

Charity Registration Number: 1113628

THINKING AUTISM
A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The Year Ended
31 March 2023

THINKING AUTISM CIO

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THINKING AUTISM CIO

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Thinking Autism CIO
Charity Number	1113628
Registered Office	International House 24 Holburn Viaduct London EC1A 2BN
Trustees	K. Charman A. Kugelstadt J. Allman S. Partridge
Independent Examiners	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham Lancashire OL1 2RA
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

1 APRIL 2022 – 31 MARCH 2023

Thinking Autism CIO was registered under the Charity Commission number 1113628 on 3 March 2022.

Address: International House, 109-111 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA

Website: www.thinkingautism.org.uk

Email address: mail@thinkingautism.org.uk

During the reporting period, the volunteers and employee of Thinking Autism continued to provide support and information to thousands of families across the UK and world, utilising live online events, social media, free publications and person-to-person communication on social media platforms.

EVENTS

While we had hoped to begin live, in-person events again after the lockdowns had lifted, unfortunately we did not feel confident doing so because of an investigation undertaken by the Charity Commission following what we believed to be an inaccurate and sensationalistic article by Shanti Das, published in two large newspapers. Our events often face protestors, and we were further concerned that the negative publicity generated by the article may have encouraged certain groups that seek to undermine our charity to protest and disrupt any in-person events we might hold. We therefore decided against arranging any such events during the reporting period.

Furthermore, because of the investigation kick-started by the article, the trustees had to spend many hours in meetings, preparing our responses, meeting with a lawyer who kindly helped us pro bono, and communicating with our members about what had happened. This took up the majority of our available time for a few months. We were grateful that the Charity Commission closed the investigation on 8 February 2023, allowing us to continue our work.

We did hold a number of online informal gatherings with members of Thinking Autism. Hosted by TA volunteers, these daytime meetings were held on Facebook using our members-only page. These events focused on allowing members to socialise, as a survey we had conducted with our members during this reporting period had identified increased isolation as an ongoing and worsening problem. We continue to organise these events.

We also held a Face2Face live, Aggression and Possible Underlying Health Issues. The rest of our catalogue of presentations, over 25 of them, remain available to all members.

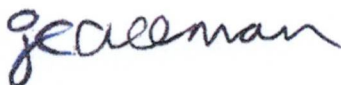
In November, we began planning our upcoming three day conference, to be held 6-8 October 2023 at Queen's Gate House, London. During this reporting period, we invited and confirmed speakers, organised all of the logistical details concerning the venue, and worked out all financial considerations. We expect approximately 250 delegates at the event.

FOUNDATIONAL ACTIVITIES: During this reporting period, trustees provided commentary approximately 12 times to queries from reporters; we worked behind the scenes on an upcoming Netflix documentary about autism; we worked behind the scenes on an autism book published by a parent.

We continued to maintain our active Facebook and Twitter accounts, as well as our website, which receives on average 6000 engagements each month. We remained responsive to emails and social media messages, which we receive on a daily basis. We continued to signpost important autism research information through newsletters and social media posts.

We continued to offer free memberships to those who could not afford one, and the low cost of £15 annually for those who can afford.

We supported some fundraising events undertaken on our behalf, including a world record setting DJ set by Aldo Vanucci which raised more than £9000 for the charity. We were very grateful to receive a number of donations set up in memory of individuals, as well as the monthly donations made by Friends of TA.



Joanne Allman

Trustee, Thinking Autism

THINKING AUTISM CIO

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THINKING AUTISM CIO

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 as set out on pages 4 to 6.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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").

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the 2011 Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility as independent examiner to:

- ~ examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- ~ follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- ~ to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions given by the Charity commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

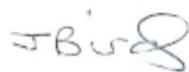
Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination for the year ended 31 March 2023.

I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ~ accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act or
- ~ the accounts do not accord with the accounting records to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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



28th September 2023

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.

Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

THINKING AUTISM CIO

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
	Notes				
RECEIPTS					
Grants	2	-	-	-	-
Membership Fees		4,800	-	4,800	5,100
Donations		10,310	-	10,310	8,175
London Conference		-	-	-	-
Roadshows		-	-	-	-
Community Support		-	-	-	150
Merchandise Sales		-	-	-	-
Refunds		-	-	-	214
Interest Received		1,606	-	1,606	1,025
Sundry Income		-	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS		16,716	-	16,716	14,664
PAYMENTS					
London Conference		-	-	-	-
Roadshows		-	-	-	-
Advocacy (Conferences & Events)		-	-	-	-
Community Support		-	-	-	450
Salaries Costs		21,392	-	21,392	20,886
Consultancy & Advice		-	-	-	6,262
Marketing		870	-	870	36
Research		1,001	-	1,001	-
Gifts		-	-	-	125
Donations		-	-	-	300
Just Giving Fees		-	-	-	90
Membership Packs		-	-	-	-
Membership Fee Refunds		-	-	-	15
Merchandise (Books)		-	-	-	-
Equipment		-	-	-	-
Training		-	-	-	-
Website & Software Costs		1,072	-	1,072	238
Mail Forwarding		-	-	-	192
Printing & Stationery		-	-	-	13
Postage & Courier Costs		8	-	8	-
Travel Costs		-	-	-	-
Storage		490	-	490	390
Insurance		499	-	499	467
Accountancy Fees		720	-	720	50
Payroll Costs		240	-	240	198
Bank & Paypal Charges		227	-	227	232
Sundries		-	-	-	13
TOTAL PAYMENTS		26,519	-	26,519	29,957
Net of receipts/(payments)		(9,803)	-	(9,803)	(15,293)
Cash funds as at 31 March 2022	5	90,989	5,752	96,741	112,034
Cash funds as at 31 March 2023	5	81,186	5,752	86,938	96,741

THINKING AUTISM CIO
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted Funds As at 31/03/23 £	Restricted Funds As at 31/03/23 £	Total Funds As at 31/03/23 £	Total Funds As at 31/03/22 £
CASH FUNDS				
Bank	78,985	5,752	84,737	22,094
Cash on Deposit	-	-	-	64,172
Paypal	2,146	-	2,146	10,420
Petty Cash	<u>55</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>55</u>
	<u>81,186</u>	<u>5,752</u>	<u>86,938</u>	<u>96,741</u>

		£	£
LIABILITIES – fee for Independent Examination		<u>365</u>	<u>720</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 27th of September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



J Allman
Trustee

THINKING AUTISM CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Receipts and Payments Accounts

Receipts and Payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants

Grants are credited to revenue on a receivable basis, and all income is allocated to appropriate funds based on the income, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor.

Expenditure which meets these criteria's is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for charitable purposes.

3. Grants Received

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Big Lottery Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

4. Trustees & Staff Costs

During the financial year there were no remunerations paid to trustees.

No employee received emoluments of £60,000 or above (2022: none).

5. Funds Analysis

	Balance as at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Balance as at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds	90,989	16,716	(26,519)	81,186
Restricted Funds:				
Big Lottery Fund	<u>5,752</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,752</u>
Total Funds	<u>96,741</u>	<u>16,716</u>	<u>(26,519)</u>	<u>86,938</u>