibitions across our galleries.

We will look to formally incorporate the charity.

We will put in significant effort to support major initiatives such as, City of Culture, Creative Medway and Child Friendly Medway.

Volunteers

Over the last year we have not been in a position to utilise our volunteers. However, this has not prevented us from delivering pastoral care to these valuable members of our community, who in non-covid times, save us £1000's on support staff and additional match funding for grant applications when the hours they provide to support a project are equated at minimum or living wage.

During a the pandemic we have regularly contacted our volunteers, or held meetings with them. Regular topics of conversation are a loss of purpose, ability to communicate face to face, lack of self-confidence and loneliness. Our continued support and contact with our volunteers, has meant they are keen and ready to return to their former roles assisting at workshops, now on a rota basis, as we gradually restart sessions. Our reputation for caring for our volunteers has also led to the recruitment of three new volunteers to our team.

Finances and Governance

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) shows total income for the year was £283k. An increase in income compared to the prior year (£273k). The charity received £39k in restricted grants as detailed in the statement of funds note, and an additional £83k in Covid support. Income from charitable activities has reduced this year primarily as a result of rent-suspensions during the lockdown, and the loss of some tenants. All of our space is now full, and we expect to see this return in 21/22

Total expenditure amounted to £460k, a significant decrease on £579k in the prior year. Despite the pandemic, our core costs have remained similar, and we have invested heavily in developing our estate during the lockdown periods. We have however achieved some success through our energy saving measures.

The SoFA shows an overall decrease in funds of £37k. Total reserves at the end of the year were £5.0m, of which £142k are restricted, £3.7m are designated/fixed assets and £1.1m are unrestricted, including shares as detailed in the statement of funds note.

Going concern
After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Financial risk management objectives and policies
The Foundation is aware that despite its fundamental strength a shortfall in income could make it less effective. Causes could be poor returns from investments, poor investment strategy, prolonged recession, prolonged downturn of property market reduces lease values, non-payment of rent. Outcome could be intervention by Charity Commission.

To minimise these risks, HCF practices excellent business management, good procurement and income control. The Trustees oversee statutory financial reporting, investment strategy, audit functions, budgeting and financial risk management. In 17/18 HCF adopted a new procurement policy and other working policies and these are being monitored for effectiveness. It continues to review its investment strategy and appraises performance regularly against peer group and market indices. We appraise new business opportunities and have proposals to extend our service areas. Shared cost allocation has been reviewed. A long-term maintenance programme (Planned Preventative Maintenance) is being put in place and will be reviewed annually. HCF is fundamentally strong and continues to work on its long-term sustainability.

Principal risks and uncertainties
HCF has reviewed all principal risks as part of our Board Risks Register, and has undertaken appropriate measures to minimise these risks. This includes:

Risk	Mitigation
Safety risks	Regular reviews of our activities and relevant legislation. Policies in place to ensure appropriate practices, for example, safeguarding of vulnerable people, DBS checks etc. Regular inspections of the site to ensure a safe working environment. Trained first aiders. Good external security and CCTV on site. Up to date risk registers. Close monitoring of the Pandemic situation, and the use of infection mitigation controls
Reputational risks	Clear expectations of conduct with staff and volunteers. Wide involvement in local committees boards and events. Clear thinking around ethics, diversity, environment etc.
Operational risks	Clear staff and volunteers policies. Strong financial procedures. Clear lines of accountability.
Strategic risks	Established strategy Review by Board of Trustees

Reserves policy
HCF has a policy to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 6-12 months:

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our work
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income.

The board of trustees will review the above criteria with reference to HCF's strategy and Annual Plan and determine the target level of free reserves to meet these.
In particular, we will retain sufficient reserves:

- to assist in the preservation of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue as per our charitable objectives
- to enable the HCF to cover a further 24 months of essential expenditure as identified by the risk-based method of calculating reserves

The Board of Trustees will at times designate funds from free reserves for significant project costs or replacement of major assets.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Halpern Charitable Foundation began operating in June 2002, and is governed by a Trust Deed dated March 2003, amended on 20th April 2010.

The charity is unincorporated, but incorporated its Trustees on 21st October 2013. The principal objects of the charity are:

a) the relief of sick persons with mental illness and/or those suffering from a mental or physical disability to include supporting vulnerable people;

b) to assist in maintaining repair restore preserve improve and reconstruct for the benefit of the public the fabric of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue its monuments fixtures fittings furniture and other chattels;

c) to advance and promote the education of the public in the understanding and appreciation of the arts in particular by the provision of an Arts Community Centre in Chatham (Nucleus Arts) and by providing support to artists who are unable to pursue their talent because of lack of financial means or financial support or because they may be vulnerable.

