

# **Art Beyond Belief**

## **Annual report and Accounts**

Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

## **Legal and Administrative Information**

***1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024***

*Name of Organisation:* Art Beyond Belief (ABB)

*Charity Registration Number:* 1124858

*Date of Charitable Registration:* 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008

*Management Committee:*

- John Prosser (Chair)
- Joseph Chadwell (Trustee)
- Ramesh Kukar (Treasurer)
- Rachel Morgan (Trustee)
- Stella Neal (Trustee)

*Office Address:* 29 Church Street, Slough SL1 1PL

*Registered Address:* 99 Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick, Windsor, SL4 6NQ

*Company Limited by Guarantee number:* 6525304

*Date of incorporation:* 6<sup>th</sup> March 2008

*Directors:*

- Ramesh Kukar
- Rachel Morgan
- John Prosser

*Company Secretary:* Andrea Sparrow

*Bankers:* HSBC, 128 High Street, Slough, SL1 1JF

*Independent Examiner:* Mrs Neeru Palhi, 523 Maplin Park, Slough SL3 8YG

*Insurers:* QBE Insurance

## **Report from the Trustees Year ending August 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**

Art Beyond Belief works to challenge preconceptions, especially with regard to faith, health, diversity and social disadvantage, through innovative and inspirational art-based projects. We aim to improving wellbeing and communication through engagement with visual arts.

During the past year ABB has made good progress towards these aims.

Our Mental Health and Wellbeing programmes can now run face-to-face once more, and we have developed *Inspire* – an iPad-based programme similar in approach to *Connect* (which remains a Zoom-based alternative), but slightly longer.

The *ReConnect* support group continues to thrive, welcoming new members from *Connect* and *Inspire* programmes. The group meets at 29 Church Street each Friday. The group explores environmental responsibility, our connections to the planet and to each other, and the effects on mental health and well-being.

Accessing funding continues to be a priority, particularly the need for core funding and funding for development. There are a number of new project and partnership opportunities on the horizon, and we look forward to these as we approach our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2025.

The Art Beyond Belief Management Team is confident that the organisation is well placed to deliver outcomes to our clients in the coming year, and that we will be in a position to develop and deliver further programmes to enhance the charity's aims.

*On behalf of the Trustees: May 2025*

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

ABB began work in February 2005

ABB was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in March 2008 and obtained charitable status in July 2008.

### **Governing document**

ABB's governing document is a memorandum and articles of association adopted by the management committee in November 2007.

### **Charitable objects**

Art Beyond Belief's charitable objects are:

The promotion of equality and diversity for the benefit of the public by:

- advancing education and raising awareness in equality and diversity
- promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds

The promotion of religious harmony for the benefit of the public by:

- educating the public in different religious beliefs including an awareness of their distinctive features and their common ground to promote good relations between persons of different faiths
- promoting knowledge and mutual understanding and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths.

Developing the capacity and skills of members of various disadvantaged communities in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society

To assist in the treatment and care of persons suffering from mental or physical illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, through the medium of visual arts and music.

### **Organisational structure**

The Management Committee comprises the trustees. The committee meets quarterly, and additionally as needed to support the Creative Lead, agrees strategic direction and inputs specific expertise.

Art Beyond Belief's founder and Creative Lead is David Sparrow. Emel Soylu (*MBS* (*Hons*) *Psych*, *GMBPsS*) is Art Beyond Belief's Psychologist.

The Trustees have approved a full range of policies and procedures, including for child protection and the protection of vulnerable adults, equal opportunities, health and safety and confidentiality. Risk assessments are conducted where appropriate. Those working with children or vulnerable adults have enhanced DBS checks in place. Policies are due for review in October 2025. The organisation is GDPR compliant/ICO registered and reviews its Data Protection policies and practices in accordance with current legislation.

## **Related Parties**

Art Beyond Belief continues to build relationships with a number of organisations. During the year we have worked with the following organisations:

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust  
Slough Council for Voluntary Services  
University of Reading  
Slough Faith Partnership  
ODCIR  
South East England Faiths Forum (SEEFF)  
The Courtauld Gallery, London  
Slough and Eton Church of England College,  
Eden Muslim Girls' School,  
St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School  
Beechwood School

## **Objectives and Activities**

### ***Mission statement***

The purpose of Art Beyond Belief is to improve wellbeing and communication for our clients through engagement with the arts – in particular visual arts including photography and graphic arts as well as contemporary and classic arts.

