

WATERS EDGE ARTS LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1128608

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [06758847](#)

Registered 2009-03-17

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre
Manchester Road
Chorlton Cum Hardy
Manchester
M21 9JG

Phone 01612829776

Email info@edgetheatre.co.uk

Website www.edgetheatre.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS, PARTICULARLY THEATRE, BY ENCOURAGING AND PROMOTING INVOLVEMENT IN THEATRE AND RELATED ARTISTIC AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES BY ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY THOSE DEEMED AS DISADVANTAGED, VULNERABLE OR HARD TO REACH.

Activities: We deliver high quality participatory theatre projects, predominantly for people who are disadvantaged or vulnerable. We create and programme relevant, accessible theatre which challenges and entertains. We run The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre in Manchester, as a resource for community and professional arts and The Dressing Room Cafe which trains learning disabled adults in hospitality & catering.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, NATIONAL.
- Manchester City
- Salford City
- Trafford

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£441,458	£512,759	-	-
2024-03-31	£444,422	£453,252	-	-
2023-03-31	£453,252	£453,975	-	-
2022-03-31	£533,053	£524,566	£179,899	7
2021-03-31	£281,633	£139,582	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Akintayo Olutosin Ayoola Akinbode		2021-04-19
Cllr JOHN HACKING		2024-10-23
Cllr Joanna Rachel Midgley		2024-10-23
Eamonn O'Neal OBE DL		2025-07-24
Paula Louise Rabbitt		2018-12-10
Philip Alan Kolvin		2023-08-08
Richard Foster Morgan		2023-04-18
Rupert Sinclair Hill		2019-12-09

WATERS EDGE ARTS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128608

Accounts

Company registration number: 6758847

Charity registration number: 1128608

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as

The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 8
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	9
Independent Examiner's Report	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Balance Sheet	12 to 13
Notes to the Financial Statements	14 to 27

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Chair	J P Gilchrist
Trustees	J P Gilchrist A O A Akinbode R S Hill P L Rabbitt J Hacking P Kolvin C Lawson J Midgley R Morgan
Secretary	J Waters
Key Management Personnel	Janine Waters, Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director Hannah McAdam, Executive Director
Charity Registration Number	1128608
Company Registration Number	6758847
Registered Office	The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre Manchester Road Chorlton Cum Hardy Manchester M21 9JG
Independent Examiner	Beever and Struthers Chartered Accountants One Express 1 George Leigh St Manchester M4 5DL
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Bury Business Centre PO BOX 33 26 Silver Street Bury BL9 0DJ

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Charity's objects, as defined by the governing document, are to advance the education of the public in the arts, particularly theatre, by encouraging and promoting involvement in theatre and related artistic and creative activities by any member of the public, particularly those deemed disadvantaged, vulnerable and hard to reach.

Public benefit

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and the charging of fees. The charity relies on the income from grants and from fees and charges accordingly to cover its operating costs.

In setting the level of fees and charges, principally the price of tickets for theatre shows, the Trustees consider the accessibility to activities for those on low incomes, offering the majority of its tickets at discounted rates.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and performance

Programme of Activity: April 2024 - March 2025

Overview

The Edge has delivered an ambitious year of activity, combining a dynamic theatre programme with a wide-reaching participation offer. Our work continues to centre around inclusivity, creativity, and community impact.

The Buzz: Working With Young People & Adults With Learning Disabilities

We delivered a diverse programme of weekly workshops and residencies for learning-disabled children and adults across two locations: The Edge (South Manchester) and The Shaw Centre (North Manchester).

Key Activities:

- 6 weekly acting and dance workshops
- 3 week-long performance residencies working alongside professional artists
- Introduction of a new weekly drama class for young people aged 8-13
- A total of 76 participants engaged in dance and drama over the year

Work-Based Training Programme:

- 592 hours of one-to-one training delivered
- 30 individuals graduated from the programme in 2024/25

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Trustees' Report

Participant Voice & Co-Design:

A quarterly steering group of learning-disabled participants has played a central role in shaping programme content. A highlight this year was a new partnership with Venture Arts, responding to participant requests to spotlight learning-disabled visual artists.

The Buzz: Working With Adults At Risk of Homelessness

We've continued our creative prevention work with individuals affected by homelessness-many of whom are navigating addiction, mental health challenges, or recent involvement with the criminal justice system.

Key Activities:

- We work in partnership with The Booth Centre in Cheetham Hill, delivering weekly drop-in theatre sessions across 48 weeks.
- After attending regularly for 6 months, participants are invited to join The Booth Centre Theatre Company-though for some, the drop-in sessions remain their focus.
- A total of 82 participants engaged in the activities over the year

Productions (April 2024 - March 2025):

- The King's New Kecks - May 2024
- A Christmas Dinner - December 2024

Each original production featured collaboration between participants and professional actors/musicians, showcasing participant achievements in high-quality public performances.

"The buzz that I got off it, the actual affirmation off the crowd, just how lovely everyone is, and learning together and things like that, it's just really good. It just made me happy. The Edge Theatre's the place to be. I'd recommend it to absolutely anyone"

Our work profiles the impact of making theatre with vulnerable adults and challenges the public's perception of a person who has found themselves homeless. It proves that there is so much more to people than their current situation.

Professional Performance

Our beautiful venue has entertained, captivated and enthralled audiences with some of the best small scale touring theatre in the country, alongside our own productions made by our wonderful in-house creatives.

As theatre makers we delight in creating shows which reflect the world that we live in, even if we've set them on the moon. They're honest, relevant and always full of hope.

Alongside our in-house productions, we champion small-scale touring theatre and support independent artists, with a strong emphasis on new writing and work that reflects the diversity of our community.

Between April 2024 and March 2025, we:

- We welcomed 22 visiting companies into our theatre over the year from across the country, staging an eclectic programme of theatre, dance, comedy, spoken word and music.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Trustees' Report

- We welcomed 4605 audience members to these shows, with 62% of these people coming from outside Chorlton and Chorlton Park, and 5% coming from outside the North West.

Artistic Development

- Our pilot **Socially Engaged Theatre Makers Training Programme** concluded in 2024. 6 theatre graduates (or equivalent) were chosen from a submission of over 40 emerging artists to take part in this 7-month paid internship. 6 trainees worked closely with our highly skilled practitioners including our Artistic Director gaining invaluable hands-on experience working with some of our most vulnerable individuals. The training included an introduction to at-risk communities; safeguarding; session planning; delivery; conflict resolution and theatre making with adults and children with complex needs.
- Our **Associate Artists Programme** offered bespoke, practical support to theatre companies. In 24/25 it supported:
 - Newly formed Theatre Company **Lost in Transit**, who are currently developing a new stage version of George Orwell's 1984, mentored by Roger Haines
 - **The Construct Theatre Company**, a Manchester-based Theatre Company who champion collaborative creative vision and innovation. They produced a new adaptation of FARM
 - **Päi Productions**, a Manchester-based company championing bold, female-led storytelling. They developed Brand New Ancients with Bryony Shanahan, continued R&D on their new musical The Rise by Graham Lappin, and began planning the next cohort of Päi Academy.

"Amongst a tricky time for the industry the Edge shines as a beacon of hope for theatre makers, providing support and space to grow and develop as an artist. The Edge's warmth and generosity of spirits makes any wayward wanderer feel immediately at home."

Jonny Cordingley, Lost in Transit Theatre Company

Community Engagement

- We have continued to run our rich and rewarding programme of adult evening workshops, including life drawing mornings and evenings, a ukulele club, Introduction to Acting courses, 2 community choirs, Dance and performance opportunities.
- The Edge has a dedicated team of over 15 volunteers who carry out a range of duties to support the operation of the charity, contributing 1086 hours of work over the year. They were supported by the Volunteers Manager, with responsibility of seeking out additional volunteers, especially those with complex needs, whom other organisations might not support.

Exhibition Space

Our dedicated gallery extends The Edge's inclusive arts offering, showcasing emerging and community-based artists in an accessible, welcoming environment.

This year's exhibitions included:

- "Dancing Queen" - a co-production with Venture Arts, this exhibition celebrated powerful women through vibrant and expressive work created by learning-disabled artists Emma Horton and Poppy Maguire
- "Life & Art in Chorlton" - a community-led exhibition curated by participants in our regular life drawing class, highlighting local perspectives through observational art

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Trustees' Report

Both exhibitions were free and open to the public, encouraging engagement with visual art in an informal and welcoming environment.

Environmental Responsibility

The Edge is a member of GMAST (Greater Manchester Sustainability Team) and has a designated Environmental Sustainability Officer, who undertakes to minimise our environmental load as much as possible. The theatre has a policy of working with a high proportion of locally based suppliers, practitioners, and actors, minimising the environmental impact of transportation. It continues to monitor energy utilisation on site, making what adjustments are possible.

Financial review

During the year the charity received total income of £441,459 (2024: £444,422). The expenditure for the year was £512,759 (2024: £458,084). The net deficit for the year was £71,300 (2024: £13,662)

Policy on reserves

The charity's requirement for free reserves (value of the charity's assets less tangible fixed assets and restricted funding) should be at least three months' operating costs, which would equate to £61,950 at current operating costs.

At the year end the total reserves held by the charity was £94,213 (2024: £165,513) of which £Nil (2024: £5,500) was held in restricted funds and £27,300 (2024: £41,771) are held in fixed assets leaving £66,913 (2024: £118,242) in free reserves.

Plans for future periods

Looking Ahead: Future Strategy

Building on the successes of 2024/25, we will continue to strengthen and expand our core programmes while evolving our organisational model to ensure long-term impact and sustainability. Our strategic priorities for the coming year include:

- **On our Stage.** The Edge creative team will increase the visibility and ambition of our in-house theatre productions and develop relationships with more Manchester based theatre companies making new work. We will present new work created at The Edge and tour it in the North West.
- **The Buzz.** Our award-winning theatre programme for marginalised adults and children, The Buzz, will grow through new partnerships with organisations including Caritas in Bury and High Level (North) Trust in Rochdale. We will maintain our existing weekly workshops while expanding our reach, delivering four integrated productions annually that combine the talents of participants with professional actors and musicians.
- **The Edge Community Cinema.** We aim to establish a new, community-led cinema initiative. Film seasons will be co-curated by learning-disabled adults, service users from the Booth Centre and Caritas Hulme, local school children and families, and older residents, in partnership with Chorlton Library. This project will offer inclusive, culturally enriching experiences and amplify underrepresented voices through film.
- **Training.** Following the success of our pilot Socially Engaged Theatre Makers Training Programme, we will support the development of three emerging artists each year. Participants will collaborate closely with The Edge's experienced practitioners to refine their practice and embed social impact into their work.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Trustees' Report

- **Audiences** We will focus on growing our audiences, particularly among newly arrived residents in Chorlton and those with disposable income, in order to improve financial resilience and reduce dependency on grant income. At the same time, we remain deeply committed to our founding ethos: that The Edge must be accessible, welcoming, and relevant to all communities across Manchester-especially those who are traditionally excluded from theatre and the arts.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre
Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	J P Gilchrist A O A Akinbode R S Hill Cllr E Holt (resigned 9 October 2024) P L Rabbitt J Hacking (appointed 23 October 2024) P Kolvin C Lawson J Midgley (appointed 23 October 2024) R Morgan
Chair:	J P Gilchrist
Secretary:	J Waters
Key Management Personnel:	Janine Waters, Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director Hannah McAdam, Executive Director

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Waters Edge Arts Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 November 2008 and registered as a charity on the same date.

The company was established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association, as amended by special resolution on 17 February 2009, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company.

In the event of the company being wound up the members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Directors, who are the trustees, are appointed by the members in general meeting. At each AGM one third of the Directors retire by rotations, being the longest in office and are eligible for re-election. Other than a retiring trustee, the only people eligible for election as trustees are those either nominated by the Board or by a member giving not less than 145 and not more than 35 clear days' notice of the intention to propose a person for appointment or re-appointment.

The Directors, who are the Trustees, are collectively known as the Board. The Board consists of the Chair and at least one other trustee.

Trustees are recruited through statutory and voluntary agencies that we work with and through direct recommendation from other Trustees. Board members are introduced to the organisation and inducted by the CEO and Chair. Interested individuals are invited to attend the next meeting and are then appointed as a trustee by resolution within 14 days unless there are any objections.

Skills gaps are identified by audits and where gaps are identified, training is offered to the current Board members before being sought in new members.

Induction and training of trustees

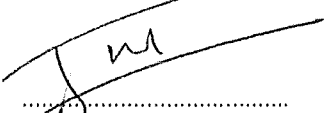
New Trustees are recruited through a combination of statutory and voluntary sector networks, as well as by recommendation from existing Board members. Prospective Trustees are introduced to the organisation through an induction process led by the Chief Executive and Chair. They are invited to attend a Board meeting as observers, and, subject to no objections, may be formally appointed by Board resolution within 14 days.

The Board regularly assesses its collective skills and experience through periodic audits. Where skills gaps are identified, appropriate training is offered to current members. If the gap remains, efforts are made to recruit new Trustees with the required expertise.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 28/07/25 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J P Gilchrist
Chairman and trustee

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Waters Edge Arts Ltd for the purposes of company law) 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), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

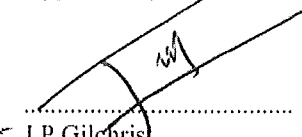
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on ...28/07/15 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J P Gilchrist
Chairman and trustee

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Waters Edge Arts Ltd ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company 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 company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Waters Edge Arts Ltd as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
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; or
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.

H. E. Binns

Helen Binns FCA
Beever and Struthers
Chartered Accountants
One Express 1 George Leigh St
Manchester
M4 5DL

Date: 28.10.25

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as **The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre**

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	28,778	35,170	63,948	88,157
Charitable activities	4	73,999	165,613	239,612	233,313
Other trading activities	5	67,916	-	67,916	71,201
Investment income	6	365	-	365	38
Other income	7	69,618	-	69,618	51,713
Total income		<u>240,676</u>	<u>200,783</u>	<u>441,459</u>	<u>444,422</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	(94,554)	-	(94,554)	(77,901)
Charitable activities	9	(211,922)	(206,283)	(418,205)	(380,183)
Total expenditure		<u>(306,476)</u>	<u>(206,283)</u>	<u>(512,759)</u>	<u>(458,084)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(65,800)</u>	<u>(5,500)</u>	<u>(71,300)</u>	<u>(13,662)</u>
Net movement in funds		(65,800)	(5,500)	(71,300)	(13,662)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>160,013</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>165,513</u>	<u>179,175</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u>94,213</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,213</u>	<u>165,513</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 20.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

(Registration number: 6758847)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	16	22,300	41,771
Current assets			
Debtors	17	3,856	28,445
Cash at bank and in hand	18	<u>76,101</u>	<u>104,415</u>
		79,957	132,860
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	<u>(8,044)</u>	<u>(9,118)</u>
Net current assets		<u>71,913</u>	<u>123,742</u>
Net assets		<u>94,213</u>	<u>165,513</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	20	-	5,500
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>94,213</u>	<u>160,013</u>
Total funds	20	<u>94,213</u>	<u>165,513</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The notes on pages 14 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements.

