

# Godly Play UK Trustees' Annual Report 2021



## Godly Play UK

Charity number: 1116846 TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2021

### Activities - how the charity spends its money

Godly Play UK is a Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality providing training, advice and support for those who use the Godly Play method to transform thinking and practice for the whole of life.

### Income and expenditure

Income: £26,497 Expenditure: £22,813

Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet for financial year ending 31 December 2021 attached

### People

8 Trustees 14 Trainers and 44 advocates

The Trust has no employees and therefore no one with total benefits over £60,000:

### Fundraising

This charity raises funds from the public but does not work with professional fundraisers or commercial participators.

### Trading

This charity does not have any trading subsidiaries.

### Trustee payments

No trustees receive any remuneration, payments or benefits from the charity.

### What the charity does:

Religious Activities

### Who the charity helps:

Children, young people and adults

### How the charity helps:

Provides Services and Training

*A Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality  
providing training to transform thinking and practice for the whole of life*

### Where the charity operates:

Throughout England and Wales

### Registration history:

16 November 2006: Registered

### Organisation type:

Trust

### Other names:

No other names

### Gift aid:

Recognised by HMRC for gift aid

### Other regulators:

No information available

### Policies:

Risk management: Risk Register updated October 2021

Investment: Reserves Policy updated March 2021

Safeguarding vulnerable beneficiaries: Safeguarding Policy updated October 2020

Conflicting interests: Conflicts of Interest Policy Updated March 2021

Complaints handling: Complaints Policy updated January 2021

### Land and property:

This charity does not own and/or lease land or property

### Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

### Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document

The objects of the Trust are to advance the Christian faith in particular but not so as to limit the generality of the foregoing by means of a method of Christian education and spiritual direction using religious language and symbol to help people become more aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the trustees may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust Declaration of Trust establishing Godly Play UK 25 September 2006 Godly Play UK: taking children's spirituality seriously Godly Play is a Christian Movement centred on childhood spirituality – providing training to transform thinking and practice for the whole of life

### Vision

Godly Play UK's vision is for childhood spirituality to be taken seriously.

### Aims

Godly Play UK aims to make Godly Play available to people who work with children and with other groups where questions about the meaning and purpose of life might arise.

The Trust works indirectly with those who might benefit from its services by supporting those who work directly with children and other groups.

It is hoped that these aims will result in:

- more people having completed an accredited three-day Godly Play UK training course, such that their understanding of Godly Play's principles and capacity to implement its methods can inspire and transform the communities in which they work;
- the spread of an increasingly open, non-coercive pedagogical style in which the value of sacred space and play are recognised as keys to spiritual engagement. Thus Godly Play's influence will become evident in other methods and practices, as well as become the method and practice of choice;
- wider public understanding of childhood spirituality as an instinctive and profound capacity, that includes a natural, untaught sense of God's mystery and presence;
- reframing the task of Christian spiritual nurture and accompaniment, acknowledging that adults and children are not empty vessels to be filled with knowledge, and that Godly Play provides a way for people to use Christian language to make meaning in their lives.

### Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

The Trustees met formally and virtually twice with other subgroups working between these meetings to enable progress on specific areas of work.

Godly Play UK had 14 Trainers during 2021, though some were not active as the pandemic precluded a great deal of normal activity.

Only two three-day courses took place in 2021 but work done by a group of Trainers to develop some new online offers enabled the implementation of new offers.

- An online Experience of Godly Play was run seven times for an overall total of 17 participants.
- Two face-to-face Experience of Godly Play sessions were offered in different venues in November.
- Four 3 x 90-minute Introductions to Godly Play were offered reaching 35 participants
- Four 4x 90-minute Introductions to Godly Play were offered reaching 42 participants
- Four face-to-face Introductions were offered.
- An online Core Training course (3-day equivalent) attracted 16 participants.
- Two face-to-face Core Training courses reached a total of 26 participants.
- Five online Book Groups met during the year reading four different texts.

There are informal networks supporting those involved in Godly Play across the country which are supported by the Trainers, but not all areas of the UK are covered by these. There is also a very active Godly Play Facebook group which is supported by the Trainers.

The Trainers are remunerated by the Trust for the work they do on 3-day face-to-face courses. This year, because of Covid-19 when face-to-face courses were not possible, they were also remunerated for the development of new resources with support from the Associates Fund. They were then remunerated for new on-line courses made possible by the income from these courses. Otherwise, the Trainers offer the bulk of the time on a voluntary basis.

