

Company Registration number: 05516471

Charity Registration number: 11112701



Chain Reaction Theatre Company

(a company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the year ended 31st March 2022

Beresfords
Chartered Certified Accountants
1-2 Rhodium Point
Spindle Close
Hawkinge
Folkestone
Kent
CT18 7TQ

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

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Chain Reaction Theatre Company
Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary: Mrs S Smit

Charity Registration Number: 1112701

Company Registration Number: 05516471

Registered Office: Millers House
Three Mill Lane
London
E3 3DU

Independent Examiner: Beresfords
Chartered Certified Accountants
1-2 Rhodium Point
Spindle Close
Hawkinge
Folkestone
Kent
CT18 7TQ

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees and Officers

The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

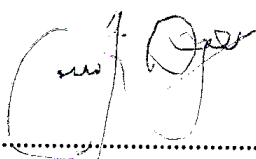
Trustees: Mr MJ Dyer MBE, Chairman
 Miss N Hinksman, Treasurer
 Mrs S Watson-Brown
 Mr S Kenwright
 Miss L Stewart
 Mr J McEachern

Secretary: Mrs S Smit

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on Tuesday 5th July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr MJ Dyer (MBE)
Chair of Trustees

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

Aims & Objectives

Chain Reaction is an award-winning London-based charity that has been using theatre and media to ignite personal and social change for 27 years.

We work in partnership with schools, local councils and corporate organisations to produce high-quality, emotionally engaging projects which transform the way people relate to themselves, their community and to wider society.

We work across both the public and private sector, ensuring our work with vulnerable young people is at the heart of what we do. We identify and address the most acute health and social issues facing disadvantaged young people today. Using the power of creativity, we engage, educate and empower them to reach their full potential in life.

Whether we're delivering professional theatre performances or running youth theatres, creative media workshops, social action groups or interactive training programmes, our work increases people's skills, knowledge and understanding, whilst building their resilience, self-esteem and confidence.

We fundraise to make sure that our transformational community projects are totally free of charge, making them fully accessible to those who need it most and ensuring our impact is as far reaching as possible. Over the last 27 years we're proud to say that our work has reached over 400,000 people.

- We design and deliver engaging and creative workshop programmes exploring key health and social issues.
- We work with professional actors, writers and directors to create original theatre for young people and adults.
- We develop bespoke programmes for corporate audiences to ignite organisational change.

We've spent 27 years educating, inspiring and increasing the confidence of severely disadvantaged young people aged 5 to 19. Working in areas of extreme deprivation, we enable young people to develop essential life skills, motivation and aspirations and access high-quality arts and cultural opportunities (often for the first time).

Our creative programmes for young people take place in schools, community venues, theatres and special education units (for young people who've been excluded from school).

Ensuring our community programmes are free to users enables us to alleviate the barriers which many young people face growing up in our communities. We actively promote access and inclusion to the arts by eliminating physical, cultural, social, and/or financial barriers that can exclude participation.

We hope you enjoy reading about our achievements.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

Our constitutional objectives:

Chain Reaction's objectives are to advance the education of young people and adults by:

- Devising, performing and producing original theatre work promoting awareness of health and social issues.
- Working with young people as performers and writers.
- Working with young people and adults through performance, workshops and media.

Strategies for achieving the objectives:

- Using drama and media to deliver issue-based workshop projects to tackle issues that young people are facing in their lives.
- Producing and touring quality, accessible and entertaining theatre productions and workshops that provoke discussion and thought.
- Ensuring that our work is accessible to our audiences so that schools, theatres and community venues will continue to invite us back year after year.
- Working in collaboration with other agencies.
- Continuing our networking efforts to ensure we continue to build robust partnerships with organisations in the field of arts, health and young people.
- Guaranteeing that young people walk away from our projects feeling better about themselves, raising their self-esteem, self-confidence and aspirations for the future.
- Marketing our work to organisations and young people that might benefit from it. Making use of our website and producing inspiring promotional material.
- Monitoring our fundraising strategy to continually ensure we have the necessary funds to reach vast audiences with our current projects whilst also setting up new theatre projects to address the latest issues facing young people.