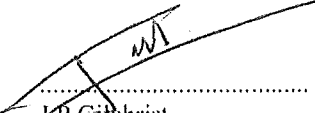
Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

**(Registration number: 6758847)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 11 to 27 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 28/01/25 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
JP Gitchrist
Chairman and trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in United Kingdom, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:
The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre
Manchester Road
Chorlton Cum Hardy
Manchester
M21 9JG

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared 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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Waters Edge Arts Ltd 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 notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

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 the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

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.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Improvements to premises	10%
Office, fixtures and equipment	25%
Computer equipment and software	33.3%

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as **The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations from individuals	24,448	-	24,448	14,355
Gift aid reclaimed	4,330	-	4,330	-
Grants, including capital grants;				
Grants from other charities	-	35,170	35,170	73,802
	<u>28,778</u>	<u>35,170</u>	<u>63,948</u>	<u>88,157</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Show Income	50,078	-	50,078	48,146
Classes and courses	21,539	-	21,539	17,883
Project Income	5,079	162,915	167,994	167,284
	<u>76,696</u>	<u>162,915</u>	<u>239,611</u>	<u>233,313</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Trading income;			
Cafe income	67,916	67,916	71,201
	<u>67,916</u>	<u>67,916</u>	<u>71,201</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	365	365	38
	<u>365</u>	<u>365</u>	<u>38</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Theatre tax relief claim	33,699	33,699	32,196
Venue hire	35,919	35,919	19,517
	<u>69,618</u>	<u>69,618</u>	<u>51,713</u>

8 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Note			
Cafe expenditure	70,222	70,222	50,308
Marketing and publicity	24,332	24,332	27,593
	<u>94,554</u>	<u>94,554</u>	<u>77,901</u>

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £
Show costs	69,167	12,565	81,732
Classes and courses	32,242	16,971	49,213
Project costs	181,450	92,033	273,483
	<u>282,859</u>	<u>121,569</u>	<u>404,428</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2024 £
Show costs	86,639	11,105	97,744
Classes and courses	30,625	14,999	45,624
Project costs	144,100	81,342	225,442
	<u>261,364</u>	<u>107,446</u>	<u>368,810</u>

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £13,780 (2024 - £11,373) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 10 for further details.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

10 Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs expenditure

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Premises costs	55,082	55,082	39,923
Office and IT costs	7,214	7,214	5,198
Bank charges	352	352	368
Staff costs	29,337	29,337	26,492
Other staff costs	9,190	9,190	9,731
Professional fees	923	923	881
Depreciation	19,471	19,471	24,853
	<u>121,569</u>	<u>121,569</u>	<u>107,446</u>

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Legal fees	4,180	4,180	4,173
Accountancy fees	9,600	9,600	7,200
	<u>13,780</u>	<u>13,780</u>	<u>11,373</u>

11 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	19,471	24,853
Independent examiners remuneration	<u>1,300</u>	<u>1,000</u>

12 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	160,814	145,026
Social security costs	6,483	5,843
Pension costs	3,047	2,958
Other staff costs	1,189	2,023
	<u>171,533</u>	<u>155,850</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including key management personnel) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Chief executive	1	1
Business development manager	1	1
Other staff	4	4
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £59,681 (2024 - £Nil).

14 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examination fees	1,300	1,100
All other services	1,200	6,100
	<u>2,500</u>	<u>7,200</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

15 Taxation

The income and gains of the charity are exempt from taxation to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	245,226	102,232	10,812	358,270
At 31 March 2025	245,226	102,232	10,812	358,270
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	218,796	87,293	10,409	316,498
Charge for the year	6,767	12,302	403	19,472
At 31 March 2025	225,563	99,595	10,812	335,970
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	19,663	2,637	-	22,300
At 31 March 2024	26,430	14,939	403	41,772

17 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	3,854	3,808
Accrued income	-	24,637
Other debtors	2	-
	3,856	28,445

18 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank	76,101	104,415

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as **The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	1,430	1,430
Other taxation and social security	2,384	2,380
Pension scheme creditor	630	-
Accruals	3,600	5,308
	8,044	9,118

20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General funds	160,013	240,676	(306,476)	94,213
Restricted funds				
Henry Smith	-	70,000	(70,000)	-
Evan Cornish Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Arts Council England	-	19,490	(19,490)	-
D'Oyly Carte	3,500	-	(3,500)	-
Granada Foundation	2,000	-	(2,000)	-
Albery Gubay Foundation	-	45,425	(45,425)	-
National Lottery Reaching Communities	-	35,170	(35,170)	-
The Great Manchester High Sheriff's Police Trust	-	4,698	(4,698)	-
Duchy of Lancaster	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Judy and Peter Folkman	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
Total restricted funds	5,500	200,783	(206,283)	-
Total funds	165,513	441,459	(512,759)	94,213

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General funds	167,109	280,156	(287,252)	160,013
Restricted				
Henry Smith	-	42,000	(42,000)	-
Evan Cornish Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Gubay Fund	-	44,100	(44,100)	-
Co-Op	2,916	2,811	(5,727)	-
Manchester City Council	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Our Manchester	-	17,000	(17,000)	-
Arts Council England	-	19,855	(19,855)	-
D'Oyly Carte	-	3,500	-	3,500
Granada Foundation	-	2,000	-	2,000
Awards For All	9,150	-	(9,150)	-
Booth Centre	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Total restricted funds	12,066	164,266	(170,832)	5,500
Total funds	179,175	444,422	(458,084)	165,513

Fund Restrictions

Albert Gubay Foundation - Grant for the learning disability strand of The Buzz

Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund - for the learning disability strand of The Buzz

The Greater Manchester High Sheriff's Police Trust - for the Booth Centre strand of The Buzz

Henry Smith Foundation - The Buzz

Evan Cornish Foundation - for the Booth Centre strand of The Buzz

Arts Council England - for Organisational Development

National Lottery Reaching Communities: for The Aspire Project, Roof Repairs and contribution to core costs

Judy and Peter Folkman Donation - for the Booth Centre strand of The Buzz

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	22,300	-	22,300
Current assets	79,957	-	79,957
Current liabilities	(8,044)	-	(8,044)
Total net assets	<u>94,213</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,213</u>

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	41,771	-	41,771
Current assets	127,360	5,500	132,860
Current liabilities	(9,118)	-	(9,118)
Total net assets	<u>160,013</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>165,513</u>

22 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

known as The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

23 Prior year Statement of Financial Activities

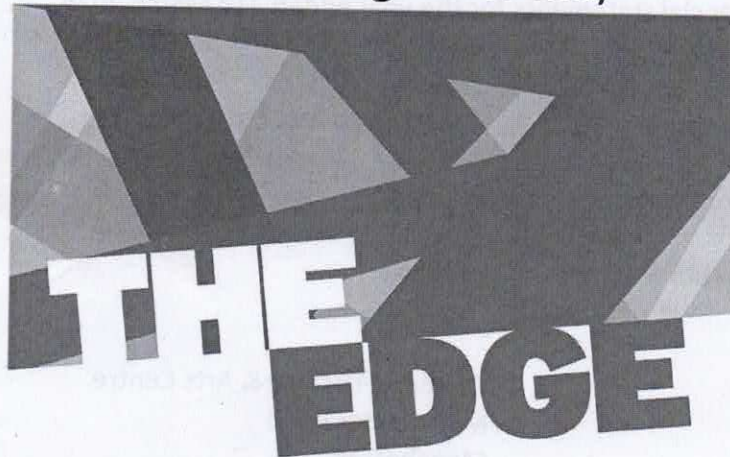
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	88,157	-	88,157
Charitable activities	69,047	164,266	233,313
Other trading activities	71,201	-	71,201
Investment income	38	-	38
Other income	51,713	-	51,713
Total income	<u>280,156</u>	<u>164,266</u>	<u>444,422</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	(77,901)	-	(77,901)
Charitable activities	<u>(209,351)</u>	<u>(170,832)</u>	<u>(380,183)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(287,252)</u>	<u>(170,832)</u>	<u>(458,084)</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(7,096)</u>	<u>(6,566)</u>	<u>(13,662)</u>
Net movement in funds	(7,096)	(6,566)	(13,662)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	<u>167,109</u>	<u>12,066</u>	<u>179,175</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>160,013</u></u>	<u><u>5,500</u></u>	<u><u>165,513</u></u>

WATERS EDGE ARTS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128608

Accounts

The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre
(Waters Edge Arts Ltd)



Theatre and Arts Centre

Company Number 6758847
Charity Number 1128608

Trustees' Report
1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

A handwritten signature or set of initials in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' or 'I' shape with a horizontal line across the top and a vertical line extending downwards from the right side.

D

Waters Edge Arts Ltd (T/A The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre)

Company Limited by Guarantee

**Trustees Annual Report, incorporating the Director's Report for
the year ending 31st March 2024**

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Registered Charity Name	Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Charity Registration Number	1128608
Company Registration Number	6758847
Registered Office	The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre Manchester Road Manchester M21 9JG
Trustees and Directors	Jonathan Patric GILCHRIST - Chair Akintayo Olutosin Ayoola AKINBODE Rupert Sinclair HILL Eve HOLT Paula Louise RABBITT Richard MORGAN (appointed 18/4/23) Philip Alan KOLVIN (appointed 8/8/23) Sacha LORD (appointed 8/8/23)
Principal Staff	Janine Waters – CEO / Artistic Director Hannah McAdam – Executive Director
Company Secretary	Janine WATERS (appointed 1/1/13)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Bury Business Centre PO BOX 33 26 Silver Street Bury BL9 0DJ
Independent Examiner	Christina Hawley FCA Quickmere Consulting Ltd 2 Huddersfield Road Stalybridge, SK15 2QA

The Edge is a unique arts organisation rooted in Chorlton, South Manchester, and extending its reach through activity and partnership across Manchester and further afield.

Mission

The Edge will be recognised as an invaluable arts resource for the people of Manchester and beyond. It will be known for providing high-quality, accessible, and relevant artistic activity for as wide a range of people as possible, bringing communities together in a welcoming and creative environment.

The Edge will advance the education of the public in the arts, particularly theatre, by encouraging and promoting involvement in theatre and related artistic and creative activities by any member of the public, particularly those deemed to be disadvantaged, vulnerable, or hard to reach.

Vision

We believe theatre has the power to inspire, inform, improve health, connect communities and create lasting personal and societal change. We aspire to positively affect every individual we engage, be it through the productions and events we make and stage or through the personal skills development integral to our ongoing programmes of creative projects and training schemes with communities and emerging practitioners. We are making strides in our ambition to build an inclusive, creative community. Our drive is always to be a vibrant, collaborative, socially engaged community hub for artists, vulnerable communities, local residents, partner organisations, volunteers and audiences.

Our vision is to be recognised as a centre of excellence both for high quality, ambitious theatre that is unashamedly entertaining, and for the skilful, inclusive and imaginative delivery of community activity and development programmes.

A core part of our ethos and values is our programme with individuals who are disenfranchised or disadvantaged, and our partnerships with organisations who support them. In all our work we aim to harness the incredible power of theatre and creativity for social change, but never more so than in this element of our work. Our vision is to help build a future that is more inclusive, sustainable and equal, and this is reflected in all our practice.

Values

Our Core values can be described through the following key words that represent our defining features and what matters most to us as a venue and company:

- Imagination
- Community
- Partnership
- Ambition
- Inclusivity
- Social Justice
- Sustainability

JL

Objectives

Our principal objectives for the organisation are to:

1. Maintain and develop The Edge as a vibrant cultural resource in Chorlton, providing a range of opportunities for people to explore their creativity, learn new skills, make new friends and support The Edge through an extensive and varied programme of arts-based workshops, courses, events and opportunities for volunteering.
2. Present a programme of professionally produced theatre at The Edge, by hosting visiting small-scale touring theatre companies and by creating professional in-house theatre productions to be presented at The Edge and on tour.
3. Deliver The Buzz, our programme of work with at risk adults and young people.
4. Support the development of emerging and mid-career artists and companies through our Associate Artist Scheme, practitioner-paid apprenticeships, and continuing professional development for actors/musicians and theatre-makers.
5. Maintain and develop the Dressing Room Café and Bar as a training resource for learning disabled adults.

Our Programme of Activity April 2023 to March 2024

The Edge has had an incredible year with an ambitious participation programme running alongside a varied and exciting theatre programme. We have done this through:

The Buzz: Our Programme Of Work With At Risk Adults And Young People.

- We delivered projects for children and adults with learning disabilities at The Edge in South Manchester and at the Shaw Centre in North Manchester. These projects comprise of 6 weekly acting and dance workshops and 2 week long residencies resulting in stage productions alongside professional performers. We have worked with 107 learning disabled dancers and actors over the year.
- We have also continued our prevention work for those affected by homelessness. This includes people with drug and alcohol issues, who have been through the prison system and are experiencing mental health issues and chaotic lives. This is in partnership with The Booth Centre, where we deliver weekly Acting for Fun and Confidence workshops for extremely vulnerable adults in Cheetham Hill (north Manchester). We have also continued to develop our theatre company for those individuals who are able to make a progression in their lives. During the year 138 individuals took part in the activities and in July 2023 The Booth Centre Theatre Company presented Alan Ayckbourn's *Ernie's Incredible Illucinations*.

Performance

- We produced our topical musical sketch show *That Sketch Show* in April and September to sold out audiences. In February we staged the premier of *In The Time of Dragons* written and directed by Janine Waters, Artistic Director, which was a finalist in the Manchester Culture Awards for Best Performance. The production ran for 3 weeks to largely sold-out audiences and received excellent reviews. ★★★★★ "Seriously heartwarming musical masterpiece" | [Love MCR on In the Time of Dragons](#)

- We welcomed 24 visiting companies into our theatre over the year from across the country, staging an eclectic programme of theatre, dance, comedy, spoken word and music.
- We welcomed 4658 audience members to these shows, with 61% of these people coming from outside Chorlton, and 6% coming from outside the North West.

Artistic Development

- Our Associate Artists programme offered bespoke, practical support to theatre companies. In 23/24 it supported: LIT Collective who are developing a new production of 1984 with a view to touring in 2025; The Construct Theatre Company who produced a new adaptation of The Colour of Space; and SWITCH MCR who developed a show incorporating new LGBTQ voices and stories.
- In 2024 we launched our Socially Engaged Theatre Makers Training Programme. 6 theatre graduates (or equivalent) were chosen from a submission of over 40 emerging artists to take part in this 7-month paid internship. 6 trainees worked closely with our highly skilled practitioners including our Artistic Director gaining invaluable hands-on experience working with some of our most vulnerable individuals. The training included an introduction to at-risk communities; safeguarding; session planning; delivery; conflict resolution and theatre making with adults and children with complex needs.