St Michael's Workshop in Bowthorpe continues to sell approved Godly Play materials made by their service users. Godly Play UK has no financial arrangement with the Bowthorpe Trust, but there is a good working relationship and a group from each body meets regularly to facilitate development of materials.

## Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

The Charity has due regard to the Charity Guidance on Public Benefit.

### Policy on grant making

Godly Play UK will make 10% of its annual gains available to subsidise the cost of attending one of its 3-day training courses. Conditions for this are that applicants must come from a situation where resources are under pressure; joint funding with other bodies is preferable; areas where Godly Play is not yet established are a particular area of interest; applicants who have a plan for use of their learning are preferred. Applications are in writing to the Chair who will seek references. One grant was offered in 2021 but in the event the recipient did not take it up because of illness.

### Policy on social investment including programme related investment

The social impact of GPUK is the support it provides to individuals to enrich their lives.

The core training by a small group of Trainers enables others to go out into churches, schools and other settings to work with a wider range of people.

The work is supported by our Advocates in communities and by our Associates who make a modest annual donation which is used to further the aims and reach of GPUK, particularly through the magazine, bursaries and funding for new initiatives.

This outreach has been particularly important during this year because of the social isolation often experienced.

### Contribution made by volunteers

A great deal of the work done by the Trust's Trainers is undertaken on a voluntary basis: for example, many taster sessions of an hour or more; telephone advice to practitioners; advice via the Facebook group; writing articles for the Trust's website and magazine. All the trustees are volunteers and some work not only on governance matters but on the practical day-to-day tasks required to ensure the development of the work.

### Other

#### Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

The Trustees wanted to broaden the reach of GPUK and it was felt that updating the website would contribute to this. The Trustees agreed to allocate funds to do this and worked with a developer to refresh the impact and accessibility of the website.

GPUK has continued to produce the twice yearly 28-page magazine for Associates of Godly Play UK which is then freely available on the GPUK website.

The uptake of on-line Experiences and Introductions of Godly Play has enabled GPUK to reach out to new participants during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Book groups online proved to be a stimulating way of engaging with GPUK practitioners.

The online Core Training pilot involved considerable commitment from the Trainers and Trustees and proved to be a successful alternative to face-to-face courses. The course was moderated and

approved by the International Godly Play Foundation and has potential for further application worldwide.

Many of the regional network groups have found a way to continue to function virtually online.

### **Achievements against objectives set**

The commitment to keep going during the Covid-19 pandemic required considerable creativity and resourcefulness from all concerned but the positive impact of new offerings will be long-term.

The new website has been welcomed by all who use it.

### **Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set**

The Associates scheme of annual donations has continued successfully.

GPUK received a donation from the Jerome and Dorothea Berryman Foundation in the USA.

There have been other donations from a small number of individuals.

GPUK received Gift Aid on some donations where appropriate.

### **Investment performance against objectives**

The Trust takes a cautious approach to investment in line with our Reserves Policy. GPUK reserves should be placed so that they achieve a competitive rate of interest but

- should be held in an ethical fund
- should be held in a secure fund with minimal risk
- placement of the reserves should be approved by the Trustees

As such, returns on investment are small.

### **Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period**

At the end of the financial year, GPUK Held just over £45,000 in its bank accounts including fees held on account for courses which were postponed.

### **Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held**

The reserve will be used to further the objects and reach of Godly Play's charitable objects. The Trust is actively looking at projects which do this.

GPUK invited applicants for bursaries from those who could not otherwise afford its courses.

### **Amount of reserves held**

The Trust holds reserves of £36,233 built up over a number of years.

### **The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)**

The principal sources of funding are:

- Course fees – from online and face-to-face courses
- Associates' fund
- Donations
- Gift Aid

### Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted

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### A description of the principal risks facing the charity

The Trust maintains a Risk Register which covers all aspects of risk. The Register is reviewed twice each year by the Trustees.

The coronavirus outbreak had an impact in that it was not possible to run so many courses during the year. The future risks ensuing from a similar outbreak have to some extent been mitigated by the development of on-line resources.

The Trust is aware of its reliance on a small number of Trustees, Trainers and volunteers and intends to try to address this in the coming year.

### Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)

Declaration of Trust establishing Godly Play UK 25 September 2006

### How is the charity constituted?

Unincorporated organisation

### Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees

Trustees are approached on the basis of reputation and experience. GPUK welcomes Trustees from all backgrounds and invites individuals to apply through the website.

A recruitment process involving application, CV and references is undertaken before potential candidates are invited to meet with other Trustees and gain an understanding of working practices before they agree to become a Trustee. They are then proposed to the Trustees for approval.

A new Trustee signs a Fit and Proper Person's declaration

### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The Trust has an Induction process carried out by the Chair of Trustees involving, for those without a background in Godly Play, an exposure to Godly Play values. All new Trustees receive details of financial background and accounts, previous minutes and policies.

New Trustees are invited to join a sub-committee where appropriate.

New Trustees are invited to observe GPUK training.

Trustees have an opportunity to meet and work with the Trainers at the annual Trustee and Trainer get-together.

### The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works

The Trust manages the business of the organisation.

The Trust outsources administrative and financial functions such as administration, accounts and website development.

The Trainers are a self-supporting college who hold on-line meetings with each other about a variety of issues. The customary annual residential meeting of Trustees and Trainers was not possible because of the pandemic and each group met separately for several hours online.

#### Relationship with any related parties

Salvation Army

Bowthorpe Community Trust, Norwich

Cliff College

Godly Play UK  
Balance Sheet  
As at 31 December 2021

			2021	2020
			£	£
Customers		142.04	9,790.00	
Debtors	Prepayments	863.26	491.84	
	Trade Debtors	3,644.37	-	
		<u>4,507.63</u>	<u>491.84</u>	
Bank	CAF Cash Account (405	4,240.25	11,909.24	
	CAF Gold Account (405	40,978.77	35,974.69	
		<u>45,219.02</u>	<u>47,883.93</u>	
		49,868.69		58,165.77
Suppliers		(220.95)	(1,835.67)	
Creditors	Accruals	(10,685.00)	(17,660.00)	
	Fees held on Account	(2,730.00)	(6,121.00)	
		<u>(13,415.00)</u>	<u>(23,781.00)</u>	
		(13,635.95)		(25,616.67)
Net assets		<u>36,232.74</u>		<u>32,549.10</u>
			£	£
Unrestricted fund	Profit and loss account	21,483.48	25,608.83	
	Net profit/(loss)	3,683.64	(1,051.15)	
	Restricted Funds - Godly	<u>11,065.62</u>	<u>7,991.42</u>	
		36,232.74		32,549.10
Total funds		<u>36,232.74</u>		<u>32,549.10</u>



Godly Play UK  
Profit And Loss Account  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
Income - Courses	Course Fees	17,938.50	3,745.00
	Course Donations	-	200.00
		<u>17,938.50</u>	<u>3,945.00</u>
Expenses - Cour	Trainers Fees	(10,678.46)	(2,750.00)
	Trainers Expenses	(249.15)	(36.00)
	Venue - Hire	(1,274.20)	(175.00)
	Venue - Catering	(134.55)	(160.00)
	Card Handling Commissi	(89.09)	(11.76)
	Other Expenses - Cours	(1,088.38)	(12.00)
	Course Administration	(860.00)	(230.00)
		<u>(14,373.83)</u>	<u>(3,374.76)</u>
Income - Other	Donations	625.10	2,946.00
	Donations - Overseas	3,644.37	-
	Donations - Godly Play	3,555.00	3,887.50
	Gift Aid - Godly Play Ass	660.00	622.50
	Interest Received	4.08	30.91
	Other Income	70.00	330.00
		<u>8,558.55</u>	<u>7,816.91</u>
Expenses - Other	Administration	(2,310.76)	(3,234.43)
	Webhosting	-	(134.40)
	Office Stationery	(77.77)	(6.49)
	Postage	(21.18)	(1.50)
	Bank Charges/Commissi	(121.00)	(52.09)
	Fundraising Commission	(86.80)	(92.00)
	Finance	(336.00)	(336.00)
	Magazine Production	(800.00)	(1,017.99)
	Professional Services W	(3,377.00)	(2,850.00)
	Trustee Travel	-	(58.50)
	Trainer Travel	-	56.60
	Insurance	(400.61)	(378.44)
	ICO - Data Protection R	(35.00)	(35.00)
	Subscriptions	(308.14)	(293.65)
	Other Payments	(561.32)	(498.41)
	Fundraising Expenses	(4.00)	(6.00)
	Grants Made	-	(500.00)
		<u>(8,439.58)</u>	<u>(9,438.30)</u>
Net profit/(loss)		<u>3,683.64</u>	<u>(1,051.15)</u>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Godly Play UK

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 December 2021

Charity no  
(if any)

1116846

Set out on pages

1-19

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2021**

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 report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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

Signed:

Date:

16/9/22

Name:

David Geoffrey Werry

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

ACA

Address:

3, Laurel Close

Lichfield

WS13 6TT

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Not applicable