Achievements during 2021-2022:

Engagement figures: This year Chain Reaction reached 837 young people aged 5-19 with intensive workshop programmes. Several of these programmes were initially due to be delivered in 2020/2021 but due to Covid they had to be carried over to this financial year. We are pleased to have fitted them in alongside newly funded work and feel proud of our output this year.

Workshop programmes: We delivered an extensive programme of workshop projects in partnership with a range of youth and community organisations, schools and funding bodies to deliver key specialised targeted projects in and out of school hours. These projects build knowledge on health and social issues, increase aspirations and employability skills, nurture self-esteem, encourage individuality and improve young people's social skills. In 2021-2022, we have delivered the following workshop programmes:

1. *Action4Gascoigne*
2. *Chain Reaction Youth Theatre*
3. *Girls Support Girls - London Borough of Newham*
4. *Girls Support Girls - London Borough of Tower Hamlets*
5. *Tower Hamlets Drama Club*
6. *Focus Pocus*

Please see below for a breakdown of our key projects for the year.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

ACTION4GASCOIGNE - COMMUNITY YOUTH ACTION GROUP

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Dates: May 2021 - March 2022

Funding: Didymus, Awards for All, The Hedley Foundation

Area: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Total participants: 39



Action4Gascoigne (A4G) is a youth-led social action project that engages 11–18-year-olds who live on and around the severely deprived Gascoigne Estate in the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham. Through dynamic weekly sessions, A4G gives vulnerable young people the opportunity to gain confidence, aspirations, learn new skills and meet new people whilst working together to make a positive difference to their community.

Thanks to funding from Didymus, The Hedley Foundation and Awards for All, we have continued to deliver this much-loved community project. Starting in May 2021 through to March 2022, we successfully delivered A4G weekly, exploring loneliness, youth unemployment and a host of other issues through drama and games. The young people were thrilled to be able to deliver two small events, giving them a huge boost. They did a short Christmas drama presentation to parents/carers and friends around real news stories from within their community and a festive sing-along.

For our penultimate session in March 2022, the young people hosted a community consultation. They worked alongside Chain Reaction's facilitators to plan and organise it, allowing them to put their new leadership, teamwork and organisational skills to great use. It's important that A4G is relevant to the community's needs and the consultation enabled us to talk to residents and local professionals to find out what A4G can do to make a positive change in the coming years.

Across the breadth of the programme, we noticed a positive change in the young people's behaviours, and the growth we saw from the start to the end of the project was vast. The more the young people felt secure and supported, the more we saw their confidence grow. Each week we saw new relationships blossom. A4G is primarily about reducing isolation, and we're secure in the knowledge that we achieved this.

Project Outcomes:

- 92% of participants enjoyed A4G.
- 100% made new friends at A4G.
- 83% said A4G made them feel less isolated.
- 92% learnt new employability skills.

"[I enjoyed] the people and all the fun activities. [I have learnt] eye contact, social skills, teamwork, loud speaking and the way to address people correctly. Action4Gascoigne makes me feel happy and loved. I made many different friends and improved my social skills."

Participant, aged 12

"[I enjoyed] the fun activities A4G have kindly provided me and all the fun too! [I have learnt] smiling, good posture, friendliness, kindness, confidence, clear voice and being smart. A4G, you have helped me with my life and I really appreciate that you guys have taken time, effort, money and energy to cheer young people up."