Community Engagement

- We have continued to run our rich and rewarding programme of adult evening workshops, including life drawing mornings and evenings, a ukulele club, Introduction to Acting courses, 2 community choirs, Dance and performance opportunities.
- We have hosted 4 exhibitions in our gallery: *Stanley Chow Presents a Random Selection of his Illustrations Featuring People from Film, Stage & TV*; *Paintings in the Key of Life* by Gary Steer, *38 Years of Private Eye* by Tony Husband and *Breathing is Free* by Fleur Yearsley.
- The Edge has a dedicated team of over 20 volunteers who carry out a range of duties to support the operation of the charity, contributing 802 hours of work over the year. They were supported by the Volunteers Manager, with responsibility of seeking out additional volunteers, especially those with complex needs, whom other organisations might not support.

Our Staff Team

Our staff team report directly to the board of trustees of the charity. During the reporting period our core team was made up of:

- Artistic Director/Chief Executive Officer

- Executive Director
- Volunteers Manager/Duty Manager
- Café Bar Manager
- Learning Mentor/Duty Manager
- Projects Manager
- Musical Director
- Technician/Duty Manager
- Cleaner

Of these posts, the Artistic Director, Volunteers Manager and Learning Mentor work full-time.

These people were supported by a **freelance team** made up of:

- An Accountant
- A Fundraiser
- Arts facilitators
- Artists, Actors, Designers, Stage Managers, Technicians
- Casual Baristas

Volunteers

The Edge offers many opportunities for people to volunteer and support our work. People help us by:

- Making up our front-of-house team
- Project support
- Undertaking gardening and woodwork
- Supporting others
- Making up our Board of Trustees

Environmental Responsibility

The Edge is a member of GMAST (Greater Manchester Sustainability Team) and has a designated Environmental Sustainability Officer, who undertakes to minimise our environmental load as much as possible. The theatre has a policy of working with a high proportion of locally based suppliers, practitioners, and actors, minimising the environmental impact of transportation. It continues to monitor energy utilisation on site, making what adjustments are possible.

Review of Principal Risks

As a charity The Edge relies on the income from fees, ticket sales, room rental and café takings alongside grants to cover running costs. By charging those who can afford it, the charity is able to provide free or heavily subsidised activities and performances for those who can't.

Consequently, the charity can be vulnerable to a reduction in sales, especially in the current financial downturn and precarious economic climate especially for arts provision.

The charity's operations are reviewed monthly, and expenditure is directly related to income. We continually review our participatory activities and theatre productions to ensure that we are providing a programme that will appeal to our regular customers, as well as widening participation and attendance through a commitment to diverse programming.

The charity maintains its reliance on the continuing support of grant-awarding bodies and trusts and foundations and is aware that this funding may suffer a downturn considering the current economic crisis. The Executive Director will continue to work with the CEO to diversify income streams and will aim to increase earned income to further support our charitable activities.

The Edge is highly dependent on the skills and knowledge of a small number of senior staff and any departure of senior staff would present difficulties for the charity. The charity has worked to mitigate this risk by introducing a system of annual staff appraisals to ensure that staff are happy, and that there are appropriate opportunities for professional development.

We continue to aim to increase our capacity, utilising more fully all the potential income-generating aspects of our beautiful Victorian building and exploiting the talent and creativity of our workforce.

We anticipate our business will continue to grow through:

- Increased programming of events in the building, including comedy, music, cabaret and spoken word performance and the subsequent increased sales from the bar and café.
- Increased participatory activity with more and different people, which in turn provides stronger evidence of need for potential funders.
- Increased programming of fee-paying classes, by increasing progression routes within the organisation. Evidence suggests that this has increased the footfall to our café.
- Proactively developing new fundraising initiatives: encouraging individual giving, developing existing and new relationships with trusts and foundations; exploring sponsorship opportunities.
- Developing our room rental portfolio through a concerted and targeted marketing campaign to appeal to those seeking space for conferences and weddings and other events where catering is required.

Board of Trustees' view:

It is the view of the Board of Trustees of Waters Edge Arts Ltd. that the activities carried out during the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 fulfilled the principal specific aims of the programme outlined above. The activity of the charity therefore offers public benefit as it advances appreciation of the performance and participatory events offered to beneficiaries during the year, provides diverse educational opportunities and facilitates social integration by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together.

Public Benefit

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and the charging of fees. The charity relies on the income from grants and from fees and charges accordingly to cover its operating costs.

In setting the level of fees and charges, principally the price of tickets for theatre shows, the Trustees consider the accessibility to activities for those on low incomes, offering the majority of its tickets at discounted rates.

Analysis of Public Benefit

The types of benefit that these objects promote are to:

- Advance attendance at, and therefore advance appreciation of a variety of performance events, including drama, dance, and music-making by beneficiaries.
- Advance participation in, and therefore advance appreciation of participating in a variety of artistic forms, including drama, dance, writing, music-making, crafts, and digital arts by beneficiaries.
- Provide educational opportunities for beneficiaries through specific training programmes and through the offer of participation, or attendance at artistic events.
- Facilitate social integration and cohesion by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together, fostering a better understanding of each other's cultures.

Programmes of activity are open to the general public, but beneficiaries of The Edge programme and participatory work are usually resident in the North West region of England and predominantly live within Greater Manchester.

Statement of the Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Trustees are required to oversee the preparation of financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 overseeing the filing of proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for ensuring the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Future Strategy

Building on the success of 2023/24, we will nurture and champion our existing work, as we further develop our model as follows:

- **On our Stage.** The Edge creative team will increase the visibility and ambition of our in-house theatre productions and develop relationships with more Manchester based theatre companies making new work.
- **The Buzz.** The Edge will develop the Buzz by expanding our work to broker relationships with homeless charities and cultural organisations further afield, helping them to build relationships and make work together. This work will start in St Helen's.
- **The Edge Community Cinema.** It is our hope that we will establish a community led cinema, where seasons of films are curated by learning disabled people, people accessing the Booth Centre, local school children and families and local older people through our partnership with Chorlton library.
- **Training.** Following the success of our first Socially Engage Theatre Makers Training programme, we will invite 3 emerging artists a year to develop their practice, alongside 3 existing trainees, graduating into their second year.

Jon Gilchrist
Chair

JK

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2024**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Incoming Resources				
Show Income	48,146		48,146	77,520
Earned Income	37,400		37,400	39,536
Project Income	3,018	164,266	167,284	163,598
Other Restricted Income	0		0	43,321
Unrestricted Income	88,157		88,157	60,874
Café Income	71,201		71,201	68,340
Other Income	32,234		32,234	64
Total incoming resources	<u>280,156</u>	<u>164,266</u>	<u>444,422</u>	<u>453,252</u>
Direct Expenses				
Show Costs	58,549	14,929	73,478	52,578
Trading Expenses	13,090		13,090	10,768
Project Costs	0	47,462	47,462	45,087
Café Expenses	50,308		50,308	49,298
Other Direct Expenses	0		0	0
	<u>121,948</u>	<u>62,391</u>	<u>184,338</u>	<u>157,731</u>
Operating Overheads				
Employee Costs	47,408	108,442	155,850	157,863
Freelancers	22,539		22,539	17,122
Marketing & Promotion	13,325		13,325	11,785
Premises Costs	39,923		39,923	45,104
Office & IT expenses	4,635		4,635	5,963
Legal & Professional Costs	12,254		12,254	8,217
Financial & Other Expenses	25,221		25,221	50,190
Total expenditure	<u>287,252</u>	<u>170,832</u>	<u>458,085</u>	<u>453,975</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	(7,097)	(6,566)	(13,663)	(723)
Total funds brought forward	167,109	12,066	179,176	179,899
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>160,012</u></u>	<u><u>5,500</u></u>	<u><u>165,513</u></u>	<u><u>179,176</u></u>

12

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Company no. 5288784

Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2024

		31-Mar-24		31-Mar-23	
	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets		41,771		66,625	
Current assets					
Debtors	28,445		3,333		
Cash at bank and in hand	104,415		118,621		
		132,859		121,955	
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	(9,118)		(9,404)		
Deferred Grant Income	0		0		
Net current assets		123,741		112,551	
Total assets less current liabilities		165,513		179,176	
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		0		0	
Total net assets		165,513		179,176	
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted reserves brought forward		167,109		137,925	
Restricted reserves brought forward		12,066		41,974	
<i>Current year surplus / deficit - unrestricted</i>	(7,097)		29,184		
<i>Current year surplus / deficit - restricted</i>	(6,566)		(29,908)		
Current year surplus / (deficit)		(13,663)		(723)	
Total funds		165,513		179,176	

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. They have been applied consistently during the year, and in the preceding year.

a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRSE version (effective January 2015).

b Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The charity has experienced a challenging last few months, however it has and is undergoing a process of improving its systems. Income stream since 31 August 2016 indicate that the charity is able to generate revenue to be a going concern.

c Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

d Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

- Investment income is included when receivable.

- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.

- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

e Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is included as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

f Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remains with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they fall due.

g Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Individual items costing less than £500 are not capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset Category	Annual rate
Improvements to premises	10%
Office furniture & equipment	25%
Computer equipment & software	33.3%

h Pensions

The charitable company contributes to defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of its employees. The assets of these schemes are entirely separate to those of the charity. The pension cost shown represents contributions payable by the charity on behalf of the employees. There were contributions outstanding / (prepaid) at the balance sheet date of Enil (2022: Enil).

i Cash flow statement

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 from preparing a Cash Flow Statement on the grounds that it is a small charitable company.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Incoming resources

	2024	2023
	£	£
<u>Show income</u>		
Show Income - That Sketch Show	3,647	7,705
Show Income - In The Time Of Dragons	11,196	35,000
Show Income - This Is Chorlton Calling (Again)	0	314
Show Income - Replica	413	
Show Income - Visiting Company Shows	32,890	34,501
	<u>48,146</u>	<u>77,520</u>
<u>Earned income</u>		
Earned income - Classes & Courses	17,883	19,005
Earned income - Venue Hire	19,517	20,532
	<u>37,400</u>	<u>39,536</u>
<u>Project income</u>		
Learning Disability Programme	92,295	110,112
Booth Centre Programme	30,369	39,089
Volunteer Programme	0	0
Community Arts Club	42,666	12,896
Visual Arts Programme	1,954	1,500
	<u>167,284</u>	<u>163,598</u>
<u>Other restricted income</u>		
Restricted Capital Grants	0	25,123
Restricted Grants - Other	0	18,198
	<u>0</u>	<u>43,321</u>
<u>Unrestricted income</u>		
Unrestricted Grants	73,802	40,000
Donations	14,355	20,874
	<u>88,157</u>	<u>60,874</u>
Café income	71,201	68,340
<u>Other income</u>		
Other income	32,196	0
Bank interest receivable	38	64
	<u>32,234</u>	<u>64</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u><u>444,422</u></u>	<u><u>453,252</u></u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

3 Expenditure	2024	2023
	£	£
<u>Show costs</u>		
Show Costs - That Sketch Show	9,531	17,582
Show Costs - In The Time Of Dragons	37,277	300
Show Costs - This Is Chorlton Calling (Again)	0	732
Show Costs - Replica	231	
Show Costs - Visiting Company Shows	26,440	33,965
	<u>73,478</u>	<u>52,578</u>
<u>Trading expenses</u>		
Trading expenses - Classes & Courses	12,850	10,311
Trading expenses - Venue Hire	240	457
	<u>13,090</u>	<u>10,768</u>
<u>Project costs</u>		
Learning Disability Programme	29,827	25,127
Booth Centre Programme	9,775	13,471
Volunteer Programme	0	35
Community Arts Club	5,563	830
Visual Arts Programme	2,297	5,624
	<u>47,462</u>	<u>45,087</u>
<u>Café expenses</u>		
Café purchases	23,840	25,025
Baristas	26,468	24,273
	<u>50,308</u>	<u>49,298</u>
Other direct expenses	0	0
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES	<u>184,338</u>	<u>157,731</u>
<u>Employee costs</u>		
Employee salaries	145,026	146,462
Employer's NI	5,843	6,461
Employer's Pension	2,958	2,959
SSP/SMP/SPP	0	0
Staff Training	281	850
Employee benefits	0	0
Staff entertainment & parties	599	853
Staff travel expenses	1,143	174
Other staff costs	0	104
	<u>155,850</u>	<u>157,863</u>
<u>Freelancers</u>		
Freelancers - Fundraising	12,432	9,167
Freelancers - Duty Manager	7,708	3,592
Freelancers - Management & Finance	0	2,500
Freelancers - Marketing	2,400	1,000
Freelancers - Other	0	864
	<u>22,539</u>	<u>17,122</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Marketing & promotion</u>		
Marketing	11,858	12,280
Advertising	0	0
PR	0	0
Party & event hosting	75	120
Licences	0	(795)
Subscriptions	564	151
Publications	0	29
Marketing & promotion - Other	829	0
	<u>13,325</u>	<u>11,785</u>
<u>Premises costs</u>		
Rent and rates	14,734	14,480
Utilities	12,712	11,752
Cleaning	443	279
Repairs & maintenance	7,797	13,600
Insurance	3,723	3,373
Other premises expenses	514	1,620
	<u>39,923</u>	<u>45,104</u>
<u>Office & IT expenses</u>		
Telephone & mobile costs	74	103
Internet costs	1,002	874
Website maintenance	912	648
Stationery, postage & packaging	838	289
Furniture & equipment	839	2,698
Motor expenses	0	0
Other office & IT expenses	969	1,350
	<u>4,635</u>	<u>5,963</u>
<u>Legal & professional costs</u>		
Accountancy fees	7,200	7,200
Payroll bureau	881	991
Legal expenses	13	13
Other legal & professional costs	4,160	13
	<u>12,254</u>	<u>8,217</u>
<u>Financial & other expenses</u>		
Bank charges	368	415
Other interest payable	0	0
Depreciation	24,853	49,776
Bad debts	0	0
Exchange rate gains / losses	0	0
Dividend cost	0	0
	<u>25,221</u>	<u>50,190</u>
TOTAL OVERHEADS	<u>273,746</u>	<u>296,244</u>
NET PROFIT / (LOSS)	<u>(13,663)</u>	<u>(723)</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within S505 of the Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (ICTA 1998) or S256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

5 Net incoming/(outgoing) resources

This is stated after charging/(crediting) the following:

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	7,200	7,200
Depreciation	24,853	49,776
Independent Examiner's remuneration comprised:		
Independent examination	1,200	1,200
Accountancy	6,000	6,000

6 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	145,026	146,462
Social security costs	5,843	6,461
Pension contributions	2,958	2,959
Staff training	281	850
Travel & entertainment	1,742	1,132
	<u>155,850</u>	<u>157,863</u>

The average number of employees during the year calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents was as follows:

Chief executive	1.0	1.0
Business Development manager	0.6	0.5
Other staff	3.9	6.5
Total	<u>5.5</u>	<u>8.0</u>

The number of employees earning over £60,000 per annum excluding pension contributions was nil (2023: nil).

