

FRIENDS R US

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 October 2024

FRIENDS R US

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FRIENDS R US

Reference and administrative details of the Charity, its Trustees and advisers for the year ended 31 October 2024

Trustees	Faigye Goldman Rose Hoffman Sarah Just Rebecca Katz Sonia Mossberg
Charity registered number	1121746
Principal office	65 Amhurst Park London N16 6DL
Bankers	Lloyds TSB 172-174 Clapton Common London E5 9AQ

FRIENDS R US

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 October 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024.

The trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of The Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (Charities SORP - FRSSE) (effective January 2015), the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

Objectives and activities

● Policies and objectives

The charity provides culturally appropriate social and drama activities for children and young people from BME communities in Hackney and Haringey, by running a youth club.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Achievements and performance

● Review of activities

Friends R Us continues to flourish with membership now reaching over 800 children and young people. As previously reported, we have been working with our supporters and stakeholders for several years, planning refurbishments and a building extension.

We are also pleased to report on the continued success of the Friends R Us annual showcase. 450 children and young people performed on stage through singing, dancing or acting. Participants thrived on the unique opportunity to develop their talents and join a live performance that attracted an audience of 2,000 local people. Verbal and written feedback has told us what an impact joining the project has on users, who reported increased confidence, improved self-esteem, and better physical and emotional wellbeing. The trustees are looking forward to planning another drama and song performance next year.

The charity also continues to run its weekly youth club on weekends, where children and young people aged 7-16 years come together and meet friends from other local schools to sing, dance and play. Light refreshments are served. We also arranged social activities around the year and during school holidays, including day-trips attended by over 300 girls, and an annual 'weekend sleepaway' for 150 girls in Years 10 and 11.

Friends R Us is proud to be a volunteer-led organisation, with a 70-strong team of volunteers, most of whom are under 19 years old. Our volunteers coordinate all aspects of our activities, under the direction of the trustees. 'Friends R Us' Board of Trustees would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank its phenomenal team of volunteers, whose talents and hard work made such a difference to so many children and young people.

We feel privileged to be part of an INTERLINK consortium of Hackney organisations that has been commissioned by Young Hackney to deliver out of school activities to Hackney's young people. Being a commissioned organisation has required us to strengthen our governance, and has led us to achieving the London Youth Quality Mark - Silver level. Achieving the accreditation has been a interesting learning curve, and we feel confident that it has led to a more efficient, robust, young people-focused organisation committed to meeting users' needs in the best possible way.

Trustees' report (continued)
for the year ended 31 October 2024

Achievements and performance (continued)

● **Fundraising activities and income generation**

The charity raises funds through grants and donations. It also receives voluntary contributions towards its activities and showcase production, and occasional hire of its premises.

The trustees would also like to thank all their funders for their financial support this year.

Financial review

● **Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

● **Reserves policy**

The trustees aim to hold free realisable reserves equal to 3-6 months, but no more than 12 months, running costs in order to protect services when there are uncertainties as to whether funding will continue and to ensure adequate cashflow for the organisation's needs.

As at 31 October 2024 the organisation's reserves available for ongoing activities was £40,865 which equates to just under six months of running costs at current levels.

The trustees are also seriously planning a major refurbishment of their current premises. They are currently carrying out preliminary assessments and are in the process of applying for a multi-million pound grant.

Structure, governance and management

● **Constitution**

The charity is governed by declaration of trust dated 30 April 2006, and is run by the trustees.

Trustees' report (continued)
for the year ended 31 October 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity 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 then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Rose Hoffman
Trustee

Date: 18 August 2025

FRIENDS R US

Independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 October 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Friends R Us ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than 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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Dated: 18 August 2025

Esther Royde

FCCA

123 Clapton Common, London E5 9AB

FRIENDS R US

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 October 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	2	29,020	29,020	14,000
Charitable activities	3	68,141	68,141	79,937
Total income		97,161	97,161	93,937
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		370	370	1,156
Charitable activities	4	124,200	124,200	76,621
Total expenditure		124,570	124,570	77,777
Net movement in funds		(27,409)	(27,409)	16,160
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		68,274	68,274	52,114
Net movement in funds		(27,409)	(27,409)	16,160
Total funds carried forward		40,865	40,865	68,274

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

FRIENDS R US

**Balance sheet
as at 31 October 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		40,865	68,274
		<u>40,865</u>	<u>68,274</u>
Net current assets		<u>40,865</u>	68,274
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>40,865</u>	68,274
Total net assets		<u><u>40,865</u></u>	<u><u>68,274</u></u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds	6	<u>40,865</u>	68,274
Total funds		<u><u>40,865</u></u>	<u><u>68,274</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Rose Hoffman
Trustee
Date: 18 August 2025

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 October 2024**

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019.

Friends R Us 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.

1.2 Income

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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the charity's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

1.4 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 October 2024**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Income

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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

1.6 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

1.7 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	21,520	21,520	-
Government grants	7,500	7,500	14,000
	<u>29,020</u>	<u>29,020</u>	<u>14,000</u>

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Activities for raising funds	47,739	47,739	49,486
Hall hire	20,402	20,402	30,451
	<u>68,141</u>	<u>68,141</u>	<u>79,937</u>

4. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Stage Art Production - Venue hire	39,358	39,358	27,574
Stage Art Production - Technical, scenery and props	38,174	38,174	25,373
Stage Art Production - Transport	6,260	6,260	4,450
Stage Art Production - Other costs	1,920	1,920	2,837
Social activities	38,488	38,488	16,387
	<u>124,200</u>	<u>124,200</u>	<u>76,621</u>

5. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 October 2024, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

6. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 November 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 October 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds - all funds	<u>68,274</u>	<u>97,161</u>	<u>(124,570)</u>	<u>40,865</u>