There have been no changes in the objectives since the last annual report.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

There should at all times be at least three trustees.

New trustee appointments are made by a resolution passed at a special meeting.

In selecting persons to be appointed, existing trustees take account of any areas of special knowledge relating to the Foundation's activities which could be improved at trustee level as detailed in the Foundation Governance Handbook.

Specific searches are then carried out for persons with the required area of expertise. All prospective trustees are interviewed by one or two existing trustees to ascertain their suitability for the position.

Trustees may serve a three-year term, and may be reappointed.

Trustees receive no remuneration, but may receive out of pocket expenses.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are given an induction into the charity, its governance, and specifics of its activities.

Training is regularly sought for all trustees, new and old, as appropriate, and updates from the Charity Commission are always passed on electronically.

Pay policy for staff

As a small employer with limited resources, it is very important that we effectively use the money we have available for remuneration. This policy describes the broad principles that we will follow as an employer when setting and reviewing pay.

This policy applies to all staff working for us either on a casual, fixed term or permanent basis. The organisation does not usually employ agency workers. In the event that we do, we will ensure that pay for longer term agency workers (who are with us for a continuous period of over 12 weeks) is comparable to the pay offered for directly employed staff who carry out comparable work.

Pay policy principles:

- Pay equality

The organisation strives to be an equal opportunity employer. This means our intention is to treat all staff equitably with regards to the terms and conditions of employment offered, including pay. The board will review pay levels from time to time to identify and address any anomaly.

- The living wage (as set by the Living Wage Foundation)

The organisation fully supports the living wage and will aim to pay at this level, subject to affordability. Living wage figures are usually announced annually in November and we will take the figure into account when reviewing pay.

Organisational structure and decision making

The Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the Charity. As a Board, led by the Chair, they ensure that all Strategic decisions are taken appropriately. They then delegate Operational decisions to the Director in line with the HCF Governance Handbook.

Related party relationships

Halpern Charitable Foundation was set up by Hilary Halpern who also had started Halpern Properties Ltd some years earlier. There had, historically, been some overlap of HCF trustees and HPL directors, and HCF undertook some of its activities from within HPL premises. There are no longer any overlapping trustees/ directors.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Trustees' indemnities

The charity has purchased insurance to protect the trustees from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on charity business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

Trustees' Report
for the year ended 5 April 2021

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity 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 charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 23 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

P.V. Martin

.....

Peter Martin, Chair

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisors for the year ended 5 April 2021

Trustees

Peter Martin (Chair)
Jacqueline Shicluna
Geoff Harvey
Paula Gregory
Vince Maple
Sharon Dosanjh
Charlotte Walker

Chief Executive Officer

David Stokes

Charity registered number

1096478

Principal office

272 High Street
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4BP

Independent Auditors

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 5 April 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 5 April 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of The Halpern Charitable Foundation (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience in the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's

website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

UHY Kent LLP

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Date: 28/01/2022

UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 5 April 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	84,085	38,924	123,009	*43,724*
Charitable activities	5	88,615	-	88,615	*162,621*
Investments	6	71,441	-	71,441	*66,402*
Total income		244,141	38,924	283,065	*272,747*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	6,945	-	6,945	*8,163*
Charitable activities		386,088	66,804	452,892	*571,080*
Total expenditure		393,033	66,804	459,837	*579,243*
Net expenditure before net gains/(losses) on investments		(148,892)	(27,880)	(176,772)	*(306,496)*
Net gains/(losses) on investments		139,566	-	139,566	*(143,111)*
Net movement in funds		(9,326)	(27,880)	(37,206)	*(449,607)*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,874,886	169,972	5,044,858	*5,494,465*
Net movement in funds		(9,326)	(27,880)	(37,206)	*(449,607)*
Total funds carried forward		4,865,560	142,092	5,007,652	*5,044,858*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 37 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet
As at 5 April 2021

