

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023
FOR
MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST**

Seago and Stopps
Chartered Certified Accountants
61 Station Road
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 2SP

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

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MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1097455

Principal address

50 Firs Chase
West Mersea
Colchester
Essex
CO5 8NG

Trustees

T R Brennan	Chairman	
Mrs T Marshall	Treasurer	- resigned 31.10.22
P Buist		
T Bradshaw		- resigned 16.3.23
Mrs J Dayton		
Mrs P Moore	Treasurer since March 2023	
E Wilson		- appointed 1.3.23

Independent examiner

Seago and Stopps
Chartered Certified Accountants
61 Station Road
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 2SP

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Declaration of Trust, dated 8 March 2002, as amended by a special resolution dated 10 April 2003.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trust has safeguarding and equal opportunities policies in place that are reviewed annually. Disclosure and Barring checks are carried out prior to trusteeship or volunteering for the trust and are reviewed annually.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or benefits.

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and activities

The advancement and education of young people (up to the age of 25) and adults with disabilities, by promotion of activities so that they may develop their mental, physical and spiritual capacities and achieve greater maturity as individuals and members of society.

In carrying out its objectives, the Trust provides two annual camps on Mersea Island, Essex that bring together over 400 children, young people and adults with or without a physical or learning disability. The camps are supported by a team of over 70 volunteers of all ages and abilities.

In providing the festival, the trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the charity has charitable purposes that continue to be, and are carried out, for the same.

Participants in the festival are challenged and stimulated as they gain confidence, self esteem and new friends whilst experiencing a wide range of fun and exciting activities.

Volunteers

The Trust is extremely grateful to the large volunteer team who support the running and delivery of the festival, as well as fundraising events during the year. This is particularly in consideration of what turned out to be challenging year for the running of the festival.

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MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable and fundraising activities

After a two year break due to Covid restrictions, the 40th Mersea Island Festival took place at Essex Outdoors Mersea. It was due to run from Sunday 21st to Monday 29th August 2022.

Unfortunately, due to a sickness outbreak on the Tuesday evening, the decision was taken to close the week camp on the Wednesday morning. Subsequently, it was decided between the Trust and the Centre that it was not possible to run the weekend camp.

Immense credit should be given to the volunteers and Centre staff who managed the situation on the Tuesday night and restricted further illness.

Attendance

	2022	2019	Difference	2018
Week	231	258	+2	256
Weekend	150	134	-30	164
Dailies	279	312	+65	247

These figures indicate the attendance if the festival had not been cancelled and include those who may have stayed for part of the week (27).

In the week, a new group of 26 clients and volunteers attended from Sense. The charity had promoted the festival in their programme of supported holidays. The clients all had additional needs, including visual impairment and being hard of hearing. They were supported on a 1:1 basis. The group got involved in activities and the evening entertainment and commented on the variety and flexibility of the programme. They have indicated that they will not be attending in 2023 but hope to return in future years.

A group of 13 clients and staff from a residential home in Luton attended in the week. Initially intending to come as day visitors and stay locally, we were able to offer accommodation on site. At the agreement on the Centre manager, they stayed on site until the Friday, when the festival was cancelled, as their home was being refurbished.

The regular large groups in the week returned (Festival Friends, Avenues East and Cranfield Court) and We Do Care (20) moved to the weekend. The Hamlet Charity (6 in 2019) didn't attend but are expected in 2023. An informal group of 10 didn't attend due to the retirement of their leader.

At the weekend, Footsteps were due to attend as a large group of 27. There would have been new groups from LEAPS Suffolk (12) and the Saracens Foundation (15) which is linked to the rugby club. Several smaller groups from residential homes did not book.

For both camps, there were other absences from regulars. Some it is known were not able to secure support. This is a knock-on effect of the Covid pandemic.

Accommodation

Festival attenders benefitted from the availability of additional portable hoists at the Centre. With some regular clients who use profile beds not able to attend, new clients could be offered places.

Programme

There was no overall theme this year, but elements of the programme reflected the 40th anniversary. Villages were named after favourite themes from previous years. There was a neon party, a nod to the decade the festival started in, and a Pirate Party was held in honour of Terry Lancefield, a former volunteer of many years, who had died earlier in 2022.

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable and fundraising activities

For the first time, Essex Outdoors were able to provide paddleboarding and kayaking on the new lake adjacent to the centre. They were also able to enable wheelchair users to access the Aerial Adventure course.

Whilst being fun, many of the activities also provide opportunities for campers to challenge themselves and develop their confidence and self-esteem, whilst also making new friends.

Volunteer team

We were able to recruit 10 new volunteers, 9 of whom had previously attended the festival as a camper.