Participant, aged 13

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

CHAIN REACTION YOUTH THEATRE LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM & TOWER HAMLETS



Dates: May 2021 – March 2022

Funding: BBC Children In Need, D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust

Total participants: 42

Chain Reaction Youth Theatre (CRYT) is a dynamic, weekly youth-led project for 11–18-year-olds that uses drama and theatre to tackle issues that affect young people's lives and communities. Working with young people from the deprived London Boroughs of Tower Hamlets and Newham, CRYT raises confidence and skills whilst providing a safe, fun and positive environment where they are free to explore their creativity.

Our specialist team of upbeat, dynamic and supportive arts practitioners focus on empowering our participants whilst boosting their self-belief and communication and leadership skills.

In May 2021, we resumed our sessions and our participants explored drama techniques including improvisation, tableaux, and forum theatre. They devised a mini showcase that they shared with their family and friends, creating scenes of negative community activity, and flipping them to show how to provoke a positive outcome instead. The immense increase in their confidence and skill was evident for all to see!

In January 2022, we were delighted to welcome *Harry Potter* and stage and screen actor, Alfred Enoch, to deliver an exciting acting workshop with our young people. They learnt so much and Alfred enjoyed it to such an extent that he immediately asked to return in the future!

From November 2021, there was a big focus on employability skills with the young people creatively exploring the characteristics required to achieve success in the future and play a positive role in society. They built a fantastic series of scenes exploring how to overcome youth unemployment and anti-social behaviour which culminated in a performance at the ELAM Theatre (East London Arts and Music) in March 2022. They devised *Them And Us United* in its entirety, and it perfectly conveyed the impact community spirit can have on individuals and their actions. We were so proud to see our young people on stage and to see their exceptional growth and development.

Project Outcomes:

- 100% of participants enjoyed CRYT.
- 100% felt supported and listened to.
- 100% learnt new employability skills.
- 94% now have a greater interest in performance and the arts.
- 94% have more confidence and self-esteem.

"[I've learnt] how to act when I go into the real world and also perseverance and resilience. Chain Reaction is the best youth theatre London can offer."

Participant, aged 15

"My daughter had a lot of anger issues, which have now calmed since she started CRYT and is able to express herself far better. Her confidence has grown so much. She was very shy and lacked confidence in herself. Before coming to Chain Reaction, she would never have agreed to perform in front of strangers. The best youth activity she has attended. Thank you for making such a difference to all our lives."

Parent of Attendee

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

GIRLS SUPPORT GIRLS – The Project

Girls Support Girls (GSG) is a school workshop programme that's been devised to empower and inspire vulnerable young women aged 13-16. GSG builds the confidence, self-esteem and knowledge of girls from disadvantaged areas and empowers them to take control of their mental and physical health.

GSG is delivered by our skilled and experienced team of female facilitators in a creative and interactive way. It consists of three, 1.5-hour workshops and teaches a number of essential life and employability skills including communication and social skills, teamwork, social interaction, acceptance, self-awareness and belief.

GSG can be adapted to explore a whole host of different issues and outcomes. To date we have explored a plethora of topics including aspirations, employability, relationships, exploitation, grooming, self-worth and mental and sexual health.

We begin GSG sessions with a variety of drama games where everybody has an equal opportunity to participate; this encourages participants to relax, get to know our team and build the group dynamic. We then use thought-provoking discussions to gauge their existing knowledge of the topics. These discussions are designed to foster a safe, open environment where individuals feel encouraged to contribute without judgement. Finally we work through fun drama-based activities to stimulate their minds around topics they may not get the opportunity to normally discuss.

Ultimately, GSG is an amazing opportunity for young women to access knowledge and support to heighten their sense of self-worth, gain confidence and encourage aspirations to lead positive, successful lives.

GIRLS SUPPORT GIRLS London Borough of Newham

Dates: May 2021 and March 2022

Funding: Tampon Tax and Shaftesbury Young People Trust

Areas: London Borough of Newham

Total participants: 193



With funding from the Tampon Tax and The Shaftesbury Young People Trust, Chain Reaction successfully delivered the *Girls Support Girls* (GSG) programme to 8 schools in the London Borough of Newham, reaching 193 young women.