	Note		2021 £		*2020 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		2,454,039		*2,428,550*
Investments	12		1,287,657		*923,612*
			3,741,696		*3,352,162*
Current assets					
Debtors	13	221,184		*128,000*	
Investments	14	383,739		*107,858*	
Cash at bank and in hand		715,884		*1,505,486*	
		1,320,807		*1,741,344*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(54,851)		*(48,648)*	
Net current assets			1,265,956		*1,692,696*
Total net assets			5,007,652		*5,044,858*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	17		142,092		*169,972*
Unrestricted funds	17		4,865,560		*4,874,886*
Total funds			5,007,652		*5,044,858*

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 23 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Martin
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 37 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 5 April 2021

1. General information

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales, charity number 1096478. The principal place of activity is 272 High St, Chatham ME4 4BP. The objects and aims of the Charity are set out in the Trustees' Report. The financial statements are prepared in pounds sterling, being the functional currency of the Charity.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (March 2018) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102)(second edition) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) which has since been withdrawn.

The Halpern Charitable Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees and CEO assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.The trustees and CEO make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

The trustees and CEO have carefully considered whether the charity remains to be a going concern and have concluded that there is sufficient evidence for them to remain a going concern.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Taxation

The Halpern Charitable Foundation is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Halpern Charitable Foundation is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land	- Nil
Freehold property	- Buildings over 125 years straight line
Property improvements	- 20 years straight line
Plant and machinery	- 5 years straight line
Office equipment	- 5 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- 5 years straight line

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

With respect to the next reporting period for the year ended 5 April 2022, the most significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity are the level of investment return, particularly in-light of the potential volatility of the investment market due to the ongoing Covid-19 global pandemic throughout 2021.

Critical areas of judgment:

There are no significant judgements in the relation to the above accounting policies that have a material impact on the financial statements other than the revaluation of listed investments.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Donations	848	-	848	*1,351*
Grants	43,672	38,924	82,596	*42,373*
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	39,565	-	39,565	-
	84,085	38,924	123,009	*43,724*
Total 2020	*1,351*	*42,373*	*43,724*	

Other than utilising the UK government's Job Retention Scheme, the Charity received no other grants from the government. There were no unfilled conditions or contingencies.

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Nucleus Arts Centre	55,695	55,695	*110,363*
Chatham HeArt	132	132	*4,358*
Chatham Creative Hub	16,261	16,261	*28,402*
Halpern Conservancy	16,527	16,527	*19,498*
	88,615	88,615	*162,621*
Total 2020	*162,621*	*162,621*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Property rental income	36,779	36,779	*28,846*
Dividend income	33,849	33,849	*36,475*
Bank interest	813	813	*1,081*
	71,441	71,441	*66,402*
Total 2020	*66,402*	*66,402*	

7. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Investment management fees	6,945	6,945	*8,163*
Total 2020	*8,163*	*8,163*	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Grants	-	-	*1,825*
Total 2020	*1,825*	*1,825*	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2021 £	Grant funding of activities 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Nucleus Arts Centre	76,221	-	188,421	264,642	*293,791*
Chatham HeArt	3,160	-	14,527	17,687	*17,503*
Chatham Creative Hub	33,765	-	14,412	48,177	*114,487*
Halpern Conservancy	38,925	-	80,557	119,482	*128,456*
Synagogue	2,904	-	-	2,904	*16,843*
	154,975	-	297,917	452,892	*571,080*
Total 2020	*267,309*	*1,825*	*301,946*	*571,080*	

9. **Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

Analysis of direct costs

	Nucleus Arts Centre 2021 £	Chatham HeArt 2021 £	Nucleus Hub 2021 £	Halpern Conservancy 2021 £
Staff costs	33,361	-	-	10,134
Staff and agency related costs	2,335	-	-	-
Other direct costs	4,127	38	(79)	1,520
Advertising and marketing	4,140	-	-	-
Technology costs	945	-	-	-
Maintenance of premises and equipment	1,922	40	703	21,776
Rent and rates	5,400	2,052	24,000	777
Energy	23,448	1,030	5,847	(848)
Insurance	126	-	1,791	-
Other premises expenditure	-	-	1,502	5,545
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
Bank charges and interest	417	-	1	21
	76,221	3,160	33,765	38,925
Total 2020	*95,702*	*2,405*	*113,359*	*39,000*

