

# **Clowns in the Sky**

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 01.04.2024

Registered Charity Number 1105195

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## **Legal and administrative information**

### **Trustees**

**Wendy Saunders –Chair of Trustees**

(Appointed 10<sup>th</sup> August 2007)

### **Trustees**

W Saunders (appointed 16 April 2004)

E S Carter (appointed 16 April 2004)

Richard Chambers (appointed 7<sup>th</sup> October 2006)

Lynn Weston (appointed 7<sup>th</sup> October 2006)

Karen Sayers-Irving (appointed 10/05/2021)

### **Administrator**

L Weston

### **Registered Office**

82 Middle Park Avenue, Eltham, London SE9 5HT

### **Accountant – Independent Examiner**

Martin Mason, CTA

22 Inverine Road, London SE7 7NL

### **Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

## **Report of the trustees for the year ended 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 01/04/2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with

the accounting policies set out on page 7 and comply with the charity's trust deed and applicable law.

### **Constitution and objects**

Clowns in the Sky is constituted under a trust deed dated 16 April 2004 and is a registered charity No. 1105195.

Our aim is to bring a smile to the face of a child and their family, by providing distraction from their treatment.

Clowns in the Sky offers discretionary support grants to enhance the quality of life for those who have been affected by childhood brain tumours.

### **Organisation**

The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out on page 1

Trustees are appointed by the board of trustees and serve for up to five years after which period they may put themselves forward for re-appointment. The trustees meet annually but will when appropriate meet quarterly and monthly.

### **Review of the activities and future developments**

The Charity has carried out fundraising throughout the year to raise funds for our charitable aims via fundraising activities, sourcing corporate donations, and funding from charitable organisations, community groups along with direct donations.

The trustees are pleased with the success of the fundraising which has allowed us to meet our charitable objectives. During the year our focus has been on continuing with our response to the increased needs from the Hospitals in the post pandemic environment.

We have successfully funded additional refills on our Activity and Sensory Trolleys throughout the UK whilst maintaining our aims and continuing to ensure the sustainability of the Charity. We have enhanced the services provided under our Childrens Entertainer sessions, providing Childrens Author visits to the Hospitals.

The trustees communicate throughout the year for decisions and discussions via email to approve Family Grants and new trolley locations.

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### **1. Activity and Sensory trolleys.**

We now have **96** trolleys nationwide in hospital wards. We aim to refill these trolleys three times a year, we do accept requests from all our hospitals for additional refills when required. These trolleys continue to bring the playroom to the child when the child may be unable to visit the playroom. **£400** pays for a trolley in a hospital to be refilled for a year.

### **2. Children's Entertainers.**

We provide children's entertainers in partnership with another registered charity who specialise in providing entertainers to visit the children's bedsides in hospitals and know there is a huge demand. **£50** pays for an entertainer's session.

#### **2a. Childrens Author visits.**

Following a pilot scheme begun in the post pandemic hospital environment, and under the umbrella of our Childrens entertainer visits, we launched, the Childrens Author visits. These visits build on the relationships we have developed with the Play Therapists in the Hospital environment. Each visit consists of a Children's Author joining us in one of the Hospitals we support. The Author will read from one of their books in a group setting within the main playroom and engage in a group discussion about the characters in the story, truly bringing their book to life. In addition, if requested by the hospital, the Author will visit the beside of a child who may be too poorly to visit the playroom. Clowns in the Sky, purchase copies of the Authors books and these are gifted to each child, often signed by the Author during the visit. The sense of inclusion for the children is evident and we plan to expand these visits during 2024/2025.

### **3. Grants to parents in financial need.**

In 2023/2024 we made **6** grants to families, of **£500.00** each and a second grant of **£350.00** to a family. Families apply to Clowns in the Sky through an application process via the website or direct email, phone, and postal contact methods. All applications are independently verified by the Hospital Clinical Teams.

### **4. Research.**

The understanding of brain cancer in children has improved significantly in recent years and modern treatment means that **7** out of **10** children can now survive for at least **5** years. Following the pause, we placed on our donation to research in 2021/2022, we are pleased to confirm we continued our donation to research again in 2023/2024 making our annual donation of **£4,000.00** to Brain Tumour Research.

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### **Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and review of the state of affairs of the charity at the year end and of its incoming resources and resources expended during that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

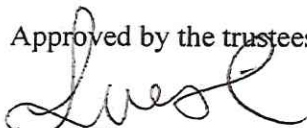
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 1993. 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. We have fulfilled these obligations.