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received reimbursed travel expenses during the period (2023: nil).

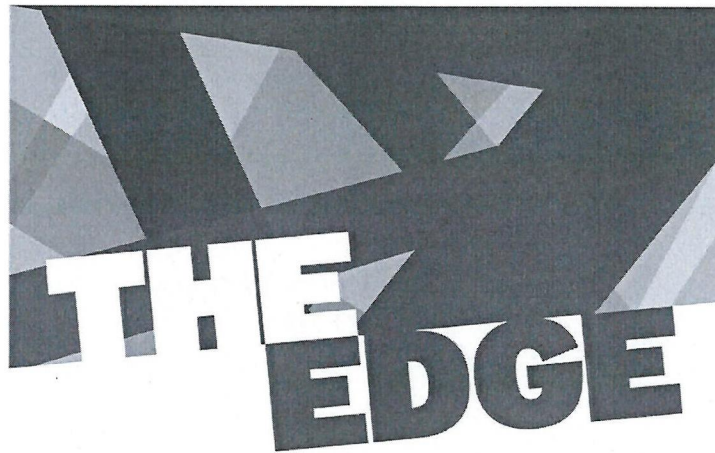
No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the period (31 March 2023: nil).

WATERS EDGE ARTS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128608

Accounts

The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre
(Waters Edge Arts Ltd)



Theatre and Arts Centre

Company Number 6758847
Charity Number 1128608

Trustees' Report
1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Report of Directors for the year ended 31st March 2023

The Directors present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Charity Registration Number	1128608
Company Registration Number	6758847
Registered Office	The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre Manchester Road Manchester M21 9JG
Directors	Jonathan Patric GILCHRIST - Chair - (appointed 8/2/21) Akintayo Olutosin Ayoola AKINBODE (appointed 8/3/21) Rupert Sinclair HILL (appointed 7/12/20) Cllr. Eve HOLT (appointed 10/12/18) Paula Louise RABBITT (appointed 1/11/18) Wyllie LONGMORE (appointed 3/6/16 - resigned 2/11/22)
Principal Staff	Janine Waters – CEO / Artistic Director
Independent Examiner	Tina Hawley FCA Quickmere Consulting Ltd 2 Huddersfield Road Stalybridge SK152QA
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Bury Business Centre PO Box 33 Silver Street Bury BL9 0DJ
Secretary	Janine WATERS (appointed 1/1/13)

Background

Since its opening in 2011, The Edge has been a thriving and accessible cultural hub, creating and presenting high-quality theatre and performance, and delivering a rich programme of meaningful and potentially life-changing participatory activities.

'Alongside the excellent work on stage, there's good stuff happening throughout the organization, with a participation programme as inclusive as it is ambitious'

Rob Martin, Time Out.

In 2021 The Edge celebrated its 10th year as Manchester's Theatre for Participation. Our beautiful venue has entertained, captivated and enthralled audiences with some of the best small-scale touring theatre in the country, alongside our own productions made by our wonderful in-house creatives.

Over the years we've worked with hundreds of fantastic actors and musicians; many are professional, some have learning disabilities, some have experience of homelessness, some are from our local community. As theatre makers we delight in creating shows which reflect the world that we live in, even if we've set them on the moon. They're honest, relevant and always full of hope.

As a Manchester Cultural Partner, we play a vital role in the cultural offer of the city. As leaders in participation, we provide a range of exciting opportunities for people to be creative. At The Edge you can Act, Sing, Dance, play the Ukulele, Write, Paint, Draw or just be. Our café is known as one of the most friendly and welcoming in Chorlton!

We are founding members of Greater Manchester Small Venues Network (GMSVN), members of Manchester's Cultural Engagement and Cultural Leaders Networks and a significant part of the city's cultural landscape. We are members of Venues North and Future Arts Centres, connecting us to the cultural offer across the North of England and our Artistic Director is the co-chair of the Arts & Homelessness Network.

The Edge seeks out opportunities to collaborate and we look forward to growing the relationships with the organisations that we have entered partnerships with over the coming years as well as seeking out new opportunities to collaborate.

Vision, Mission, and Values

In our business plan for the period April 2020 - March 2023, our vision, mission, and values are described as being:

Vision

At the Edge Theatre and Arts Centre, we strongly believe that everyone should have access to high-quality culture as a basic human right. Arts and Culture give people the opportunity to reach their full creative potential and to lead fulfilling lives. Engagement in the arts can offer

personal fulfilment and promote community cohesion and purpose. Consequently, it engenders a sense of both personal pride and pride in where we live. It offers personal and societal enrichment.

Mission

Based in Chorlton in the City of Manchester, The Edge will be recognised as a valuable arts resource for the people of Manchester and beyond. It will be known for providing high-quality, accessible, and relevant artistic activity for as wide a range of people as possible, bringing communities together in a welcoming and creative environment.

The Edge will advance the education of the public in the arts, particularly theatre, by encouraging and promoting involvement in theatre and related artistic and creative activities by any member of the public, particularly those deemed to be disadvantaged, vulnerable, or hard to reach.

Values

The Edge will fulfil its vision and mission by:

- Working cooperatively, openly, and transparently, respecting and supporting the talents and aspirations of its staff, freelance practitioners, volunteers, and participants
- Offering equality of opportunity to all
- Offering a creative and nurturing working environment
- Developing honest and open relationships with partner organisations and other stakeholders, valuing the knowledge, experience and skills brought by them.

Aims and Objectives

Our principal aims and objectives are fully described in our Business Plan 2020-23 and are to:

1. Re-establish levels of engagement to those associated with The Edge's activities pre-COVID 19 restrictions.
2. Maintain and develop The Edge as a vibrant cultural resource in Chorlton through offering classes and courses and making participatory work with vulnerable and excluded people; concentrating on the existing programmes with The Booth Centre Theatre Company, the Aspire programme, the Community Arts Club, and the participatory work with learning disabled adults.
3. Support the development of emerging and mid-career artists and companies through **Made at the Edge**, through practitioner paid apprenticeships, and continuing professional development for actors/musicians and theatre-makers.
4. Present a programme of professionally produced theatre at The Edge, by hosting visiting small-scale touring theatre companies and by creating two professional in-house theatre productions to be presented at The Edge and on tour
5. Maintain and develop the Dressing Room Café and Bar as a training resource for learning disabled adults.

6. Deliver a programme of participatory theatre for and promote attendance at cultural events by people living in Mersey Bank and Arrowfield as part of the new **My Edge** initiative.
7. Improve our sustainability and resilience as an organisation. We will take full advantage of our facilities, seeking capital funds to improve our building, promoting engagement from more people and greater opportunities to earn income from classes, performances and The Dressing Room Café and Bar.

Our Staff Team

During the reporting period our core team was made up of:

- Artistic Director/Chief Executive Officer
- Executive Director
- Volunteers Manager/Duty Manager
- Chef/Café Manager
- Learning Mentor/Duty Manager
- Musical Director
- Technician/Duty Manager
- Cleaner

Of these posts, the Artistic Director, Volunteers Manager, Chef and Learning Mentor work full-time.

These people were supported by a freelance team made up of:

- An Accountant
- A Marketing Assistant
- A Fundraiser
- Arts facilitators
- Artists, Actors, Designers, Stage Managers, Technicians
- Casual Baristas

Volunteers

The Edge offers many opportunities for people to volunteer and support our work. People help us by:

- Making up our front-of-house team
- Project support
- Undertaking gardening and woodwork
- Supporting others
- Making up our Board of Trustees

The Edge has a dedicated team of around over 20 volunteers who carry out a range of duties to support the operation of the charity. During the year they were supported by a Volunteer Coordinator, with responsibility of seeking out additional volunteers, especially those with complex needs, whom other organisations might not support.

Our Programme of Activity April 2022 to March 2023

The Edge is a thriving and accessible arts centre and reaches out to both its local community and the wider Greater Manchester audience. It also specifically targets people who are disadvantaged or hard to reach with bespoke participatory programmes of work. During the period 1st April 2022-31st March 2023, 602 people took part in an arts activity at The Edge each week.

During the period 510 days work was created for freelance practitioners.

Working Alongside Young People & Adults With Learning Disabilities

"A lot of people tell us what our limits are, but the Edge is limitless"

Sian, Actor & Dancer at The Edge

Alongside our professional theatre provision we delivered a comprehensive participatory theatre & arts programme, continuing to run long-term projects with vulnerable adults and young people. This work changes the lives of our actors and participants.

We ran an extensive programme of work for adults and young people with learning disabilities, at The Edge and at The Shaw Centre in Cheetham Hill, which is core to our founding principles. This included weekly acting and dance workshops resulting in an annual stage production, working alongside professional performers.

Our award-winning work-based training for LD adults in hospitality and front of house, ran every day of the week, throughout the year. Over the 12 months covered in this report, we worked with 60 learning disabled dancers and actors in our theatre programme, led by highly experienced specialist facilitators and 30 trainees in our cafe and on the reception desk, as part of our bespoke one-to-one training delivered by The Edge's Learning Mentor.

Our work provided opportunities for people to develop their independent living skills and coping strategies, gain greater emotional intelligence and resilience, and to be able to make positive choices about the everyday things that affect their lives.

Learning disabled participants at The Edge develop communication and interpersonal skills, reduce their sense of social isolation and not belonging and become part of The Edge 'family'. They improve their self-esteem and confidence, speaking and listening, presentation and performance skills and most importantly, they come to The Edge to have fun!

Our programme of work-based training for adults with learning disabilities saw 720 hours of one-to-one training delivered over the year, with 30 individuals graduating from the programme. Of these 30, 60% have revisited The Edge since their placement either for a class, show or social event and 37% have taken part in dance and/or drama classes. 100% of participants told us that their placements were positive and enriching experiences.

We continued to run a steering group of 5 participants from across the programme of work, who met regularly to discuss ideas and opportunities and helped us to shape our work.

In September 2022, ten of our learning-disabled performers appeared in a specially commissioned new play, *And in the Centre, Me*. As with all our participatory theatre, the production included professional actors and incorporated high production values, giving our LD actors and dancers a genuine, first-hand experience of being in a professional production, with all that entails. These brilliant performers undertook concentrated and focused work, rising to the challenge and achieving way beyond the usual limits that are often set for learning disabled people.

Working Alongside Adults Who Are At Risk Of Homelessness

We have worked in partnership with The Booth Centre for 13 years, delivering drama projects in Cheetham Hill and developing The Booth Centre Theatre Company.

For 48 weeks of the year, we ran Acting For Fun & Confidence in partnership with The Booth Centre for rough sleepers with profound complex needs. These were drop-in sessions and once participants have attended regularly for 6 months they are invited to join The Booth Centre Theatre Company. For some participants this was the aim, for some the drop-in sessions are their focus. The Booth Centre Theatre Company is our resident performance company of actors with lived experience of homelessness. This company produced two shows this year, working alongside professional actors and musicians. The productions provided opportunities for friends, family, others with experience of homelessness and the staff that supported them to see participants achieve. Our work profiles the impact of making theatre with vulnerable adults and challenges the public's perception of a person who has found themselves homeless. It proves that there is so much more to people than their current situation.

Our Work With The Wider Community

We continued to run a year-round programme of activities for young people and adults in the community, with classes from acting to ukulele, dancing to singing. Over the year 115 individuals have attended 188 of these classes. These often provide a lifeline to participants.

"It's been great for my physical health – I've actually managed to stabilise my osteoporosis through the dancing that I've done there – and, more importantly, it's essential for my mental health as it is for so many of the members. I'm so grateful that this class exists and that I have access to it – and that my errant bones and muscles are currently under control enough for me to enjoy dancing again!"

Community Class Participant

Making and Presenting Original Theatre Productions

We produced 2 shows through our partnership with the Booth Centre: *The Team* and *She's Not The Queen, She's A Very Naughty Girl*, where performers with lived experience of homelessness worked alongside professional actors, designers, directors & crew. Each production incorporated newly-commissioned scripts & original music. Community actors benefitted from working alongside experienced professionals, enabling them to develop their acting & performance skills.

The performers, who face significant challenges in their lives, had a significant shift in self-esteem. Many have had few opportunities to experience a sense of achievement. Being part of a professionally staged production & seeing it through to its successful completion has a profound effect. This model was replicated in our work with people with learning disabilities. Actors & Dancers in the performance companies worked with professional performers, directors, choreographers & designers on *And In The Centre, Me*.

We produced our topical musical sketch show *That Sketch Show* in July, October and March.

"A surreal slice of experimental, that is otherwise sorely missing from Manchester's theatre scene" The Reviews Hub

"A superb satirical showcase that incorporates comedy in every shape & form: from one-liners to full on musical turns" Manchester Wire

As a receiving house we programmed three seasons which were carefully curated to attract both new and existing audiences. We welcomed 24 visiting companies into our theatre over the year, with 79 performances from companies including Untied Artists, Attic Theatre, Lempen Puppet Theatre, Ladies That Dig, Luke Wright and Queerdog Theatre. We welcomed 4498 audience members to these shows, with 70% of these people coming from outside Chorlton, and 6% coming from outside the North West.

This programme is augmented and complemented by a series of musical presentations, comedy nights and quiz nights, based in and around The Theatre and The Dressing Room Café Bar.

Professional Training and Development

The Edge is committed to supporting early career theatre companies and practitioners. Made at The Edge is our programme which was set up to develop and support new ideas and exciting theatre by offering tailored support for these individuals. During 22/23 we supported 8 artists and companies by offering regular support Edge staff, space in kind, financial investment, development opportunities and performance space.

“Partnering with The Edge has been an incredible opportunity for us at MAYT. Having the support and complete trust of such an incredible venue has given us a real push to trust in ourselves as young creatives and put our all into our productions.” MAYT, An Edge Associate Company

Evaluation

We use a variety of methods to measure and evaluate the impact and success of our work. This includes monitoring the following data:

- Number of attendances
- Number of repeat visits
- Press reviews – digitally, locally, and nationally
- Audience comments from foyer comments books, Twitter, Facebook, other social media and through feedback given directly to operational staff
- Practitioner, artist, actor feedback
- Participants’ review, through end-of-project evaluation meetings and methods appropriate to each group.
- Peer Reviews
- Case studies, associated with specific pieces of work
- Review by board members and discussion of programme at board meetings.