	Synagogue 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Staff costs	-	43,495	*37,311*
Staff and agency related costs	-	2,335	*6,432*
Other direct costs	-	5,606	*25,420*
Advertising and marketing	-	4,140	*1,786*
Technology costs	-	945	*3,810*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	2,904	27,345	*79,415*
Rent and rates	-	32,229	*39,294*
Energy	-	29,477	*28,301*
Insurance	-	1,917	*2,575*
Other premises expenditure	-	7,047	*8,857*
Legal and professional fees	-	-	*32,949*
Bank charges and interest	-	439	*1,159*
	2,904	154,975	*267,309*
Total 2020	*16,843*	*267,309*	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Nucleus Arts Centre 2021 £	Chatham HeArt 2021 £	Nucleus Hub 2021 £	Halpern Conservancy 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Staff costs	107,061	9,314	9,314	46,573	172,262	*140,917*
Depreciation	15,429	-	-	6,613	22,042	*32,586*
Staff and agency related costs	4,482	345	345	1,724	6,896	*13,842*
Advertising and marketing	7,883	606	606	3,033	12,128	*21,230*
Technology costs	1,037	80	80	399	1,596	*1,515*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	14,381	1,106	1,106	5,531	22,124	*23,027*
Rent and rates	2,443	188	188	939	3,758	*697*
Energy	8,546	657	657	3,287	13,147	*5,038*
Insurance	9,357	720	720	3,599	14,396	*22,918*
Other premises expenditure	2,110	162	162	811	3,245	*13,711*
Statutory audit	3,185	245	245	1,225	4,900	*4,800*
Accountancy and bookkeeping	8,191	630	630	3,150	12,601	*9,108*
Legal fees	79	6	8	29	122	*3,451*
Bank charges and interest	644	50	50	247	991	*832*
Other support costs	3,449	418	301	3,397	7,565	*8,274*
Governance costs	144	-	-	-	144	-
	188,421	14,527	14,412	80,557	297,917	*301,946*
Total 2020	*196,266*	*15,097*	*15,097*	*75,486*	*301,946*	

10. Staff costs

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Wages and salaries	201,732	*168,212*
Social security costs	9,842	*7,726*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	4,183	*2,290*
	215,757	*178,228*

12. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Valuation	
At 6 April 2020	923,612
Additions	327,795
Disposals	(106,020)
Revaluations	142,270
At 5 April 2021	1,287,657
Net book value	
At 5 April 2021	1,287,657
At 5 April 2020	*923,612*

13. Debtors

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	8,695	*9,703*
Other debtors	205,701	*101,999*
Prepayments and accrued income	6,788	*16,298*
	221,184	*128,000*

14. Current asset investments

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Unlisted investments (liquid)	383,739	*107,858*

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Trade creditors	21,174	*6,865*
Other taxation and social security	5,791	*1,875*
Other creditors	736	*4,736*
Accruals and deferred income	27,150	*35,172*
	54,851	*48,648*

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Deferred income at 6 April 2020	1,700	*5,798*
Resources deferred during the year	775	*1,700*
Amounts released from previous periods	(1,700)	*(5,798)*
	775	*1,700*

16. Financial instruments

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	1,099,623	*1,613,344*

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise fixed asset listed investment shares.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Charity is that of the volatility in equity and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities, particularly currency risk, and within particular sectors or sub-sectors. The Charity's investment portfolio generates a significant proportion of the Charity's total income which funds its charitable activities. Should this be impacted due to volatility, the Charity is fortunate to have other sufficient liquid assets to fund its operations.

17. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 6 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 5 April 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	2,428,550	-	(22,042)	47,531	-	2,454,039
Investment share fixed asset	923,612	-	-	224,479	139,566	1,287,657
	3,352,162	-	(22,042)	272,010	139,566	3,741,696
General funds						
General Funds	1,522,724	244,141	(370,991)	(272,010)	-	1,123,864
Total Unrestricted funds	4,874,886	244,141	(393,033)	-	139,566	4,865,560
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	60,097	-	(2,904)	-	-	57,193
Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art	86,612	-	(22,112)	-	-	64,500
Creative Cabin	4,485	-	(1,592)	-	-	2,893
Energy Efficiency	395	-	-	-	-	395
Arts Award	7,438	21,775	(18,313)	-	-	10,900
Volunteers	3,845	-	(2,278)	-	-	1,567
Social Art	500	-	-	-	-	500
Lightbox	6,600	2,900	(7,334)	-	-	2,166
Community Engagement	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-	-
Young at Art	-	2,495	(517)	-	-	1,978
Intern	-	4,254	(4,254)	-	-	-
	169,972	38,924	(66,804)	-	-	142,092
Total of funds	5,044,858	283,065	(459,837)	-	139,566	5,007,652

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 5 April 2020* £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Tangible fixed asset fund	*2,321,050*	-	*(32,586)*	*140,086*	-	*2,428,550*
Investment property fixed asset fund	*1,550,001*	-	-	*(1,500,000)*	*(50,001)*	-
Investment share fixed asset	*1,099,998*	-	-	*(83,276)*	*(93,110)*	*923,612*
	4,971,049	-	*(32,586)*	*(1,443,190)*	*(143,111)*	*3,352,162*
General funds						
General Funds	*350,193*	*230,374*	*(501,033)*	*1,443,190*	-	*1,522,724*
Total Unrestricted funds	*5,321,242*	*230,374*	*(533,619)*	-	*(143,111)*	*4,874,886*
Restricted funds						
Synagogue	*76,940*	-	*(16,843)*	-	-	*60,097*
Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art	*86,612*	-	-	-	-	*86,612*
Creative Cabin	*5,271*	-	*(786)*	-	-	*4,485*
Red Zebra Community	*1,500*	-	*(1,500)*	-	-	-
Energy Efficiency	*2,800*	-	*(2,405)*	-	-	*395*
Young at Art	*100*	-	*(100)*	-	-	-
Intern	-	*765*	*(765)*	-	-	-
Mid Kent	-	*500*	*(500)*	-	-	-
Whitehall Marketing	-	*442*	*(442)*	-	-	-
Arts Award	-	*21,483*	*(14,045)*	-	-	*7,438*
Whitehead Monckton	-	*725*	*(725)*	-	-	-
Moto In The Community	-	*500*	*(500)*	-	-	-
Volunteers	-	*10,000*	*(6,155)*	-	-	*3,845*
Artsfest Bluewater	-	*358*	*(358)*	-	-	-
Charlie Joy	-	*500*	*(500)*	-	-	-
Cole Charity	-	*500*	-	-	-	*500*
Lightbox	-	*6,600*	-	-	-	*6,600*

17. **Statement of funds (continued)**

Statement of funds - prior year (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 5 April 2020* £
	173,223	*42,373*	*(45,624)*	-	-	*169,972*
Total of funds	*5,494,465*	*272,747*	*(579,243)*	-	*(143,111)*	*5,044,858*

Designated funds
These funds represent the fixed assets of the charity split between its tangible fixed assets and investments.

Unrestricted funds
Funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. The total fund balance represents the charity's free reserves.

Restricted funds
Restricted funds are those held by the charity for a specific purpose. Details of specific restricted funds are:

Synagogue - Mr Halpern left £100,000 in his will to the charity, restricted to the maintenance and upkeep of the Chatham Memorial Synagogue.

Mental Health & Socially Isolated through Art - Mrs Halpern donated £100,000 to the charity, restricted to the provision of mental health support, and support to the socially isolated, through the Arts.

Creative Cabin - Grant for the purchase and upkeep of a Creative Cabin.

Energy Efficiency - Grant to cover the cost of changing the current lighting in Building A and B to LED, to reduce energy costs.

Arts Award - This was towards the Arts Award for a total of £21,775.

Volunteers - To aid in staff welfare, travel and staffing costs of the Charity.

Social Art - £500 rolled forward from previous year, in association with Cole Charity.

Lightbox - Grant towards what was the Maker Space project.

Community Engagementl - Grant made to cover costs of achieving community engagement.

Young at Art - Young at Art project grant.

Intern - Funds to cover the pay of the intern, taken on at Nucleus Arts.

Transfers between funds
A transfer is made from unrestricted funds to cover restricted project overspends. A transfer is also made between unrestricted funds and designated funds for movements in tangible and investment fixed assets.

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,454,039	-	2,454,039
Fixed asset investments	1,287,657	-	1,287,657
Current assets	1,178,715	142,092	1,320,807
Creditors due within one year	(54,851)	-	(54,851)
Total	4,865,560	142,092	5,007,652

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Restricted funds 2020 £*	*Total funds 2020 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*2,428,550*	-	*2,428,550*
Fixed asset investments	*923,612*	-	*923,612*
Current assets	*1,571,372*	*169,972*	*1,741,344*
Creditors due within one year	*(48,648)*	-	*(48,648)*
Total	*4,874,886*	*169,972*	*5,044,858*

19. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held seperately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £673 (2020: £Nil) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

20. Operating lease commitments

At 5 April 2021 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Not later than 1 year	29,810	*29,400*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	72,684	*77,400*
Later than 5 years	48,000	*72,000*
	150,494	*178,800*