### **Voluntary help**

The trustees are very grateful to many volunteers who helped by carrying out fund-raising on our behalf and giving administrative and practical support.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**Lynn Weston**  
**Co-Founder & Trustee**

07/09/2024

# **CLOWNS IN THE SKY**

(Registered Charity Number 1105195)

## **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

for the year ended  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

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## **STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

W. J. Saunders

8/9/2024

**Clowns in the Sky**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the Year Ended 1 April 2024**

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>					
Fundraising from Trust Companies - unrestricted			41,832.62		36,450.00
Fundraising from Trust Companies - restricted			3,500.00		4,600.00
Charity ball			9,923.20		7,731.26
Other events			-		-
Donations received - unrestricted funds			4,748.09		11,107.21
Donations received - restricted funds			37,837.77		49,936.30
Sponsorship raised			5,755.47		10,860.69
Interest received			360.07		251.68
			103,957.22		120,937.14
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Family grants & associated administration		1,592.00		1,934.20	
Research grants		4,000.00		4,000.00	
Hospital trolleys		3,235.40		8,106.18	
Hospital entertainers & authors' visits		8,201.18		1,609.30	
Expenditure of restricted funds	4b	50,316.75		41,000.21	
Charity ball		6,745.60		5,698.13	
Other fund raising events		1,344.08		2,318.80	
Professional fees - fundraising		14,375.02		10,171.26	
Promotional merchandise		4,765.80		2,190.40	
Website costs		360.00		597.56	
Administration		4,992.80		4,396.36	
Office equipment depreciation		185.99		28.00	
			100,114.62		82,050.40
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year</b>					
			<u>£3,842.60</u>		<u>£38,886.74</u>

**Clowns in the Sky**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**  
**As at 1 April 2024**

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Office equipment		479.00	85.00
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks	2	500.00	700.00
Prepaid expenses		4,700.00	500.00
Cash at bank - general funds		121,962.63	113,936.24
Cash at bank - restricted reserves	3	<u>68,828.19</u>	<u>77,807.17</u>
		195,990.82	192,943.41
		<u>196,469.82</u>	<u>193,028.41</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Sundry creditors		<u>5,933.81</u>	<u>6,335.00</u>
		5,933.81	6,335.00
<b>Net Assets</b>			
		<u>£190,536.01</u>	<u>£186,693.41</u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Unrestricted funds	4a	121,707.82	108,886.24
Restricted funds	4b	68,828.19	77,807.17
		<u>£190,536.01</u>	<u>£186,693.41</u>

## **Clowns in the Sky**

### **Statement of Principal Accounting Policies**

#### Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) and with Accounting Standards as set out in FRS102.

All income and expenditure shown relates to the principal activity of the Charity.

#### Incoming Resources

Recognition of Income:

This is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- The charity is entitled to the resources
- The trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income from restricted private donations is recognised in the period received.

Grants and donations received in advance in respect of specific projects or relating to a specific geographic location where the associated expenditure has not yet been incurred as at the report period end date is shown as recognised income at the balance sheet date but treated as restricted funds pending future expenditure and details shown at note 4 of these accounts.

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

#### Expenditure and Liabilities

Expenditure and liabilities are accounted for in the period in which there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

#### Tax

The Charity is not registered for VAT. Any VAT incurred is shown as part of the expense to which it relates. The Charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income received to the extent that it is applied to its charitable purposes.

#### Fixed Assets

Office equipment is stated at cost and depreciated over its anticipated useful life on a 25% reducing balance basis.



**Clowns in the Sky**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**For the Year Ended 1 April 2024**

1 Details of certain items of expenditure	2024	2023
	£	£
Fee for the examination and preparation of the accounts	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>

**2 Stocks**

Trolleys not yet delivered to hospitals and their contents, along with supplies of promotional merchandise are included at cost.

3 Cash at bank - Restricted reserves	2024	2023
	£	£
This figure represents donations and grants received where restrictions exist on either the nature or geographic location of its expenditure amounting to:	<u>68,828.19</u>	<u>77,807.17</u>

4 Reserves	2024	2023
	£	£
4a <u>Unrestricted funds</u>		
Balance at 02/04/2023	108,886.24	85,535.59
Excess income for the year	12,821.58	25,350.65
Balance at 01/04/2024	<u>121,707.82</u>	<u>108,886.24</u>

**4b Restricted funds**

Where a donor specifies that the donation must be used for a particular objective or in a specific geographical location they are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year received and treated as restricted funds.

The relevant amounts are set out in the tables below.

	Brought forward	Receipts	Payments	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Trust companies	3,932.00	3,500.00	(2,000.00)	5,432.00	3,932.00
Other funds	73,875.17	37,837.77	(48,316.75)	63,396.19	73,875.17
	<u>77,807.17</u>	<u>41,337.77</u>	<u>(50,316.75)</u>	<u>68,828.19</u>	<u>77,807.17</u>
Restricted fund expenditure					
Family grants				2,000.00	2,600.00
Hospital trolleys				29,014.51	24,984.77
Hospital entertainers & authors' visits				5,986.96	-
Grant monitoring costs				13,315.28	13,415.44
				<u>50,316.75</u>	<u>35,541.85</u>

## **Independent Examiner's Report**

**To the Trustees of Clowns in the Sky, Charity number 1105195**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Clowns in the Sky ("the Trust") for the year ended 1 April 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than that any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Martin A Mason  
Chartered Tax Adviser  
22 Inverine Road  
London SE7 7NL

9 September 2024

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Martin A Mason  
Chartered Tax Adviser  
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London SE7 7NL

9 September 2024