The two deliveries each had slightly different outcomes but issues that were explored included the importance of self-belief, female empowerment, employability and mental and sexual health. The employability strand is a new addition to GSG. Some young women experience many barriers to success between the ages of 13 and 16 including poor mental health, lack of confidence and poverty, so it is vital they learn the key skills required to help them gain employment as early as possible.

Both the Newham deliveries of GSG were a huge success. Drama can be such an effective way to impart the necessary knowledge on these topics and the students enthusiastically engaged with fun and inventive role-play scenes to explore them. Using a variety of other creative techniques and exercises, they also explored vital life skills and how they are essential to many different aspects of their lives, such as confidence, respect, communication, and motivation.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

We have seen the vastly positive effects GSG has had on these young women, and the significant need for it. The feedback was unanimously positive from the staff members and we have been asked to return to develop our connections with the schools.

Project Outcomes:

- 98% of participants enjoyed the workshops.
- 97% of participants said *Girls Support Girls* has taught them new employability skills.
- 98% now have a greater understanding of Mental Health issues.
- 98% said GSG has helped them to recognise negative relationships.
- 98% now have a greater understanding of the risks of unprotected sex.
- 100% of teachers thought *Girls Support Girls* was beneficial for their students.

"Incredibly informative and knowledgeable. Our instructors were understanding and informative and I have learnt a lot. I believe this knowledge is essential for all girls and I'm glad I got to take part in it. Informative, easy to understand, interesting and more. Thank you for letting me do this."

Pupil, aged 15, Sarah Bonnell Secondary School

"Aims were really applicable to some of our disaffected students. Facilitators were great role models. [The students responded] really well. I think for some of the vulnerable students it offered a proactive way of communicating some really important life skills. The social media stuff was really relevant.

We have a lot of issues that are not dealt with appropriately on social media. Nice to see the students gain an understanding that the pathway to your goals is messy. Goals change and life isn't always straight forward!

Thank you!"

Sarah Heath, Deputy Head Teacher, Plashet School

"I liked how everyone was open about their feelings and were able to ask questions without feeling judged... I would like to see more programmes like this."

Pupil, aged 15, The Cumberland school

GIRLS SUPPORT GIRLS

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Dates: April 2021 - March 2022

Funding: The Home Office & London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Areas: London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Total participants: 104

After an extremely successful first year, we were delighted to receive a second year of funding from The Home Office in partnership with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Prevent Team. This funding enabled us to take this much-needed programme into 4 local schools and deliver a 4-day intensive school holiday programme in the community during August 2021.

The programme allowed us to work with 104 vulnerable young women; we explored mental health, future prospects and how to recognise negative and exploitive relationships. We worked together to identify barriers to success and our team provided knowledge and practical tools to avoid wider exploitation issues and radicalisation, which has been a big concern for the borough in recent years. We did a lot of work around positive relationships and provided participants with a fully rounded programme to build their resilience and confidence.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

Working with the young women for an intensive period allowed us to build up a strong rapport with them. Our team continued working with the most vulnerable of our participants after the school and community programme ended, providing both group and one-to-one follow-up mentoring sessions tailored to their specific needs. Working through our mentoring and development booklet, we were able to support these girls through problems at home or in their school life enabling them to apply the tools and techniques they had learnt through the GSG programme to their daily lives.

Project Outcomes:

- 94% of participants feel more confident after GSG.
- 97% can now recognise what a negative relationship looks like.
- 91% said GSG has made them think more about their future goals.
- 94% have a greater understanding of the risks of radicalisation and exploitation.
- 94% have a greater understanding of mental health issues.

"[I enjoyed] learning a range of topics including what radicalisation is in different contexts and British values... I learnt different ways to encourage myself and friends and it has motivated me into thinking of careers relating to helping people."

Pupil, Aged 15, Central Foundation Girls School

*"It was really fun and exciting, creating really strong bonds with new people.
[I've learnt] I should have more confidence in what I do and believe in myself. It was amazing."*

Participant, aged 15, GSG Community

The Drama Club

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Dates: August 2021

Funding: The Wakefield and Tetley Trust

Areas: London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Total participants: 22

Tower Hamlets Drama Club was an intensive 3-day issue-based drama programme which took place at our base Millers House during the summer holidays 2021. We engaged 22, 11-18 year-olds from the deprived London Borough of Tower Hamlets.



Our specialist team of skilled arts practitioners used drama to explore the most prevalent health and social issues that these young people and their communities face, all of which have intensified due to Covid-19. Participants learnt an abundance of new skills, whilst taking part in creative drama-based activities that increased confidence, self-esteem and reduced isolation. We provided a fun and positive environment that increased communication and social skills whilst encouraging teamwork, problem-solving and leadership.

Employability and poverty were topics we explored particularly intensively which led us to discuss the characteristics we require to secure a job in the future. We also delved into discussions around barriers within the community that can prevent us reaching our full potential in life. *Tower Hamlets Drama Club* was a positive and uplifting project that provided a space for everyone to share their thoughts and opinions on the society we live in and how we can work together to make positive change, starting with ourselves.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

At the end of the 3 days, the young people performed a show to an invited audience of parents/carers and local residents. The performance explored youth employment, aspirations and the benefits of having a positive attitude. It was amazing how after just 3 days of working together they put on a such a quality performance. Their teamwork skills were first class and so many of the young people left the programme having made new friends. It was a truly heart-warming experience for all.

The young people's evaluations showed the vast effect this funding had on the young people of Tower Hamlets. Through delivering this project we have been able to maintain contact with them and refer them to our other projects enabling them to put the skills they've learnt with us into practice and to keep developing their abilities.

Project Outcomes:

- 100% of participants enjoyed *Tower Hamlets Drama Club*.
- 100% felt more confident after attending.
- 100% said they learnt new employability skills.
- 100% felt supported and listened to.
- 100% of participants made new friends.

"I enjoyed everything; this programme is amazing. I learned communication skills and leadership skills. I've also enjoyed how welcoming the staff were and how nice the project was."

Participant, aged 15

"Acting has helped my confidence massively through these three days... Chain Reaction is really great; I mean this is one of the best drama clubs."

Participant, aged 13

"[I learnt] to be more confident and relaxed when talking in front of other people. The staff were really helpful and kind to us; they really put a lot of effort into this club. Big thank you to them."

Participant, aged 15

FOCUS POCUS

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Dates: September – October 2021

Funding: Redhill Trust and The Essex Youth Trust

Areas: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Total participants: 8 young people excluded from mainstream school

Focus Pocus is a drama-based programme for vulnerable young people aged 8-11 who have been excluded from mainstream school and attend Special Education Units. The programme uses theatre-based methods to raise young people's confidence and improve their focus, communication, teamwork and social skills.

Throughout Autumn 2021, over a 5-week period, we worked intensively with 8 young people from the Cambell Primary Centre in Dagenham. The Centre is a behaviour recovery provision for children with emotional and behavioural issues.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

We used a variety of tried and tested drama techniques (games, role-play and discussion) designed to engage and educate the pupils. Through this, we taught them strategies that help them to focus, build resilience, improve communication and boost attainment.

Through games and drama, we provided the pupils with an outlet to express themselves in alternative ways to how they might usually. Although the games we played had a focus element to them, they were entertaining and sometimes competitive, which encouraged the young people to persevere, and as a result they gained immense praise and sense of achievement for managing to maintain their focus. We found they particularly took to the performance aspect of the sessions, gaining enjoyment from offering their ideas, playing a part and donning costumes and props.

We witnessed some remarkable developments and successfully engaged young people that often refuse to take part in interactive activities. In the final session, all of them found the confidence to perform drama scenes to their teachers and displayed cooperation and unity with each other, despite their, often vast, differences. The project was a huge success and yet again proves how valuable a tool drama is.

Project Outcomes:

- 100% of participants learnt new skills from *Focus Pocus*.
- 100% learnt new ways to focus.
- 100% felt more confident.
- 100% enjoyed the workshops.
- 100% of teachers said *Focus Pocus* was a positive way to engage pupils.
- 100% of teachers said the interactive way of learning was beneficial for the pupils.

"[They responded] very well. They gained confidence and were better able to work with each other. The use of games and strategies captured their attention. There was a high level of engagement throughout. One boy recently spent some time in a mainstream class and was able to transfer skills learnt with Chain Reaction. Chain Reaction were easy to talk to and happy to adapt the programme to our children's specific needs."

Rebecca Seaton, Assistant Headteacher, Cambell Primary Centre, Dagenham

"[I liked] the games and the acting. [A good way to focus is] choose one thing to think about. I liked narrating."

Participant, aged 10, Cambell Primary Centre, Dagenham

"[I liked] learning ways to focus. [A good way to focus is to] ignore inappropriate behaviour."

Participant, aged 10, Cambell Primary Centre, Dagenham

Chain Reaction's Benefit to the Public:

We're one of the leading providers of free positive arts activities in our target boroughs and renowned for engaging the most challenging young people and sustaining that engagement. Young people find out about our projects through our strong partnerships and referral routes with schools, youth/social services and through direct outreach work.

We work primarily in areas of high deprivation throughout London and Essex; our main target areas are within the top 20% most deprived boroughs in the country. Research shows that young people from deprived backgrounds are more likely to take drugs or participate in anti-social behaviour, the diets of young people of low socio-economic status tend to be poor and girls from the poorest backgrounds are more likely to become teenage mothers than girls from professional backgrounds.

Many of the young people we work with are from very challenging backgrounds and at risk of developing anti-social and criminal behaviours. We often engage young people who think becoming a teen parent

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

or going on benefits is a more viable life choice than finishing their education; they desperately need positive engagement to stop them slipping through the cracks. With little confidence in what they can achieve, many face emotional difficulties that often result in behaviour issues at school or work. All of this is exacerbated by a lack of positive role models to help them to progress in life, leading to a cycle of low educational attainment and unemployment.

We work with those who:

- Attend Special Education Units and need help re-integrating back into mainstream education.
- Are 'looked after' children in the care system and need extra support.
- Are lacking communication and social skills.
- Have ADHD and/or Autism and find it difficult to integrate in a traditional classroom setting.
- Are disengaging from school and need interventions to raise aspirations.
- Are already NEET and need mentoring and tailored support to get them back into education/training/employment.

Chain Reaction's educational performances and workshop programmes are an engaging way for young people to develop new skills, learn new information and explore a wide range of topics that are most relevant and pressing in today's society. Our work benefits young people and their communities in numerous different ways:

- Educating young people on key health and social issues.
- Promoting community safety.
- Providing interactive arts and cultural activities.
- Providing extensive and up to date information.
- Raising young people's levels of knowledge, self-esteem and confidence so they can make informed decisions about their futures.
- Instilling a sense of community spirit in young people.

Young people who take part in our out-of-school workshops are actively engaging in positive activities away from the streets and out of trouble. Whilst there, they enjoy fun, safe, informative, issue-based drama and creative activities that help them explore why and how to avoid negative, anti-social behaviour and focus instead on playing a positive, active part in their community.

Our targeted workshops with young people from Youth Offending Teams, Special Education Units, Youth Inclusion Support Panels and Reception & Reintegration Units ensure that we are working with the most vulnerable youths in our society and tackling the issues that can really make a difference to their futures and the lives of those around them.