Funding

During this reporting period The Edge has been supported by public bodies, charities, trusts, foundations, and individual and corporate donors. The Edge received grants from:

- Arts Council England
- The Booth Centre
- The Co-op Local Community Fund
- The Evan Cornish Foundation
- Manchester City Council
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Bernard Sunley Foundation
- The Garfield Weston Foundation
- The AG Foundation
- The Henry Smith Charity

Review of Principal Risks

As a charity The Edge relies on the income from fees, ticket sales, room rental and café takings alongside grants to cover running costs. By charging those who can afford it, the charity is able to provide free or heavily subsidised activities and performances for those who can't.

Consequently, the charity can be vulnerable to a reduction in sales, especially in the current financial downturn and a precarious economic climate for arts provision.

The charity's operations are reviewed monthly, and expenditure is directly related to income. We continually review our participatory activities and theatre productions to ensure that we are providing a programme that will appeal to our regular customers, as well as widening participation and attendance through a commitment to diverse programming.

The charity maintains its reliance on the continuing support of grant-awarding bodies and trusts and foundations and is aware that this funding may suffer a downturn considering the current economic crisis. The Executive Director will continue to work with the CEO to diversify income streams and will aim to increase earned income to further support our charitable activities.

The Edge is dependent on the skills and knowledge of a small number of senior staff and the charity has worked to mitigate this risk by introducing a system of annual staff appraisals to ensure that staff are happy, and that there are appropriate opportunities for professional development.

We continue to aim to increase our capacity, utilising more fully all the potential income-generating aspects of our beautiful Victorian building and exploiting the talent and creativity of our workforce.

We anticipate our business will continue to grow through:

- Increased programming of events in the building, including comedy, music, cabaret and spoken word performance and the subsequent increased sales from the bar and café.
- Increased participatory activity with more and different people.
- Increased programming of fee-paying classes, by increasing progression routes within the organisation. Evidence suggests that this has increased the footfall to our café.
- Proactively developing new fundraising initiatives: encouraging individual giving, developing existing and new relationships with trusts and foundations; exploring sponsorship opportunities.
- Developing our room rental portfolio through a concerted and targeted marketing campaign to appeal to those seeking space for conferences and weddings and other events where catering is required.

Board of Trustees' view:

It is the view of the Board of Trustees of Waters Edge Arts Ltd. that the activities carried out during the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 fulfilled the principal specific aims of the programme outlined above. The activity of the charity therefore offers public benefit as it advances appreciation of the performance and participatory events offered to beneficiaries during the year, provides diverse educational opportunities and facilitates social integration by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together.

Public Benefit

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and the charging of fees. The charity relies on the income from grants and from fees and charges accordingly to cover its operating costs.

In setting the level of fees and charges, principally the price of tickets for theatre shows, the Trustees consider the accessibility to activities for those on low incomes, offering the majority of its tickets at discounted rates.

Analysis of Public Benefit

The types of benefit that the charity promotes are to:

- Advance attendance at, and therefore advance appreciation of a variety of performance events, including drama, dance, and music-making by beneficiaries.
- Advance participation in, and therefore advance appreciation of participating in a variety of artistic forms, including drama, dance, writing, music-making, crafts, and digital arts by beneficiaries.
- Provide educational opportunities for beneficiaries through specific training programmes and through the offer of participation, or attendance at artistic events.
- Facilitate social integration and cohesion by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together, fostering a better understanding of each other's cultures.

Programmes of activity are open to the general public, but beneficiaries of The Edge programme and participatory work are usually resident in the North West region of England and predominantly live within City of Manchester.

During the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, 59% of audience members came from Manchester, 30% came from Greater Manchester, 5% from the North West (excluding Greater Manchester) and 6% from outside the North West.

Environmental Responsibility

The Edge is a member of MAST (Manchester Sustainability Team) and has a designated Environmental Sustainability Officer, who undertakes to minimise our environmental load as much as possible. The theatre has a policy of working with a high proportion of locally based suppliers, practitioners, and actors, minimising the environmental impact of transportation. It continues to monitor energy utilisation on site, making what adjustments are possible.

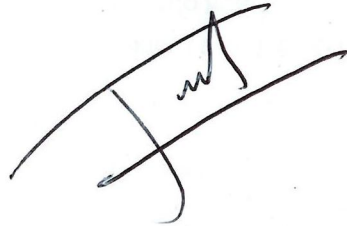
Statement of the Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Board of Trustees are responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Trustees is required to oversee the preparation of financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 overseeing the filing of proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for ensuring the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jon Gilchrist', written over a horizontal line.

Jon Gilchrist
Chair

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2023**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022/23 £
Incoming Resources			
Show Income	74,196	3,324	77,520
Earned Income	39,536		39,536
Project Income	27,602	135,996	163,598
Other Restricted Income	0	43,321	43,321
Unrestricted Income	60,874		60,874
Café Income	68,340		68,340
Other Income	64		64
Total incoming resources	<u>270,611</u>	<u>182,641</u>	<u>453,252</u>
Direct Expenses			
Show Costs	38,280	14,298	52,578
Trading Expenses	10,768		10,768
Project Costs	0	45,087	45,087
Café Expenses	49,298		49,298
Other Direct Expenses	0		0
	<u>98,346</u>	<u>59,385</u>	<u>157,731</u>
Operating Overheads			
Employee Costs	48,020	109,843	157,863
Freelancers	17,122		17,122
Marketing & Promotion	11,785		11,785
Premises Costs	41,104	4,000	45,104
Office & IT expenses	5,963		5,963
Legal & Professional Costs	8,217		8,217
Financial & Other Expenses	10,870	39,321	50,190
Total expenditure	<u>241,427</u>	<u>212,549</u>	<u>453,975</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	29,184	(29,908)	(723)
Total funds brought forward	137,925	41,974	179,899
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>167,109</u></u>	<u><u>12,066</u></u>	<u><u>179,176</u></u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Company no. 5288784

Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2023

	31-Mar-23		31-Mar-22	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets		66,625		95,283
Current assets				
Debtors	3,333		5,117	
Cash at bank and in hand	118,621		119,590	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	121,955		124,707	
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	(9,404)		(17,973)	
Deferred Grant Income	0		(22,118)	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net current assets		112,551		84,616
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		179,176		179,899
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		0		0
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
Total net assets		179,176		179,899
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
The funds of the charity:				
Unrestricted reserves brought forward		137,925		64,849
Restricted reserves brought forward		41,974		26,729
<i>Current year surplus / deficit - unrestricted</i>	29,184		73,076	
<i>Current year surplus / deficit - restricted</i>	<u>(29,908)</u>		<u>15,245</u>	
Current year surplus / (deficit)		(723)		88,321
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
Total funds		179,176		179,899
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. They have been applied consistently during the year, and in the preceding year.

a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRSSE version (effective January 2015).

b Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The charity has experienced a challenging last few months, however it has and is undergoing a process of improving its systems. Income stream since 31 August 2016 indicate that the charity is able to generate revenue to be a going concern.

c Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

d Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

e Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is included as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remains with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they fall due.

g Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Individual items costing less than £500 are not capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset Category	Annual rate
Improvements to premises	10%
Office furniture & equipment	25%
Computer equipment & software	33.3%

h Pensions

The charitable company contributes to defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of its employees. The assets of these schemes are entirely separate to those of the charity. The pension cost shown represents contributions payable by the charity on behalf of the employees. There were contributions outstanding / (prepaid) at the balance sheet date of £nil (2022: £nil).

i Cash flow statement

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 from preparing a Cash Flow Statement on the grounds that it is a small charitable company.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

2 Incoming resources		Total 2023
		£
<i>Show income</i>		
Show Income - That Sketch Show		7,705
Show Income - The Books		35,000
Show Income - This Is Chorlton Calling (Again)		314
Show Income - Visiting Company Shows		34,501
		77,520
Earned income		
Earned income - Classes & Courses		19,005
Earned income - Venue Hire		20,532
		39,536
Project income		
Learning Disability Programme		110,112
Booth Centre Programme		39,089
Volunteer Programme		0
Community Arts Club		12,896
Visual Arts Programme		1,500
		163,598
Other restricted income		
<i>Restricted Capital Grants</i>		25,123
Restricted Grants - Other		18,198
		43,321
Unrestricted income		
Unrestricted Grants		40,000
Donations		20,874
		60,874
Café income		68,340
Other income		
Other income		0
Bank interest receivable		64
		64
TOTAL INCOME		453,252

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

3 Expenditure

	Total 2023 £
<u>Show costs</u>	
Show Costs - That Sketch Show	17,582
Show Costs - The Books	300
Show Costs - This Is Chorlton Calling (Again)	732
Show Costs - Visiting Company Shows	33,965
	52,578
 <u>Trading expenses</u>	
Trading expenses - Classes & Courses	10,311
Trading expenses - Venue Hire	457
	10,768
 <u>Project costs</u>	
Learning Disability Programme	25,127
Booth Centre Programme	13,471
Volunteer Programme	35
Community Arts Club	830
Visual Arts Programme	5,624
	45,087
 <u>Café expenses</u>	
Café purchases	25,025
Baristas	24,273
	49,298
Other direct expenses	0
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES	157,731
 <u>Employee costs</u>	
Employee salaries	146,462
Employer's NI	6,461
Employer's Pension	2,959
SSP/SMP/SPP	0
Staff Training	850
Employee benefits	0
Staff entertainment & parties	853
Staff travel expenses	174
Other staff costs	104
	157,863
 <u>Freelancers</u>	
Freelancers - Fundraising	9,167
Freelancers - Duty Manager	3,592
Freelancers - Management & Finance	2,500
Freelancers - Marketing	1,000
Freelancers - Other	864
	17,122

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

<u>Marketing & promotion</u>	
Marketing	12,280
Advertising	0
PR	0
Party & event hosting	120
Licences	(795)
Subscriptions	151
Publications	29
Marketing & promotion - Other	0
	<hr/>
	11,785
 <u>Premises costs</u>	
Rent and rates	14,480
Utilities	11,752
Cleaning	279
Repairs & maintenance	13,600
Insurance	3,373
Other premises expenses	1,620
	<hr/>
	45,104
 <u>Office & IT expenses</u>	
Telephone & mobile costs	103
Internet costs	874
Website maintenance	648
Stationery, postage & packaging	289
Furniture & equipment	2,698
Motor expenses	0
Other office & IT expenses	1,350
	<hr/>
	5,963
 <u>Legal & professional costs</u>	
Accountancy fees	7,200
Payroll bureau	991
Legal expenses	13
Other legal & professional costs	13
	<hr/>
	8,217
 <u>Financial & other expenses</u>	
Bank charges	415
Other interest payable	0
Depreciation	49,776
Bad debts	0
Exchange rate gains / losses	0
Dividend cost	0
	<hr/>
	50,190
TOTAL OVERHEADS	<hr/> <hr/>
	296,244

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

4 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within S505 of the Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (ICTA 1998) or S256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

5 Net incoming/(outgoing) resources

This is stated after charging/(crediting) the following:

	2023
	£
Independent Examiner's remuneration	7,200
Depreciation	49,776
Independent Examiner's remuneration comprised:	
Independent examination	1,200
Accountancy	6,000
Underprovision in prior year	-
	7,200

6 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023
	£
Wages and salaries	146,462
Social security costs	6,461
Pension contributions	2,959
Staff training	850
Travel & entertainment	1,132
	157,863

The average number of employees during the year calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents was as follows:

Chief executive	1.0
Business Development manager	0.5
Centre manager	1.0
Other staff	5.5
Total	8.0

The number of employees earning over £60,000 per annum excluding pension contributions was nil (2022: nil).

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received reimbursed travel expenses during the period (2022: nil).

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the period (31 March 2022: nil).

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

8 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Software £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
Cost				
1 April 2022	224,108	10,812	102,232	337,152
Additions	21,118	-	-	21,118
31 March 2023	<u>245,226</u>	<u>10,812</u>	<u>102,232</u>	<u>358,270</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
1 April 2022	174,722	9,201	57,947	241,869
Charge for the year	32,596	604	16,575	49,776
31 March 2023	<u>207,318</u>	<u>9,805</u>	<u>74,522</u>	<u>291,645</u>
Net book value				
31 March 2023	<u>37,908</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>27,710</u>	<u>66,625</u>
31 March 2022	<u>49,386</u>	<u>1,611</u>	<u>44,285</u>	<u>95,282</u>

9 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Accounts receivable	-	-
Prepayments	3,333	5,117
Accrued income	-	-

10 Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accounts payable	1,430	1,430
Accruals	5,096	14,008
Credit card	-	-
Social security and other taxation	2,878	2,535
CAF Loan	-	-
Loans - Directors & Employees	-	-
	<u>9,404</u>	<u>17,973</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

11 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

2023	2022
£	£
nil	nil

12 Restricted funds

	As at 1 April 2022	As at 31 March 2023
	£	£
Arts Council England	10,974	-
D'Oyly Carte	3,500	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	25,000	-
We Love Manchester	2,500	-
Awards For All	-	9,150
The Co-op	-	2,916
	<u>41,974</u>	<u>12,066</u>

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	66,625	-	66,625
Net current assets	100,485	12,066	112,551
Long-term liabilities	-	-	-
Total net assets	<u>167,110</u>	<u>12,066</u>	<u>179,176</u>

14 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Leases expiring in:				
One year	-	-	-	-
Two to five years	-	-	-	-
Over 5 years	-	-	-	-

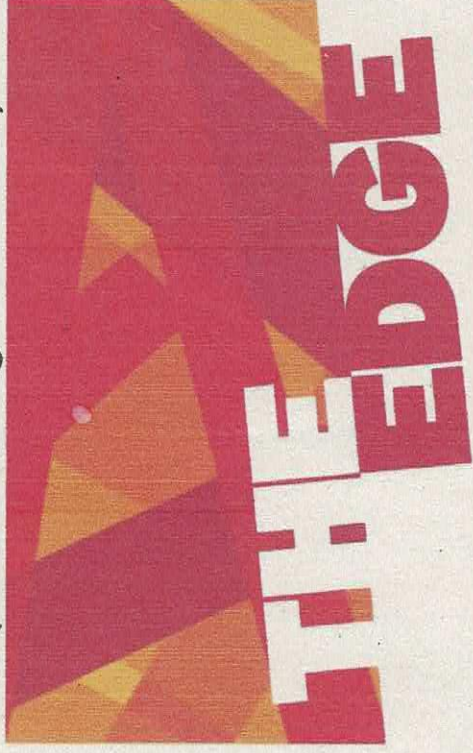


WATERS EDGE ARTS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128608

Accounts

The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre
(Waters Edge Arts Ltd)



Theatre and Arts Centre

Company Number 6758847

Charity Number 1128608

Trustees' Report

1st April 2021 □ 31st March 2022

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st March 2022

The Directors present their annual report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name Waters Edge Arts Ltd

Charity Registration Number 1128608

Company Registration Number 6758847

Registered Office
The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre
Manchester Road
Manchester
M21 9JG

Directors

Akintayo Olutosin Ayoola AKINBODE (appointed 8/3/21)
Jonathan Patric GILCHRIST - Chair - (appointed 8/2/21)
Rupert Sinclair HILL (appointed 7/12/20)
Cllr. Eve HOLT (appointed 10/12/18)
Wyllie LONGMORE (appointed 3/6/16)
Paula Louise RABBITT (appointed 1/11/18)

Prof Maggie GALE (appointed 1/9/13 - resigned 27/10/21)

Principal Staff

Janine Waters – CEO / Artistic Director

Independent Examiner

Tina Hawley FCA
Quickmere Consulting Ltd
2 Huddersfield Road
Stalybridge
Cheshire SK15 2QA

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
Bury Business Centre
P O Box 33
26 Silver Street
Bury BL9 0DJ

Secretary

Janine WATERS (appointed 1/1/13)

Background

Since its opening in 2011, The Edge has been a thriving and accessible cultural hub, creating and presenting high quality theatre and performance, and delivering a rich programme of meaningful and potentially life-changing participatory activities.