Fundraising activities

The Trust continued to benefit from sponsorship collected by our volunteers, as well as donations from local organisations and individuals.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The reserves of the charity are held to support the following year's camps.

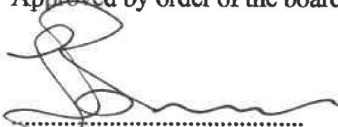
Financial overview

Due to the sudden end of the festival and following an agreement with Essex County Council for camp and activity fees, full refunds were offered to those due to attend as a day visitor from Wednesday onwards and a camper at the weekend. A refund of 60% was offered to those attending for the week. Some customers made a donation to the Festival Trust (£2,560), while others asked for their payment to be held as a credit towards a booking in 2023.

A successful Christmas party helped with fundraising. Not all regular donations have resumed after the pandemic but the Trust benefitted from sponsorship collected by our volunteers as well as generous donations from local organisations and individuals. Other sources included birthday fundraisers via Facebook and donations in memory of a long-term volunteer.

An increase in the contribution by the Trust to the net cost of the festival saw a reduction in net income at the end of the year, though a healthy reserve is still maintained.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 4th JUNE 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



T R Brennan - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2023, which are set out on pages six to ten.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Andy Stopps

Andy Stopps FCCA ATT
Seago and Stopps
Chartered Certified Accountants
61 Station Road
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 2SP

Date: 10th June 2024

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023**

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	5.4.23 Total funds £	5.4.22 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		7,934	-	7,934	3,301
Activities for generating funds	2	<u>25,620</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,620</u>	<u>720</u>
Total incoming resources		33,554	-	33,554	4,021
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary income		364	-	364	396
Charitable activities					
Festival costs		<u>39,290</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,290</u>	<u>-</u>
Total resources expended		<u>39,654</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,654</u>	<u>396</u>
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES					
		(6,100)	-	(6,100)	3,625
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,065</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,065</u>	<u>39,440</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>36,965</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>36,965</u></u>	<u><u>43,065</u></u>

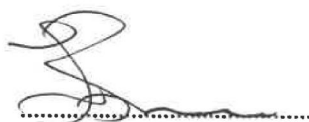
The notes form part of these financial statements

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET AT 5 APRIL 2023

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	5.4.23 Total funds £	5.4.22 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	4	1,360	-	1,360	5,351
Cash at bank		<u>58,395</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,395</u>	<u>53,797</u>
		59,755	-	59,755	59,148
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(22,790)	-	(22,790)	(16,083)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>36,965</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,965</u>	<u>43,065</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>36,965</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,965</u>	<u>43,065</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>36,965</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,965</u>	<u>43,065</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	6			<u>36,965</u>	<u>43,065</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>36,965</u>	<u>43,065</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 4th JUNE 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:


T R Brennan - Trustee


Mrs P Moore - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	5.4.23	5.4.22
	£	£
Fundraising events and collections	100	720
Festival income	<u>25,520</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>25,620</u>	<u>720</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 5 April 2023 nor for the year ended 5 April 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 5 April 2023, nor for the year ended 5 April 2022.

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023**

4. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5.4.23	5.4.22
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>1,360</u>	<u>5,351</u>

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5.4.23	5.4.22
	£	£
Other creditors	<u>22,790</u>	<u>16,083</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 6.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 5.4.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,065	(6,100)	36,965
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>43,065</u>	<u>(6,100)</u>	<u>36,965</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	33,554	(39,654)	(6,100)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>33,554</u>	<u>(39,654)</u>	<u>(6,100)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 6.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 5.4.22 £
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	39,440	3,625	43,065
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>39,440</u>	<u>3,625</u>	<u>43,065</u>

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023**

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,021	(396)	3,625
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>4,021</u>	<u>(396)</u>	<u>3,625</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 6.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 5.4.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	39,440	(2,475)	36,965
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>39,440</u>	<u>(2,475)</u>	<u>36,965</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	37,575	(40,050)	(2,475)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>37,575</u>	<u>(40,050)</u>	<u>(2,475)</u>

MERSEA ISLAND FESTIVAL TRUST

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023**

	5.4.23 £	5.4.22 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary income		
Donations	4,561	2,089
Gift aid	84	1,212
Donations - refunds	2,246	-
Christmas party income	<u>1,043</u>	<u>-</u>
	7,934	3,301
Activities for generating funds		
Fundraising events and collections	100	720
Festival income	<u>25,520</u>	<u>-</u>
	25,620	720
Total incoming resources	33,554	4,021
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Fundraising expenses	87	396
Christmas party expenses	<u>277</u>	<u>-</u>
	364	396
Charitable activities		
Festival expenses	<u>39,290</u>	<u>-</u>
Total resources expended	39,654	396
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u><u>(6,100)</u></u>	<u><u>3,625</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements