

Fast Familiar Limited | Report of the Trustees
Year from 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025
Company number 6191989 (England and Wales)
Registered charity number 1120667

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2024 – 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
FAST FAMILIAR LIMITED**

Fast Familiar Limited | Report of the Trustees

Year from 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025

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The Trustees who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the Financial Statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective from 1 January 2015.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered name

Fast Familiar Limited

Company number

6191989 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1120667

Registered office

The Boathouse, River Gardens, Purley on Thames, Reading, RG8 8BX

Trustees/Directors

N Azhar

S Heenan (Chair)

H O'Shaughnessy

I Papadimitriou

T Powell

C Twite

N Woodhouse

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank

1 Balloon Street

Manchester

M60 4EP

Independent Examiner

Johal & Company

Spectrum House

2b Suttons Lane

Hornchurch

Essex

RM12 6RJ

Fast Familiar Limited | Report of the Trustees

Year from 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025

The Board of Trustees presents its report and financial statements for the year from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 and reports on developments since that date and future plans for the charitable company.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29 March 2007 and registered as a charity on 24 August 2007. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association. An amended Memorandum and Articles of Association were adopted on 30 April 2020. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and Appointment of New Trustees

The number of Trustees is limited to a maximum of ten and a minimum of three. Trustees are elected by members of the charitable company. All Trustees are directors of the charitable company. None of the directors have any beneficial interest in the charitable company. On appointment, Trustees are given a copy of the governing document, all policies, including the Equal Opportunities Policy, the Safeguarding Policy for Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults and Data Protection Policy, with their responsibilities and duties as a Trustee explained to them.

Organisational Structure

The Trustees are responsible for all legal decisions and administer all aspects of compliance and governance. Two Creative Directors, who are not company officers, have been appointed and delegated quotidian administrative powers to manage specific projects and propose artistic strategy and budgets. The Creative Directors report to the Trustees, who have ultimate authority in decision-making and final budgetary control.

Risk Management

The major risks to which the charitable company is exposed have been identified and reviewed, and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks. The major risks are:

- Temporary Cash flow problems. We avoid these problems through applying our reserves policy (see below).
- Injury to a member of the public or an artist during a production or rehearsal. We carefully risk assess and adjust all activities to maximise safety. We also ensure we have public liability insurance and employer's liability insurance whenever we are undertaking activities.
- Reputational damage caused by poor critical or audience response to a production. We work with experienced artists and regularly evaluate the progress of projects to ensure high quality. An advantage of our long track record is that one poor project is unlikely to ruin our reputation.
- Organisations who commission us are unhappy with the work we produce. We carefully agree with commissioners what we will produce and engage them in frequent dialogue as a project develops to ensure that we are meeting the agreed targets and producing something they are satisfied with. Through applying our reserves policy (see below) we ensure that we always have

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enough money to remain solvent if a commissioner withdraws funding for a project.

- Failure to engage sufficient members of the public and deliver public benefit. Trustees review projects to ensure that they will deliver public benefit. We invest in marketing and press activities to ensure that our productions will reach good numbers of members of the public. We also believe in the importance of the depth of engagement of audience members beyond simply the numbers of those engaged.
- Digital risk, concerning protecting the intellectual property and onward use of digital activities and safely securing and processing data given many of the charitable company's activities are delivered digitally. We place great emphasis on protecting against these risks and have extensive strategies in place to do so.
- Loss of talent. Much of the success of Fast Familiar's work relies on the talent of the creatives who work for us. We seek to ensure that we can continue to work with these creatives by giving them interesting and challenging work and remunerating them reasonably well (but in line with our position as a charity).
- Intellectual Property Risk. We use very robust systems to protect our code. However, there is a risk that people might copy our work in other ways (which happened to us this year – see below). We now ensure there are protective clauses in contracts with commissioners to protect our Intellectual Property and keep reserves available to fight legal cases if needed.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees monitor their creditors each year to ensure that they have sufficient reserves to meet their ongoing liabilities. The Trustees keep a minimum of £25,000 in reserve (and normally considerably more) to cover cash flow problems which can be caused by funders who tend to withhold a percentage of funding until an evaluation has been delivered or to allow us to remain solvent in the event that a commissioning organisation does not pay us. We also keep reserves to spend on projects and activities that the Trustees deem important to the delivery of Fast Familiar's objectives. In light of current UK issues around inflation and the cost of living crisis, keeping healthy reserves is important to protect the Charitable Company from external events. At the year-end we had £78,086 in reserve and a value of £50,117 in investments

Post Balance Sheet Events

There were no significant post balance sheet events.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charitable company are:

to advance education for the public benefit by the promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively by:
creating experimental and playful theatre, art and performances;
developing new modes of communicating with audiences through a range of media;
and

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creating participatory training and education experiences through performance and the arts

Basis and Values

Fast Familiar make artworks which are participatory, playful and political. We design audience-centric experiences which often utilise 'digital technology'. We're fascinated by human psychology in a rapidly changing world. For us, art is a space to explore questions which are too complex for daily life. We think art can be experimental and ambitious without being elitist.

The Trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance in relation to public benefit when setting, reviewing and assessing aims for the charitable company.

Fast Familiar ensure that all public-facing activities are either free or priced in an inclusive way i.e. are economically accessible to a wide range of people. When we are working with partners and venues we negotiate with them to ensure that pricing is inclusive.

Programme

During the year we exhibited an interactive artwork about Artificial Intelligence called *Looking for Love*. We created and staged an interactive exhibit about people's relationship with nature and wildness, called *Wild*. We created two in person interactive pieces exploring trust in the criminal justice system and three online pieces about the police's use of facial recognition, about DNA and about digital evidence. We did development work on a new interactive digital activity for young people about digital misinformation, with the working title *Forget What You Know*. With UCL's Climate Action Unit, we ran a fellowship training over about effective climate storytelling. We ran a 2-day workshop on building low carbon websites and did some talks about our work in different contexts. We also did a number of performances of projects we had made previously, including *Do What You Must* and *The Evidence Chamber*.

These activities are discussed in more detail below.

Primary focus projects

Looking for Love

An interactive installation about Artificial Intelligence, human intuition and what gets lost in translation.

Looking for Love had in the previous year premiered as part of the *AI - Who's Looking After Me?* Exhibition at Science Gallery London, June 2023 – January 2024, where it was experienced by 5,800 participants. During this year, it ran for several months at Birmingham University and also appeared for an evening as part of one of the Science Museum's Lates. It received its international premiere at the WiP Festival in Nicosia, Cyprus.

What's the most efficient way to fall in love? What would happen if you let data determine the biggest decisions of your life? Surely training a machine

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on everything the internet knows about love will result in unparalleled romantic success? *Looking for Love* is a playful interactive artwork for humans. Part modern-day tamagotchi, part interactive fiction, part

experiment, the experience happens via a message-based chat interface. Artificial Intelligence, human intuition and everything that gets lost in translation, this artwork invites you to take the perspective of another form of intelligence to reflect on the peculiarities of our own.

We are planning to continue touring this piece in future years.

Wild Interactive

This exhibit ran at Manchester Museum from June 2024 to June 2025.

Wild interactive was the culmination of Manchester Museum's Wild exhibition. It uses a personality-test style quiz to help visitors explore how personal values shape perceptions of nature and wildness. People see their unique 'profile' through a data visualisation in the gallery and can compare their responses to past visitors on the Manchester Museum website. The exhibition was free of charge for visitors.

Trust in the Criminal Justice System

Fast Familiar worked with the Open University, the Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science and a consortium of their partners on a project exploring trust and the Criminal Justice System.

The relevance, probative value, and validity of forensic evidence are often misunderstood and miscommunicated within criminal trials, putting their use and reliance by the Criminal Justice System at risk. Some marginalised groups may have an intrinsic distrust of the CJS or law enforcement. Issues such as backlogs in digital evidence and disregard for victim needs during investigations may further compromise user trust of forensic science evidence.

In the Criminal Justice System, public trust relies on people believing criminal justice institutions and experts will provide answers based on evidence and accurate interpretation of that evidence, allowing users to be consumers knowing that the system is working in their best interest. There is a need to hear from the public, especially marginalised groups, to find out whether this is working.

In order to do this we created two in person interactive activities about different types of forensic evidence and three online interactive fiction pieces: one about DNA, one about digital evidence and one about facial recognition technology.

Forget What You Know

Forget What You Know is a playable immersive experience for teenagers about disinformation and defending democracy with the lessons of history.

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We live in a world with an information infrastructure that allows bad actors to spread mis- and disinformation. A 2023 study in the US by the Center for Countering Digital Hate found that teenagers are significantly more likely to believe online conspiracy theories than older generations, underscoring the broad impacts of gen Z's relationship with social media.

During the year we undertook research and development on the project, with the support of the University of Reading.

Climate Creative Fellowship

This was a project with our long-term partners the Climate Action Unit at UCL. It looked at climate storytelling for policy impact and involved Fast Familiar co-designing and co-delivering an 8-week training programme for mid career storytellers (ranging from people working in the arts, to documentary film, to marketing, to podcasts). It was commissioned by the Strategic Climate Risks Initiative. During the training programme, the storytellers learned perspectives from neuroscience and psychology about climate communication and developed ideas for new climate stories and formats. It culminated in a pitching evening for invited guests. Several of the fellows are continuing to develop the ideas that emerged.

Secondary focus projects (one-off performances of existing shows)

Do What You Must

Do What You Must is a scenario-based tool to model better decision-making in the face of the impending risks and uncertainty of climate change. Drawing on neuroscience and social psychology, it uses immersive narrative and interactivity to equip participants with the tools for collaborative decision-making to arrive at a sustainable, scalable solutions. During the year we performed *Do What You Must* at Hay Festival and at University College London.

The Evidence Chamber

The Evidence Chamber was a collaboration with the Leverhulme Centre for Research in Forensic Science at the University of Dundee. This piece, in which the audience form a jury considering a difficult case where the case for the prosecution rests on forensic evidence, was performed this year for forensic science students at London South Bank University as an educational activity and for law students at Goldsmiths College.

Workshops and Talks

We ran a free 2-day workshop in building low carbon websites for Sussex Digital Humanities Lab. We did an online talk for PlayLab Skövde in Sweden about our piece *The Acquisitions Panel*.

Legal Costs

During the year we spent £1,700 exploring whether we could pursue a legal case against an organization we believed had stolen Fast Familiar's intellectual property. We eventually decided not to pursue the case further as it would cost too much. In future we will ensure that we include stronger intellectual property clauses in all contracts.

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £128,542. Total expenditure for the year was £98,861. No restricted funds remained at the end of the year. £78,086 in cash remained as unrestricted resources of the organization at the end of the year and a value of £50,117 in investments.

Public Benefit

The Trustees are satisfied that the performances and exhibitions *Looking for Love*, *Wild Interactive*, *The Evidence Chamber* and *Do What You Must* deliver considerable public benefit, as did the *Trust in the Criminal Justice System* project. In doing so, the Trustees feel that the objective to advance education for the public benefit by the promotion of the arts, was achieved by the activities carried out in the year. *Looking for Love*, *Wild Interactive* and *Trust in the Criminal Justice System* were free of charge for members of the public, as was the low carbon website workshop. All other activities were priced inclusively.

Plans for the Future

We have 4 key aims for the year ahead: *Looking for Love*, *JW3*, *Forget What You Know*, continue to perform *TAP*, continue to work on *Invasive Species*.

- To develop an interactive exhibit about food, climate change and policy choices, in partnership with the University of Oxford.
- To work with our partners from *The Networked Condition*, *Abandon Normal Devices* and *Arts Catalyst* on an international project about sustainable digital practices, food and the environment, with the support of the British Council.
- To develop new ideas for future projects which meet our vision and mission.
- To revamp our website so that it better represents our work and provides useful documentation for others.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law requires the Trustees (as directors of Fast Familiar) to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the surplus or deficit of the charitable company for 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.
- 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 proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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. Trustees are also responsible for keeping adequate reserves.

On behalf of the Board



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S Heenan - Chair/ Trustee

Date: 23/12/2025

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Fast Familiar Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)
Year ended 31 March 2025
Company number: 06191989
Registered Charity Number: 1120667

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006. All activities are classed as continuing. There are no recognised gains or losses other than those reported on the Statement of Financial Activities. The notes on pages 12 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		-		-	
Charitable activities		128,542		128,542	95,228
Total Income	2	128,542	-	128,542	95,228
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		98,436		98,436	90,804
Other (governance costs)		425	-	425	395
Total Expenditure	3	98,861	-	98,861	91,199
Net gains on investments		117	-	117	-
Net income/ expenditure		29,798	-	29,798	4,028
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		29,798	-	29,798	4,028
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward				97,655	93,628
Total funds carried forward		29,798	-	127,453	97,655

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Fast Familiar Limited**Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025**

Company Number: 06191989

Registered Charity Number: 1120667

		2025	2024
	Notes	Total Funds	Total Funds
Current Assets:			
Prepayments		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		77,726	73,015
Investments		50,117	25,000
Total Current Assets		127,843	98,015
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	5	390	360
Deferred income		-	-
Total Liabilities		390	360
Net Assets		127,453	97,655
The Funds of the Charity:			
Restricted Income Funds		-	-
Unrestricted Income Funds		127,453	97,655
Total Charity Funds	6	127,453	97,655

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

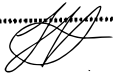
- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its financial activities during each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the directors on 23/12/2025 and were signed by:

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S Heenan - Chair/ Trustee

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Notes to the Financial Statements

1) Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS102), effective from 2015 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Incoming resources

Donations, grants and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources on a receipts basis.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

1.3 Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an actual basis, with irrecoverable Value Added Tax included with the item of expenditure to which it relates.

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. These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are capitalised only when their cost is greater than £500. No items have yet been capitalised.

1.5 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds are to be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

1.6 Going Concern

It is the Trustees' responsibility to prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business. Fast Familiar is currently a going concern and there are no plans to wind down the charitable company.

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1.7 Cash flow statement

In accordance with FRS 102 the charity is not required to show a cash flow statement and has not done so.

2) Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Income from charitable activities:				
Primary Purpose Trading (Ticket sales, fees, commissions)	128,542		128,542	71,142
Local Authority	-	-	-	
Other Public Grants			0	24,086
Trusts and Foundations	-	-	-	-
Total Income from Charitable Activities	128,542	-	128,542	95,228

3) Total resources expended

	Staff Costs £	Other Costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cost of Charitable Activities	-	98,436	98,436	90,804
Governance Costs	-	425	425	395
Total Expenditure	-	98,861	98,861	91,199

4) Trustees' and Members' Remuneration and Benefits

No remuneration was paid to any trustee during the year nor were any expenses reimbursed. In terms of the members of the company, Dan Barnard was paid £12,605 in fees for his artistic and producing work on Fast Familiar's projects and Rachel Briscoe was paid £26,920 in fees for her artistic and lead producing work on Fast Familiar's projects.

5) Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Accruals	390	360
Deferred Income	-	-
	390	360

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6) Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	97,655	129,019	99,221	-	127,453
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-	-

7) Uncertainties

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

8) Assets

The charitable company has no material assets other than cash and additionally investments of a value of £50,117.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Fast Familiar Limited

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Fast Familiar Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Fast Familiar Limited for the year ended 31 March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of the company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the 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 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of 2006 Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records
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
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.



Jasvinder Singh Sagoo (FCCA)

Johal & Company
Chartered Certified Accountants
& Registered Auditors
Spectrum House
2B Suttons Lane
Hornchurch
Essex
RM12 6RJ

Date:23/12/2025.....