The secondary beneficiaries of our projects are the family and friends of the young people with whom we work and members of the wider communities in which they live. Changing attitudes and behaviours make communities more cohesive, safer, happier, and healthier places to live. This, in turn, benefits the whole of society on a long-term basis.

Charity's policy with regard to reserves:

The Board of Directors has examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Board of Directors considers that, given the nature of the charity's work, the level of free reserves should contain sufficient working capital to cover costs i.e. staff redundancies and closure costs at any one time and allow the charity to cope and respond to unforeseen emergencies whilst specific action plans are implemented.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Trustees Report

Financial Review

The results of the charity for the year are shown in the annual financial statements set out on pages 15 to 28. The Charity had total income of £134,218 and direct charitable expenditure of £142,227. Total fund balances carried forward were £106,727.

Funds and Reserves

The unrestricted funds include a General Reserve carried forward of £78,513 and restricted funds of £28,214. The Board of Directors consider this level of general reserves as sufficient but will still use strategies to ensure this level of reserves remains strong in the next financial year.

Risk Review

The major risks to which the charity is exposed have been reviewed and systems are being established to mitigate those risks. In addition, funding risk is being addressed by creating a better spread amongst various funders.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Chain Reaction is registered as a charity and company and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and acts entirely as a non-profit making organisation.

Organisational management

The Directors and Trustees are legally responsible for the overall management and control of Chain Reaction. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by themselves and the Artistic Director. Directors meet four to six times a year and meetings are chaired by the Chair. The day-to-day running of the charity is delegated to the respective Artistic Director who also attends meetings of the Directors.

Recruitment and appointment of Directors

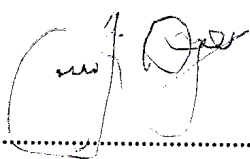
In accordance with the governing document, elections for the Directors take place every year at the Annual General Meeting; if eligible outgoing Directors may offer themselves for re-election. Appointment is on the basis of nominations received from Board Members concerning eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills and local availability.

Induction and training of Directors

Directors are inducted through training days and through informal and formal meetings with established or outgoing Directors. Each is provided with an induction pack and other relevant materials to familiarise themselves with the Charity's operations.

Small companies' provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006. The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on Tuesday 5th July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr MJ Dyer (MBE)
Chair of Trustees

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Chain Reaction Theatre Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

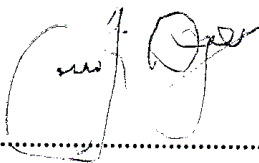
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period.

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on Tuesday 5th July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr MJ Dyer (MBE)
Chair of Trustees

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Chain Reaction Theatre Company ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

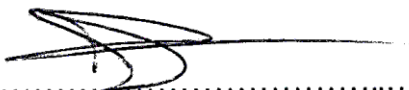
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Chain Reaction Theatre Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 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.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Chain Reaction Theatre Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.



.....
Mr Daniel Payne FCCA
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Beresfords
Chartered Certified Accountants
1-2 Rhodium Point
Spindle Close
Hawkinge, Folkestone
Kent, CT18 7TQ

Date: 5/7/22

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	33,140	99,104	132,244
Charitable activities	4	1,968	-	1,968
Investment income	5	6	-	6
Total income		35,114	99,104	134,218
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	7	(21,927)	(120,300)	(142,227)
Total expenditure		(21,927)	(120,300)	(142,227)
Net income/(expenditure)		13,187	(21,196)	(8,009)
Net movement in funds		13,187	(21,196)	(8,009)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		65,326	49,410	114,736
Total funds carried forward	16	78,513	28,214	106,727

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	37,626	130,413	168,039
Charitable activities	4	15,450	-	15,450
Investment income	5	7	-	7
Other income	6	2,843	-	2,843
Total income		<u>55,926</u>	<u>130,413</u>	<u>186,339</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	7	<u>(27,617)</u>	<u>(101,994)</u>	<u>(129,611)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(27,617)</u>	<u>(101,994)</u>	<u>(129,611)</u>
Net income		<u>28,309</u>	<u>28,419</u>	<u>56,728</u>
Net movement in funds		28,309	28,419	56,728
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>37,017</u>	<u>20,991</u>	<u>58,008</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u>65,326</u>	<u>49,410</u>	<u>114,736</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 16.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