'Alongside the excellent work on stage, there's good stuff happening throughout the organization, with a participation programme as inclusive as it is ambitious'

Rob Martin, Time Out.

In May 2021 The Edge celebrated its 10th year as Manchester's Theatre for Participation. Our beautiful venue has entertained, captivated and enthralled audiences with some of the best small scale touring theatre in the country, alongside our own productions made by our wonderful in-house creatives.

Over the years we've worked with hundreds of fantastic actors and musicians; many are professional, some have learning disabilities, some have experience of homelessness, some are from our local community. As theatre makers we delight in creating shows which reflect the world that we live in: they're honest, relevant, and full of hope.

As a Manchester Cultural Partner, we play a vital role in the cultural offer of the city. As leaders in participation, we provide a range of exciting opportunities for people to be creative. At The Edge you can act, sing, dance, play the ukulele, write, paint, draw or just be. Our café is known as one of the friendliest and most welcoming in Chorlton.

The Edge produces theatre that is inclusive, inspiring, irreverent, joyful, and full of hope. We engage audiences and participants from babies to elders and everyone in between. We create opportunities for vulnerable adults and children to improve their life chances by becoming active, creative citizens. We run classes and courses for Manchester's residents to develop their creative skills and improve their health and wellbeing along the way. We also provide space for Manchester's creative professionals to develop their craft and to create new work.

The work of the company is informed by a simple principle: that everyone should have access to the arts as a basic human right. We believe that the higher the quality of the work, the richer and more rewarding the experience, whether that's as spectator or participant.

The Edge takes a leading role in the social agenda of Chorlton and surrounding area, working with libraries, traders' associations, the local authority, schools, housing associations and outdoor spaces. We provide unique opportunities for community engagement.

For eleven years, and through a period of unequivocal economic uncertainty and a global pandemic, The Edge has provided exceptional activities to facilitate creative engagement and has established itself as an essential resource. We are a Manchester City Council cultural partner: we're small but significant alongside Manchester's flagship venues.

Vision, Mission, and Values

In our business plan for the period April 2020 - March 2023, our vision, mission, and values are described as being:

Vision

At the Edge Theatre and Arts Centre, we strongly believe that everyone should have access to high quality culture as a basic human right. Arts and Culture give people the opportunity to reach their full creative potential and to lead fulfilling lives. Engagement in the arts can offer personal fulfilment and promote community cohesion and purpose. Consequently, it engenders a sense of both personal pride and pride in where we live. It offers personal and societal enrichment.

Mission

Based in Chorlton in the City of Manchester, The Edge will be recognised as a valuable arts resource for the people of Manchester and beyond. It will be known for providing high-quality, accessible, and relevant artistic activity for as wide a range of people as possible, bringing communities together in a welcoming and creative environment.

The Edge will advance the education of the public in the arts, particularly theatre, by encouraging and promoting involvement in theatre and related artistic and creative activities by any member of the public, particularly those deemed to be disadvantaged, vulnerable, or hard to reach.

Values

The Edge will fulfil its vision and mission by:

- Working cooperatively, openly, and transparently, respecting and supporting the talents and aspirations of its staff, freelance practitioners, volunteers, and participants
- Offering equality of opportunity to all
- Offering a creative and nurturing working environment
- Developing honest and open relationships with partner organisations and other stakeholders, and valuing the knowledge, experience and skills brought by them.

Aims and Objectives

Our principal aims and objectives are fully described in our Business Plan 2020-23 and are to:

1. Re-establish levels of engagement to those associated with The Edge's activities pre-COVID 19 restrictions.
2. Maintain and develop The Edge as a vibrant cultural resource in Chorlton through offering classes and courses and making participatory work with vulnerable and excluded people; concentrating on the existing programmes with The Booth Centre Theatre Company, the Aspire programme, the Community Arts Club, and the participatory work with learning disabled adults.
3. Support the development of emerging and mid-career artists and companies through **Made at the Edge**, through practitioner paid apprenticeships, and continuing professional development for actors/musicians and theatre-makers.
4. Present a programme of professionally produced theatre at The Edge, by hosting visiting small-scale touring theatre companies and by creating two professional in-house theatre productions to be presented at The Edge and on tour
5. Maintain and develop the Dressing Room Café and Bar as a training resource for learning disabled adults.
6. Deliver a programme of participatory theatre for and promote attendance at cultural events by people who are not in employment or training with a particular focus on people living on the Mersey Bank and Arrowfield estates, as part of our wider **Community Arts Club** initiative.
7. Improve our sustainability and resilience as an organisation. We will take full advantage of our accessible facilities, promoting engagement from more people and greater opportunities to earn income from classes, performances and The Dressing Room Café and Bar. We will continue to seek capital funds to improve the environmental sustainability of our building

Our Staff Team

Our staff team report directly to the board of trustees of the charity. During the reporting period our core team was made up of:

- Artistic Director (and Chief Executive Officer)
- Communications Manager
- Duty /Volunteers Manager
- Chef/Café Manager
- Learning Mentor
- Centre & Marketing Assistant
- Musical Director
- Technician/Duty Manager
- Cleaner

Of these posts, the Artistic Director, Duty/Volunteers Manager, Chef and Learning Mentor work full-time.

These people were supported by a freelance team made up of:

- Accounts Manager
- Artists, Actors, Designers, Stage Managers, Technicians
- Arts facilitators
- Business Development Manager
- Casual Baristas
- Fundraiser

Volunteers

The Edge offers many opportunities for people to volunteer and support our work. People help us by:

- Making up our front of house team
- Project support
- Undertaking gardening and woodwork
- Supporting others
- Making up our Board of Trustees

The Edge has a dedicated team of 10 volunteers who carry out a range of duties to support the operation of the charity. During the year they were supported by a Volunteer Manager, with responsibility for seeking out new volunteers, especially those with complex needs, whom other organisations might not support. This post was funded through the Booth Centre's VIP programme.

Our Programme of Activity April2021 to March 2022

During this period we ran 165 sessions for 148 vulnerable adults and young people.

417 days' work was created for freelance practitioners.

The Edge is a thriving and accessible arts centre and reaches out to both its local community and the wider Greater Manchester audience. It also specifically targets people who are disadvantaged or hard to reach with bespoke participatory programmes of work. Prior to the COVID Pandemic that began in March 2020, 719 people regularly took part in an arts activity at The Edge every week.

The Edge remained closed to the public until it's reopening on the 1st sept 2021. During this part of the lockdown we continued to work with over 90% of our at-risk adults and increased the number of homeless people we work with by introducing a second group in Salford for more vulnerable rough sleepers and from September 21, EE North, our project for learning disabled adults in Cheetham Hill. Courses and projects continued both in person and on Zoom throughout lockdown.

The Edge is proud to be part of the Manchester City Council Cultural Partnership portfolio (2018-2022), which has now been extended to 2023.

In 2021, The Edge, in partnership with Hope Mill Theatre, 53Two and the Kings Arms Theatres founded the Greater Manchester Small Venues Network (GMSVN) providing support and unity for sister small-scale venues at this difficult time.

Making and Presenting Original Theatre Productions

The Edge produced three pieces of in-house theatre and presented 22 visiting productions during this period.

“Air” – a new production with a cast of 5 professional performers (& featuring award winning actor Julie Hesmondhalgh) and 12 performers with lived experience of homelessness. Funded by Our Manchester Covid Recovery Fund.

“That Sketch Show” – A brand new topical, satirical, musical sketch show funded by Arts Council. (Sept 21 & March 22)

“Spinach” – A revival of the celebrated sung play, which was first presented at the Royal Exchange in 2011.

Visiting Companies included:

- Initiative Arts
- Flapjack Press
- Manchester Active Youth Theatre
- Paper Mug Theatre
- Paines Plough
- Luke Wright
- Katie Mulgrew
- Barb Jung
- Tickle Your Fancy
- Enjoy the Show
- Chalk Line Productions
- Nymphs and Thugs
- Take Back Theatre
- Mark Radcliffe
- Lempen Puppet theatre
- Andrew Pollard
- Awkward Productions
- So La Flair
- Burns Unit
- Paper Mug Theatre

The company is a member of Venues North and the Paines Plough strategic touring networks. This programme is augmented and complemented by a series of musical presentations and comedy nights based in and around The Dressing Room Café and Bar.

Professional Training and Development

Made at The Edge, our Theatre Maker’s Development Programme, provides opportunities for emerging and mid-career theatre companies to develop practice and make new work. We also provide

professional creative development for participatory practitioners to develop their theatre making skills working with vulnerable adults and children.

During this period we supported three companies, who rehearsed and made work at The Edge, including Initiative Arts and Manchester Active Youth Theatre.

Future plans

We are developing our work with Learning Disabled adults to offer next level performance opportunities for those people who are able to make a greater level of commitment and who are ready to work alongside professional actors, as our performers with lived experience already do. Our first production, "*Have you ever wondered*" premieres at The Edge in September 2022.

We will be training professional actors and musicians to develop *their* skills working with actors who are deemed as vulnerable. We will be developing new creative ways of bringing these two disparate groups together and creating interesting and innovative theatrical work.

Later in 2022 we will be producing our first external piece of theatre, *Let's All Be Fairies*, which premiered at the Edge in Autumn 2021, this will be presented at the inaugural Chorlton Pride and on tour in 2023.

In Spring 2023 we will produce our own in-house show "The Books" at The Edge and on tour.

Our future planning focusses around financial management, returning to our original development plans and ensuring we can continue to deliver work for our most at risk groups in the event of a change in circumstances or government guidelines. It is difficult to plan for the unforeseen, as COVID 19 has shown us and we remain extremely vigilant to potential changes in the journey out of the pandemic.

Income streams are prudently calculated, based on previous performance. We are keeping our permanent staff contingent small, with additional arts-supporting posts being paid for through specific guaranteed restricted funding, maximising our flexibility and resilience. We continue to search for opportunities to generate unrestricted income to support our core costs and reduce the pressure on our financial management. Throughout the pandemic, we prioritised our ability to maintain work with the most vulnerable at-risk groups. This remains a priority and our strategy will be informed, as necessary to the rapidly changing circumstances within our working environment, as the pandemic develops and hopefully diminishes.

We were successful in attracting emergency funding from the Culture Recovery Fund, HMRC Job Retention Scheme, Manchester City Council Emergency Response and Covid Relief funds which enabled us to come through the pandemic without incurring a deficit or any loan funding.

Having been granted capital funding in the previous reporting year from The National Lottery, Viridor and Veolia landfill trusts and the Gubay Foundation, we were able to carry out some much-needed improvements to our building whilst we were closed. These included the installation of a lift to improve access, and a re-working of our foyer & box office areas. The resulting improvements have created an additional training facility for learning disabled adults and volunteering opportunities for people who need additional support. We installed a bank of fixed seats in our theatre, increasing capacity and creating a much improved auditorium. We have improved our outdoor spaces and and generally offer a more attractive environment for our users, which will also positively impact our potential for venue hire.

Evaluation

We use a variety of methods to measure and evaluate the impact and success of our work. This includes monitoring the following data:

- Number of attendances
- Number of repeat visits
- Press reviews – digitally, locally, and nationally
- Audience comments from foyer comments books, Twitter, Facebook, other social media and through feedback given directly to operational staff
- Practitioner, artist, actor feedback
- Participants' review, through end of project evaluation meetings and methods appropriate to each group.
- Peer Reviews
- Case studies, associated with specific pieces of work
- Review by board members and discussion of programme at board meetings.

We also work with the University of Manchester who provide us with MA and PHD students to evaluate individual projects.

Funding

During this reporting period The Edge has been supported by public bodies, charities, trusts, foundations, and individual and corporate donors. The Edge received grants from:

- Arts Council England - for project funding and through the cultural recovery fund
- The Booth Centre - for project support and for the Volunteers Programme
- Henry Smith Charity
- Garfield Weston Charitable Trust
- Gubay Foundation
- D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
- Granada
- We Love Manchester
- The European Social Fund
- The Evan Cornish Foundation
- The HMRC Job Retention Scheme
- Manchester City Council - for revenue funding and through recovery funds
- The National Lottery Community Fund - for project support and capital development
- The Veolia Environmental Trust - for capital development

Review of Principal Risks

As a charity The Edge relies on the income from fees, room rental and café takings alongside grants to cover running costs. By charging those who can afford it, the charity is able to provide free or heavily subsidised activities and performances for those who can't.

Consequently, the charity can be vulnerable to a reduction in sales especially due to the current financial downturn and precarious economic climate. However, these risks have been mitigated in 2021-2022 and beyond by the emergency funding in response to the COVID-19 outbreak (2020-22) which has provided extraordinary support to the charity, allowing it to maintain and bolster its reserves. During the last three years of operation, the charity has been able to build its reserves and this trend continued in the period April 2021 - March 2022. We have been successful in establishing a reserve equivalent to three months core operating costs by March 2021 and been able to establish new charitable activities to our portfolio.

The charity's operations are reviewed monthly, and expenditure is directly related to income. We continually review our participatory activities and theatre productions to ensure that we are providing a programme that will appeal to our regular customers, as well as widening participation and attendance through a commitment to diverse programming.

The charity maintains its reliance on the continuing support of grant-awarding bodies and trusts and foundations and is aware that this funding may suffer a downturn considering the current economic crisis. The senior team will continue to work with the CEO to diversify income streams and will aim to increase earned income from our café bar to further support our charitable activities.

The Edge is highly dependent on the skills and knowledge of a small number of senior staff and any departure of senior staff would present difficulties for the charity. The charity has worked to mitigate this risk by introducing a system of annual staff appraisals to ensure that staff are happy, and that there are appropriate opportunities for professional development. The charity introduced a pension scheme for staff for which there was a 100% take-up.

Over the next three years we aim to increase our capacity, utilising more fully all the potential income generating aspects of our beautiful Victorian building and exploiting the talent and creativity of our workforce.

We anticipate our business will grow over the next three years through:

- Increased programming of events in the building, including comedy, music, cabaret and spoken word performance and the subsequent increased sales from the bar and café.
- Increased participatory activity with more and different people, which in turn provides stronger evidence of need for potential funders. We are specifically focusing on local housing estates approximately two miles from The Edge, which sit within an area of low engagement, ranked 1,154 out of 32,844 and amongst the 4% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country (Indices of Deprivation 2019).
- Increased programming of fee-paying classes, by increasing progression routes within the organisation. Evidence suggests that this has increased the footfall to our café.
- Proactively developing new fundraising initiatives: encouraging individual giving, developing existing and new relationships with trusts and foundations; exploring sponsorship opportunities.
- Developing our room rental portfolio through a concerted and targeted marketing campaign to appeal to those seeking space for conferences and weddings and other events where catering is required.

The Edge has always had to operate within an environment of severe fiscal constraint. We opened our doors at the start of the current recession, with vastly increased competition from other charities, all chasing the same funding from a shrinking pool of Trusts and Foundations. Significant cuts to local authorities and to arts budgets have necessitated a creative approach to developing our income streams, including the opening of the award-winning The Dressing Room café at The Edge in April 2015. We are working within the most testing of times for both the arts and the charity sectors, but The Edge has managed to establish itself as a going concern, despite these challenges.

Board of Trustees' view:

It is the view of the Board of Trustees of Waters Edge Arts Ltd. that the activities carried out during the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 fulfilled the principal specific aims of the programme outlined above. The activity of the charity therefore offers public benefit as it advances appreciation of the performance and participatory events offered to beneficiaries during the year, provides diverse educational opportunities and facilitates social integration by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together.

Public Benefit

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and the charging of fees. The charity relies on the income from grants and from fees and charges accordingly to cover its operating costs.

In setting the level of fees and charges, principally the price of tickets for theatre shows, the Trustees consider the accessibility to activities for those on low incomes and providing our 'concessions by conscious' scheme, offering the majority of its tickets at discounted rates.

Analysis of Public Benefit

The types of benefit that these objects promote are to:

- Advance attendance at, and therefore advance appreciation of a variety of performance events, including drama, dance, and music making by beneficiaries.
- Advance participation in, and therefore advance appreciation of participating in a variety of artistic forms, including Theatre, Dance, Music, Creative Writing, Visual Art.
- Provide educational opportunities for beneficiaries through specific training programmes and through the offer of participation, or attendance at artistic events.
- Facilitate social integration and cohesion by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together, fostering a better understanding of each other's cultures.

Programmes of activity are open to the general public, but beneficiaries of The Edge programme and participatory work are usually resident in the North West region of England and predominantly live within City of Manchester.

Environmental Responsibility

The Edge is a member of MAST (Manchester Sustainability Team) and has a designated Environmental Sustainability Officer, who undertakes to minimise our environmental load as much as possible. The theatre has a policy of working with a high proportion of locally based suppliers, practitioners, and actors, minimising the environmental impact of transportation. It continues to monitor energy utilisation on site, making what adjustments are possible.

Statement of the Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

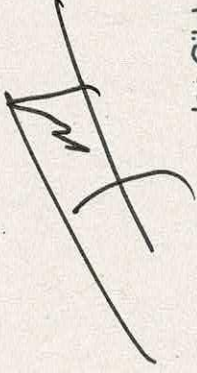
The Board of Trustees are responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Trustees are required to oversee the preparation of financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 overseeing the filing of proper accounting records that disclose with

reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for ensuring the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Gilchrist', written over a horizontal line.

Jon Gilchrist
Chair

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 (year to date) £	2021 (Full Year) £
Incoming resources	2				
Donations		11,469	-	11,469	17,806
Grants		23,816	395,903	419,719	259,752
Fees and other income		101,852	-	101,852	4,068
Bank interest		13	-	13	7
Total incoming resources		137,150	395,903	533,053	281,633
Deferred Grant Income		31,144	48,690	79,834	(79,834)
		168,294	444,593	612,887	201,799
Expenditure					
<i>Raising funds</i>	3	22,055		22,055	12,833
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		73,163	429,348	502,511	126,749
Total expenditure		95,218	429,348	524,566	139,562
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	5	73,076	15,245	88,321	62,217
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		73,076	15,245	88,321	62,217
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		64,849	26,729	91,578	29,361
Total funds carried forward		£ 137,925	£ 41,974	£ 179,899	£ 91,578

All of the charity's operations are classed as continuing.

Movements on reserves and all recognised surpluses or deficits are shown above.

**Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Company no. 5288784**

**Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2022**

	Note	2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	95,283	72,991
Current assets			
Debtors	9	5,117	8,333
Cash at bank and in hand		119,590	115,081
		124,707	123,414
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	10	(17,973)	(24,993)
Deferred Grant Income		(22,118)	(79,834)
Net current assets		84,616	18,587
Total assets less current liabilities		£ 179,899	£ 91,578
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	£ -	-
Total net assets		£ 179,899	£ 91,578
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds		137,925	64,849
Restricted funds	12	41,974	26,729
		£ 179,899	91,578

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime (of the Companies Act 2006).

Approved by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:

Jon Munn
name


signed

Date 30/09/22

Paula Kussitt
name


signed

Date

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. They have been applied consistently during the year, and in the preceding year.

a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRSSSE version (effective January 2015).

b Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The charity has experienced a challenging last few months, however it has and is undergoing a process of improving its systems. Income stream since 31 August 2016 indicate that the charity is able to generate revenue to be a going concern.

c Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

d Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

e Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is included as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remains with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they fall due.

g Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Individual items costing less than £500 are not capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset Category	Annual rate
Improvements to premises	10%
Office furniture & equipment	25%
Computer equipment & software	33.3%

h Pensions

The charitable company contributes to defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of its employees. The assets of these schemes are entirely separate to those of the charity. The pension cost shown represents contributions payable by the charity on behalf of the employees.

i Cash flow statement

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 from preparing a Cash Flow Statement on the grounds that it is a small charitable company.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

2 Incoming resources

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants				
Arts Council England		20,638	20,638	3,113
Awards For All		-	-	-
National Lottery Reaching Communities		75,370	75,370	3,139
The Booth Centre		24,237	24,237	9,456
Booth Centre Volunteers Programme		-	-	20,000
The Co-op		-	-	2,643
DCMS (Arts Council)		104,378	104,378	123,832
D'Oyly Carte		3,500	3,500	-
DWP Kickstart		9,014	9,014	-
European Social Fund		759	759	4,893
Evan Cornish Foundation		-	-	9,000
Garfield Weston Foundation		25,000	25,000	-
Granada Foundation		2,000	2,000	-
Gubay Foundation		13,000	13,000	-
The Henry Smith Charity		42,000	42,000	-
The Hilden Charitable Fund		5,000	5,000	-
HMRC Job Retention Scheme		-	-	30,116
Manchester City Council	23,816	36,218	60,034	24,870
The Shaw Centre		1,100	1,100	-
The Veolia Environmental Trust		28,689	28,689	28,690
We Love Manchester		5,000	5,000	-
	<u>23,816</u>	<u>395,903</u>	<u>419,719</u>	<u>259,752</u>
Donations	<u>11,469</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,469</u>	<u>17,806</u>
Fees and other income				
Arts based training	35,053	-	35,053	-
Box office income	43,572	-	43,572	2,088
Café income	11,366	-	11,366	131
Classes	812	-	812	159
Other fees and income	11,049	-	11,049	1,690
Venue hire				
	<u>101,852</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,852</u>	<u>4,068</u>
Interest received	<u>13</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>£ 137,150</u>	<u>£ 395,903</u>	<u>£ 533,053</u>	<u>£ 281,633</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

3 Expenditure

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<i>Raising funds</i>		
Staff costs	12,000	7,000
External consultants	10,055	5,833

Charitable activities

Staff costs	114,474	59,911
Freelancers - Artists & Practitioners	22,210	10,272
In-house production costs	56,613	4,770
Visiting company fees	23,887	1,950
Marketing and publicity	11,678	1,000
Equipment and furniture	4,415	1,986
Café costs including casual workers	32,510	3,711
Depreciation	166,975	10,176
Premises costs	22,027	13,602
Insurance	3,073	1,634
Office costs	17,140	3,245
Party & event hosting	-	-
Miscellaneous costs	3,850	911
Professional fees	613	7,126
Freelancers - Business Management	11,667	-
Accountancy & payroll	7,355	4,168
Interest payable	4,024	2,287

Total expenditure on charitable activities

502,511

126,749

Total expenditure

524,566

139,582

4 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within S505 of the Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (ICTA 1998) or S256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

5 Net incoming/(outgoing) resources

This is stated after charging/(crediting) the following:

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	6,600	3,600
Depreciation	166,975	10,176

Independent Examiner's remuneration comprised:

Independent examination	1,100	600
Accountancy	5,500	3,000
	£ 6,600	£ 3,600

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

6 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

Wages and salaries	2022	2021
Social security costs	£	£
Pension contributions	119,432	61,424
Staff training	4,685	4,115
Travel & entertainment	2,165	1,090
Freelance staff		240
	192	42
	43,931	15,042
	£ 170,405	£ 81,953

The average number of employees during the year calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents was as

Chief executive	1.0	1.0
Business Development manager	0.5	0.5
Centre manager	1.0	1.0
Other staff	4.9	4.2
Total	7.4	6.7

The number of employees earning over £60,000 per annum excluding pension contributions was nil (2021: nil).

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received reimbursed travel expenses during the period (2021: nil).

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the period (31 March 2021: nil).

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

8 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Software £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2021	106,002	9,000	32,884	147,886
Additions	118,106	1,812	69,349	189,267
At 31 March 2022	224,108	10,812	102,233	£ 337,153
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 April 2021	54,142	7,167	13,586	74,895
Charge for the year	120,579	2,035	44,361	166,975
At 31 March 2022	174,721	9,202	57,947	£ 241,870
Net book value				
At 31 March 2022	49,387	£ 1,610	£ 44,286	£ 95,283
At 31 March 2021	£ 51,860	£ 1,833	£ 19,298	£ 72,991

9 Debtors

Accounts receivable		
Prepayments	5,117	8,333
Accrued income	-	-
	£ 5,117	£ 8,333

10 Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year

Accounts payable	1,430	1,430
Accruals	14,003	13,949
Social security and other taxation	2,535	1,610
CAF Loan	-	8,000
Loans - Directors & Employees	-	-
	£ 17,968	£ 24,989

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

11 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Loans - Directors & Employees	-	-
	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>

12 Restricted funds

	As at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2022 £
Arts Council England	16,759	20,638	(26,423)		10,974
Awards For All	9,970	-	(9,970)		-
National Lottery Reaching Con	-	75,370	(75,370)		-
The Booth Centre	-	24,237	(24,237)		-
Booth Centre Volunteers Progi	20,000	-	(20,000)		-
DCMS (Arts Council)	-	104,378	(104,378)		-
D'Ovly Carte	-	3,500			3,500
DWP Kickstart	-	9,014	(9,014)		-
European Social Fund	-	759	(759)		-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	25,000			25,000
Granada Foundation	-	2,000	(2,000)		-
Gubay Foundation	-	13,000	(13,000)		-
The Henry Smith Charity	-	42,000	(42,000)		-
The Hilden Charitable Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)		-
Manchester City Council	-	36,218	(36,218)		-
The Shaw Centre	-	1,100	(1,100)		-
The Veolia Environmental Trus	28,690	28,699	(57,379)		-
We Love Manchester	-	5,000	(2,500)		2,500
		<u>48,690</u>			
2021 Deferred grant income	(48,690)				
	<u>£ 26,729</u>	<u>£ 395,903</u>	<u>£ (380,658)</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 41,974</u>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd

**Notes to the accounts
for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	95,283	-	95,283
Net current assets	42,642	41,974	84,616
Long-term liabilities	-	-	-
Total net assets	£ 137,925	£ 41,974	£ 179,899

14 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

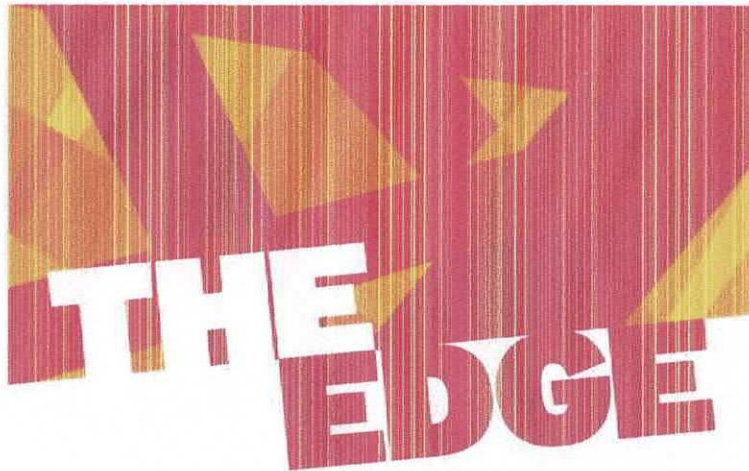
	Land and buildings 2022 £	2021 £	Equipment 2022 £	2021 £
Leases expiring in:				
One year	-	-	-	-
Two to five years	-	-	-	-
Over 5 years	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

WATERS EDGE ARTS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128608

Accounts

The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre
(Waters Edge Arts Ltd)



Theatre and Arts Centre

Company Number 6758847

Charity Number 1128608

Trustees' Report
1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021

Background

Since its opening in 2011, The Edge has been a thriving and accessible cultural hub, creating and presenting high-quality theatre and performance, and delivering a rich programme of meaningful and potentially life-changing participatory activities.

'Alongside the excellent work on stage, there's good stuff happening throughout the organization, with a participation programme as inclusive as it is ambitious'

Rob Martin, Time Out.

In 2021 The Edge celebrated its 10th year as Manchester's Theatre for Participation. Our beautiful venue has entertained, captivated and enthralled audiences with some of the best small scale touring theatre in the country, alongside our own productions made by our wonderful in-house creatives.

Over the years we've worked with hundreds of fantastic actors and musicians; many are professional, some have learning disabilities, some have experience of homelessness, some are from our local community and all of them are brilliant!

As theatre makers we delight in creating shows which reflect the world that we live in, even if we've set them on the moon. They're honest, relevant, and always full of hope.

As a Manchester Cultural Partner, we play a vital role in the cultural offer of the city. As leaders in participation, we provide a range of exciting opportunities for people to be creative. At The Edge you can act, sing, dance, play the ukulele, write, paint, draw or just be. Our café is known as one of the friendliest and most welcoming in Chorlton!

The Edge produces theatre that is inclusive, inspiring, irreverent, joyful, and full of hope. We engage audiences and participants from babies to elders and everyone in between. We create opportunities for vulnerable adults and children to improve their life chances by becoming active, creative citizens. We run classes and courses for Manchester's residents to develop their creative skills and improve their health and wellbeing along the way. We also provide space for Manchester's creative professionals to develop their craft and to create new work.