We aim to challenge preconceptions, especially with regard to faith, to health, to diversity and to social disadvantage. We aim to enable dialogue across communities, faiths and groups through the medium of art. Art Beyond Belief affirms the dignity of difference, recognising the value of every human being, aiming to inspire others, and to reach out to the disadvantaged, the excluded and the sick through inspirational and compassionate projects.

### ***Summary of the objects of Art Beyond Belief***

- Promoting equality and diversity
- Promoting religious harmony
- Improving life quality for members of disadvantaged groups.
- Assisting in the care of those suffering mental or physical illness

### ***To this end, ABB aims to:***

- Improve well-being and quality of life through the use of visual arts
- Provide opportunities to meet the needs of people from disadvantaged groups
- Improve education in matters of equality, diversity and harmony
- Raise awareness of issues of equality, diversity, and harmony
- Foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and faiths

### ***Art Beyond Belief's major objectives and activities for the year were:***

- Continuing to support mental health and wellbeing, particularly in Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead, Berkshire and South Bucks through Connect and ReConnect programmes, one-off deliveries and ongoing support.
- Continuing support to young people with ASD/Asperger's through Rucksack
- Further programmes in schools, promoting understanding, respect and well-being
- Leveraging funding for new and ongoing programmes and core business
- Exploring and maximising new opportunities and cooperations
- Exploring and developing capacity through media and new contacts

## **Achievements and performance**

During this year, we have re-established face-to-face deliveries for all of our programmes. The *Inspire* mental health and wellbeing programme is slightly longer (eight sessions) than the previous Zoom-based *Connect*. We will continue to offer *Connect* as a programme combatting isolation; it is ideal for clients who cannot travel, or need to remain at home. Following initial *Inspire* programmes, we are able to offer follow-on sessions, after which clients can choose to sign up for the *ReConnect* weekly support sessions.

Anyone who has taken part in one of our programmes may, if they wish, join our *ReConnect* Group. *ReConnect* meets weekly - currently on Friday afternoons. It is a mutually supportive group for those on their journey to improved mental health. The group decides what we will work on - currently environmental responsibility and care for the planet. Members explore an area of interest, discussion is lively, and artwork is produced and exhibited. See the group's page: [facebook.com/reconnectabb](https://facebook.com/reconnectabb).

This year, we partnered with Oxford Diocesan Council for Interfaith Relations in an event focusing on shared faith approaches to climate change and responsibility for the planet. We hosted a follow-on event in Slough, '*Reconnecting with the Planet*', involving students from four Slough schools. Students discussed intergenerational and faith perspectives on climate change, and explored the relationships between mental well-being and green space. They produced iPad-based artworks and photographs which were the focus of further discussion at a combined event to which students and community were invited.

## ***Diversity and Inclusion***

An estimated 250 people have taken part in our projects during the year, approximately 50% male/female. The demographic of our participants is in line with the local demographic. Our programmes are open to all, and we are proactive in our use of tools, apps, access assistance and volunteer support to enable each person to take part fully.

## **Finance and Funding**

### **Thank you to our funders and Partners**

National Lottery Community Fund  
Westhill Endowment  
East Berks Learning and Skills  
Berkshire Community Foundation  
Shanly Foundation  
British Science Association  
One Slough  
The Co-op

### **Thank you also to:**

The Courtauld Gallery, London  
Slough Council for Voluntary Service  
Apple Business Team at The Oracle

**Volunteer time and in-kind contributions**

Our projects, and consequently our personnel, are currently funded on a project-by-project basis. A great deal of volunteer time has been given by those most closely involved in our organisation. We estimate that this year more than 1200 volunteer hours have been given on peer support, funding, administration, planning, marketing and website work, to a value of approximately £15,000

Special thanks are due to our volunteers Sam, Karen, Emma and Adebisi, amazing members of the Art Beyond Belief team who continue to support ABB and our clients. Thank you!