(Registration number: 05516471)

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Debtors	13	-	9,056
Cash at bank and in hand	14	112,522	114,370
		<u>112,522</u>	<u>123,426</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(5,795)</u>	<u>(8,690)</u>
Net assets		<u>106,727</u>	<u>114,736</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		28,214	49,410
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>78,513</u>	<u>65,326</u>
Total funds	16	<u>106,727</u>	<u>114,736</u>

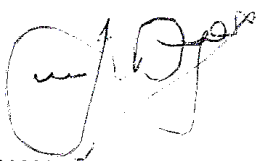
For the financial year ending 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 4 to 15 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 5th July 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Mr MJ Dyer (MBE)
Chair of Trustees

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Millers House
Three Mill Lane
London
E3 3DU

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Chain Reaction Theatre Company 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 notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

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 the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants receivable

to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purpose.

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted		Total 2022	Total 2021
	General £	Restricted £	£	£
Grants, including capital grants;				
Government grants	-	-	-	24,376
General grants	33,140	99,104	132,244	143,663
	33,140	99,104	132,244	168,039

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	General £	£	£
Project and schools income	1,968	1,968	15,450

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	6	6	7

6 Other income

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Theatre tax relief refunds	-	2,843

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted		Total	Total
		General	Restricted	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£
Governance costs	8	1,440	-	1,440	1,440
Staff costs		12,232	81,610	93,842	80,603
Freelance project staff		-	23,246	23,246	26,878
Volunteer expenses		-	600	600	50
Rent, rates and venue hire		-	10,080	10,080	10,679
Insurance		1,315	-	1,315	1,086
Project costs		-	4,764	4,764	3,385
Repairs and maintenance		1,045	-	1,045	-
Telephone and internet		1,304	-	1,304	1,455
Printing, postage and stationery		2,309	-	2,309	2,394
Travel expenses		853	-	853	233
Hospitality and refreshment expenses		1,261	-	1,261	323
Bank charges		120	-	120	98
Legal and professional fees		48	-	48	987
		21,927	120,300	142,227	129,611

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total	Total
	General	2022	2021
	£	£	£
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	1,440	1,440	1,440
	1,440	1,440	1,440

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	82,170	73,744
Social security costs	7,987	5,838
Pension costs	3,685	1,021
	<u>93,842</u>	<u>80,603</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
General staff	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

1 (2021 - 1) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

11 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,440</u>	<u>1,440</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

13 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>9,056</u>

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

14 Cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash on hand	580	138
Cash at bank	111,942	114,232
	<u>112,522</u>	<u>114,370</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Payroll taxes due	4,354	-
Pension scheme creditor	-	514
Accruals - independent examination	1,441	1,440
Deferred income	-	6,736
	<u>5,795</u>	<u>8,690</u>

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	65,326	35,114	(21,927)	78,513
Restricted funds	49,410	99,104	(120,300)	28,214
Total funds	<u>114,736</u>	<u>134,218</u>	<u>(142,227)</u>	<u>106,727</u>

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	37,017	55,926	(27,617)	65,326
Restricted funds	20,991	130,413	(101,994)	49,410
Total funds	<u>58,008</u>	<u>186,339</u>	<u>(129,611)</u>	<u>114,736</u>

Chain Reaction Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
Current assets	84,309	28,213	112,522
Current liabilities	(5,795)	-	(5,795)
Total net assets	78,514	28,213	106,727

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2021 £
Current assets	74,016	49,410	123,426
Current liabilities	(8,690)	-	(8,690)
Total net assets	65,326	49,410	114,736