**Plans for the future**

This year, we will be looking to consolidate and expand our mental health programmes, particularly *Inspire*, exploring further opportunities for working with Social Prescribers and Community Connectors, and working on new partnerships and co-operations.

We will be continuing the *ReConnect* group in the current successful form; it is a growing group, and we will need to start planning for further expansion this year. The *ReConnect* Green project is ongoing, particularly with regard to responsibility for the environment and ways in which we can make a difference in local communities.

We hope to work once again with ODCIR, taking the schools programme to a new area in Buckinghamshire, while also looking to repeat it in Slough, perhaps in 2025/26.

In the coming year, we will continue to develop our connections with community groups and partnerships. We hope to work further in Reading (planned last year, but progressing slower than expected). We will prioritise funding – in particular core funding – and continue to promote our organization through our website, social media and networking. We will also be planning for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, coming up in 2025.



## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

### Art Beyond Belief Limited

Registered Address: 99 Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick, Windsor, SL4 6NQ  
Company Limited by Guarantee no 6525304

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Charity no 1124858

Set out on the

Final accounts from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended **31 / 08 / 2024**.

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.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 (1) 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**

As the charity's gross income is less than £250,000, I am satisfied that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law.  
As the gross income of the charity is above £25,000, the charity law requires the trustees to have an external scrutiny of the accounts. It is therefore eligible for an Independent Examination.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (Other than that disclosed below\*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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 I 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:

*Neera Palhi*

Date: 06<sup>th</sup> November 2024



**Name:** Mrs Neeru Palhi

**Relevant professional qualifications:** Dun and Bradstreet Accredited Diploma in Credit and Financial Analysis.  
Dun and Bradstreet Accredited Diploma in Financial Risk Management.

**Address:** 523 Maplin Park, Langley, Slough, Berkshire, SL3 8YG

## 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.**

<b>Art Beyond Belief Limited</b>		Company No:6525304			
				Incoming Resources	Expended Resources
<b>Statement of financial activities</b>					
<i>for period 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024</i>					
<b>Revenues</b>					
<b>Grants</b>					
Slough CVS One Slough			2500.00		
Berkshire Community Foundation			9892.00		
Coop			1447.38		
Westhill Endowment			2800.00		
Shanly Foundation			2000.00		
National Lottery Community Fund			19750.00		
<b>Earned Income</b>					
East Berks Learning and Skills			5220.00		
VAT on earned income			1044.00		
<b>other income</b>					
SCVS expenses payment for Science Assn			203.20		
Bank interest for year to 31st August 2024			217.07		
VAT reclaimed			38.56		
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Capital Costs</b>					0.00
<b>Project costs</b>					
Staff costs					21720.00
Premises costs					4795.86
Project costs					1821.62
Admin and Office					1782.24
Equipment Repairs					0.00
Insurance					2211.70
Project Management					0.00
Professional fees					325.00
<b>Other charges</b>					
Bank charges					60.00
VAT					1345.10
<i>Fundraising &amp; Publicity</i>		<i>iro 700</i>			
<i>Governance</i>		<i>iro 60</i>			
<i>Training</i>		<i>nil</i>			
<b>Total Income and Total payments</b>			<b>45112.21</b>	<b>34061.52</b>	
Opening Balance Treasurer A/C 1st Sept 23			8086.71		
Opening Balance BMM A/C 1st Sept 23			15313.48		
Closing Balance Treasurer A/C 31st Aug 24				24920.33	
Closing Balance BMM A/C 31st Aug 24				9530.55	
			<b>68512.40</b>	<b>68512.40</b>	



<b>Art Beyond Belief Limited</b>		Company No:6525304		
<b>Fixed Assets Register (Tangible Assets)</b>				
<i>Financial Year 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024</i>				
Item	current	purchase	Date of	
	value	price	Purchase	
MacBook Air 13.3 laptop*	392.19	957.50	Mar 20	
HP screens x2*	214.62	524.00	Mar 20	
HP screen x1*	108.95	266.00	Apr 20	
Macbooks x 8	3912.96	7642.53	Feb 21	
Total value	<b>4628.72</b>			
Depreciation calculated at 20%				
Equipment is usually kept at the office				
During Covid restrictions, iPads have been on loan to clients or temporarily stored at home offices.				
*items purchased to enable home working				