The work of the company is informed by a simple principle: that everyone should have access to the arts as a basic human right. We believe that the higher the quality of the work, the richer and more rewarding the experience, whether that's as spectator or participant.

The Edge takes a leading role in the social agenda of Chorlton and surrounding area, working with libraries, traders' associations, the local authority, schools, housing

associations and outdoor spaces. We provide unique opportunities for community engagement.

In just ten years, and through a period of unequivocal economic uncertainty and a global pandemic, The Edge has established itself as an essential resource. During this reporting period, Edge staff were considered front line workers and an important part of the Greater Manchester Arts 'map'. We are a Manchester City Council cultural partner: we're small but significant alongside Manchester's flagship venues.

Aims

In our business plan for the period September 2017 to August 2020 the principal aims of The Edge were to:

- Maintain and develop The Edge as a vibrant cultural resource by offering classes and courses, at the same time as making participatory work with vulnerable and excluded people. We have aimed to concentrate on the existing programmes with homeless people and those at risk of being homeless; people with mental health, drug, and alcohol issues; people who are in and out of the criminal justice system and learning-disabled adults and children.
- Support the development of emerging and mid-career artists and companies through Made at the Edge.
- Present a programme of professionally produced theatre at The Edge, by hosting visiting small-scale touring theatre companies and by creating two professional in-house theatre productions to be presented at The Edge and on tour.
- Maintain and develop the Dressing Room Café as a training resource for learning disabled adults.
- Deliver a programme of participatory theatre and promote attendance at cultural events for people living in Mersey Bank and Arrowfield (The Edge's focus for widening participation within a two-mile radius) as part of the On My Doorstep initiative.

Objectives

Between September 2019 and August 2020 our objectives were to:

- Maintain the high standards of planning, delivery, and evaluation of all of our existing work as we grow and develop as an organisation.
- Develop what is becoming our distinctive brand, recognisable by our encompassing reach and excellence.
- Establish The Edge clearly in people's minds as a multiple-activity venue: the producer and maker of high quality new and original musical theatre; a receiving house for the best small-scale touring, with a particular focus on new writing, theatre for children and new forms of musical theatre; providing ethically sound and creatively rich participatory theatre experiences for all ages and backgrounds.

- Develop new strategic partnerships, and strengthening existing ones, to expand our outreach work, enticing the best touring companies to The Edge and establishing ourselves nationally as a strong contributor to the development of new work.
- Build and diversify our audiences through our Audience Development Plan

Our Staff Team

During the reporting period our core team was made up of:

- Artistic Director (and Chief Executive Officer)
- Business Development Manager
- Café Learning Mentor (position open)
- Centre Manager
- Centre & Marketing Assistant
- Chef/Café Manager (position open)
- Musical Director

These people were supported by a freelance team made up of:

- An Accounts Manager
- A Fundraiser
- Arts facilitators
- Artists, Actors, Designers, Stage Managers, Technicians
- A Cleaner
- Casual Baristas (not during this period)
- A Technical Manager

Volunteers

The Edge offers many opportunities for people to volunteer and support our work. Under normal operating conditions people help us by:

- Making up our front of house team (although not during this period, due to the COVID pandemic)
- Project support (learning disabled placements – although again not during this period)
- Undertaking gardening and woodwork
- Supporting others
- Making up our Board of Trustees

The Edge has had a dedicated team of around over 20 volunteers who carry out a range of duties to support the operation of the charity. This year the Booth Centre charity funded The Edge to create a new post of Volunteer Coordinator with responsibility of seeking out additional volunteers, especially those with complex needs, whom other organisations might not support.

Our Programme of Activity September 2020 to March 2021 during the COVID Lockdown

The Edge is a thriving and accessible arts centre and reaches out to both its local community and the wider Greater Manchester audience. It also specifically targets people who are disadvantaged or hard to reach with bespoke participatory programmes of work. Prior to the COVID Pandemic that began in March 2020, 719 people regularly took part in an arts activity at The Edge every week.

As with all other cultural organisations The Edge was closed during this accounting period due to the National Lockdown. However, our courses and projects for at risk members of the community have continued both in person and on Zoom.

During this period we ran 117 sessions for 64 vulnerable adults and young people; 66.5 days' work was created for freelance practitioners.

The Edge is proud to be part of the Manchester City Council Cultural Partnership portfolio (2018-2022)

Making and Presenting Original Theatre Productions

Under normal operating conditions, the company's resident artists create and produce two original pieces of music theatre every three years, performed at The Edge and on tour. Our Artistic Director develops and promotes seasons of visiting theatre at The Edge; regular partners are Paines Plough, Little Angel, Horse and Bamboo and The People Show. The company is a member of Venues North and the Paines Plough strategic touring networks. This programme is augmented and complemented by a series of musical presentations and comedy nights based in and around The Dressing Room Café and Bar.

During this period, we worked with six professional performers and put out a general call for writers to develop *That Sketch Show*, resulting in over 100 submissions. A brand new topical, funny, and relevant production was subsequently staged in September/October 2021.

Professional Training and Development

Made at The Edge, our Theatre Maker's Development Programme, provides opportunities for emerging and mid-career theatre companies to develop practice and make new work. We also provide professional creative development for participatory practitioners to develop their theatre making skills working with vulnerable adults and children.

During this period we supported three companies, who rehearsed and made work at The Edge under strict covid guidelines.

The impact of Covid and our future plans

The seven months of this reporting period corresponded with the national lockdown, but whilst The Edge was closed to the general public, activities and support for our at-risk participants and customers continued throughout.

The work was seen as a frontline service, three staff members were prioritised along with key workers, to receive early vaccination. The Edge's special relationship and partnership with the Booth Centre and work with people who are homeless and with poor mental health continued live even during the periods of lockdown. The level of separation and isolation caused by the pandemic has seen demand for these services increase significantly.

The Edge continued to deliver live, creative activities for people with learning disabilities on Zoom though it became apparent that many of our beneficiaries were not able to take advantage of the on-line offer as they had no access to the internet or insufficient resources to access sufficient broadband to participate. As an alternative, we mailed activity packs and kept in regular telephone contact and tried to communicate with participants and audiences to ensure, as much as possible, we were responding to their needs and wishes.

Our future planning focusses around financial management, returning to our original development plans and ensuring we can continue to deliver work for our most at risk groups in the event of a change in circumstances or government guidelines. It is difficult to plan for the unforeseen, as COVID 19 has shown us and we remain extremely vigilant to potential changes in the journey out of the pandemic.

Income streams are prudently calculated, based on previous performance. We are keeping our permanent staff contingent small, with additional arts-supporting posts being paid for through specific guaranteed restricted funding, maximising our flexibility and resilience. We continue to search for opportunities to generate unrestricted income to support our core costs and reduce the pressure on our financial management. As has been the case throughout the pandemic, we have prioritised our ability to maintain work with the most vulnerable at-risk groups even when we were closed to the general public. This remains a priority and our strategy will be informed, as necessary to the rapidly changing circumstances within our working environment, as the pandemic develops.

We have been successful in attracting emergency funding from the Culture Recovery Fund, HMRC Job Retention Scheme, Manchester City Council Emergency Response and Covid Relief funds which has enabled us to come through the pandemic to date without incurring a deficit or any loan funding. We were also granted capital funding from The National Lottery, Viridor and Veolia landfill trusts and the Gubay Foundation, enabling us to carry out some much-needed improvements to our building whilst we were closed. These included

the installation of a lift to improve access, and re-working foyer & box office areas, and increasing the capacity of workshop studios.

The resulting improvements have created more space including outdoor space, to facilitate social distancing and enable us to accommodate greater numbers of people and generally offer a more attractive environment for our users, which will also positively impact our potential for venue hire.

Evaluation

We use a variety of methods to measure and evaluate the impact and success of our work.

This includes monitoring the following data:

- Number of attendances
- Number of repeat visits
- Press reviews – digitally, locally and nationally
- Audience comments from foyer comments books, Twitter, Facebook, other social media and through feedback given directly to operational staff
- Practitioner, artist, actor feedback
- Participants' review, through end-of-project evaluation meetings and methods appropriate to each group.
- Peer Reviews
- Case studies, associated with specific pieces of work
- Review by board members and discussion of programme at board meetings.

We also work with the University of Manchester who provide us with MA and PHD students to evaluate individual projects.

Funding

For the seven-month period of these accounts, The Edge has been successful in attracting new funding from the Our Manchester Covid Recovery Fund, the Arts Council's Covid Recovery Fund.

Review of Principal Risks

As a charity The Edge relies on the income from fees, room rental and café takings alongside grants to cover running costs. By charging those who can afford it, the charity is able to provide free or heavily subsidised activities and performances for those who can't.

Consequently, the charity can be vulnerable to a reduction in sales, both as a relatively new organisation, still developing its customer base, and because of the current financial downturn and precarious economic climate especially for arts provision. This is a long-term risk to the charity that has been further exacerbated by COVID-19. However, this risk has been mitigated in 2020-2021 and beyond by the emergency funding described above.

The charity's operations are reviewed on a monthly basis and expenditure is directly related to income. We continually review our participatory activities and theatre productions to ensure that we are providing a programme that will appeal to our regular customers, as well as widening participation and attendance through a commitment to diverse programming.

During the last three years of operation, the charity has been able to build its reserves and this trend continued in the period September 2020 through to March 2021. We have been successful in establishing a reserve equivalent to three months core operating costs by March 2021.

The charity maintains its reliant on the continuing support of grant-awarding bodies and trusts and foundations and is aware that this funding may suffer a downturn considering the current economic crisis. The Business Develop Manager will continue to work with the CEO to diversify income streams and will aim to increase earned income from our café bar to further support our charitable activities.

The Edge is highly dependent on the skills and knowledge of a small number of senior staff and any departure of senior staff would present difficulties for the charity. The charity has worked to mitigate this risk by introducing a system of annual staff appraisals to ensure that staff are happy, and that there are appropriate opportunities for professional development. The charity introduced a pension scheme for staff for which there was a 100% take-up.

Over the next three years we aim to increase our capacity, utilising more fully all the potential income-generating aspects of our beautiful Victorian building and exploiting the talent and creativity of our workforce.

We anticipate our business will grow over the next three years through:

- Increased programming of events in the building, including comedy, music, cabaret and spoken word performance and the subsequent increased sales from the bar and café. This will be made possible through the newly acquired Premises License, which will enable us to sell alcohol for the first time and therefore programme the kind of night-time entertainment usually associated with it.
- Increased participatory activity with more and different people, which in turn provides stronger evidence of need for potential funders. We will be specifically focusing on local housing estates approximately two miles from The Edge, which sit within an area of low engagement, ranked 868 out of 32,844 and amongst the 3% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country (Indices of Deprivation 2018).
- Increased programming of fee-paying classes, by increasing progression routes within the organisation. Evidence suggests that this will in turn will increase the footfall to our café.

- Proactively developing new fundraising initiatives: encouraging individual giving, developing existing and new relationships with trusts and foundations; exploring sponsorship opportunities.
- Developing our room rental portfolio through a concerted and targeted marketing campaign to appeal to those seeking space for conferences and weddings and other events where catering is required.

The Edge has always had to operate within an environment of severe fiscal constraint. We opened our doors at the start of the current recession, with vastly increased competition from other charities, all chasing the same funding from a shrinking pool of Trusts and Foundations. Significant cuts to local authorities and to arts budgets have necessitated a creative approach to developing our income streams, including the opening of the award-winning The Dressing Room café at The Edge in April 2015. We are working within the most testing of times for both the arts and the charity sectors, but The Edge has managed to establish itself as a going concern, despite these challenges.

Board of Trustees' view:

It is the view of the Board of Trustees of Waters Edge Arts Ltd. that the activities carried out during the period 1st September 2020 to 31st March 2021 fulfilled the principal specific aims of the programme outlined above. The activity of the charity therefore offers public benefit as it advances appreciation of the performance and participatory events offered to beneficiaries during the year, provides diverse educational opportunities and facilitates social integration by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together.

Public Benefit

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and the charging of fees. The charity relies on the income from grants and from fees and charges accordingly to cover its operating costs.

In setting the level of fees and charges, principally the price of tickets for theatre shows, the Trustees give consideration to the accessibility to activities for those on low incomes, offering the majority of its tickets at discounted rates.

Analysis of Public Benefit

The types of benefit that these objects promote are to:

- Advance attendance at, and therefore advance appreciation of a variety of performance events, including drama, dance, and music-making by beneficiaries.

- Advance participation in, and therefore advance appreciation of participating in a variety of artistic forms, including drama, dance, writing, music-making, crafts, and digital arts by beneficiaries.
- Provide educational opportunities for beneficiaries through specific training programmes and through the offer of participation, or attendance at artistic events.
- Facilitate social integration and cohesion by providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to participate in artistic activities together, fostering a better understanding of each other's cultures.

Programmes of activity are open to the general public, but beneficiaries of The Edge programme and participatory work are usually resident in the North West region of England and predominantly live within City of Manchester.

Environmental Responsibility

The Edge is a member of MAST (Manchester Sustainability Team) and has a designated Environmental Sustainability Officer, who undertakes to minimise our environmental load as much as possible. The theatre has a policy of working with a high proportion of locally based suppliers, practitioners, and actors, minimising the environmental impact of transportation. It continues to monitor energy utilisation on site, making what adjustments are possible.

Statement of the Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Board of Trustees are responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Trustees are required to oversee the preparation of financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 overseeing the filing of proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They

are also responsible for ensuring the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maggie Gale', written in a cursive style.

Maggie Gale
Chair

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 (year to date) £	2020 (Full Year) £
Incoming resources	2				
Donations		17,806	-	17,806	3,421
Grants		148,702	111,050	259,752	216,182
Fees and other income		4,068	-	4,068	92,568
Bank interest		7	-	7	68
Total incoming resources		170,583	111,050	281,633	312,239
Less Grant Income deferred to 2021/22		(31,144)	(48,690)	(79,834)	-
		139,439	62,360	201,799	312,239
Expenditure					
<i>Raising funds</i>	3	12,833		12,833	27,500
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		59,842	66,907	126,749	283,725
Total expenditure		72,675	66,907	139,582	311,225
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	5	66,764	(4,547)	62,217	1,014
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		66,764	(4,547)	62,217	1,014
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		(1,915)	31,276	29,361	28,347
Total funds carried forward		£ 64,849	£ 26,729	£ 91,578	£ 29,361

All of the charity's operations are classed as continuing.

Movements on reserves and all recognised surpluses or deficits are shown above.

**Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Company no. 5288784**

**Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2021**

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		72,991		52,756
Current assets					
Debtors	9	8,333		1,042	
Cash at bank and in hand		115,081		38,415	
		<u>123,414</u>		<u>39,457</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	10	(24,989)		(51,022)	
Deferred Grant Income		(79,834)		-	
		<u>18,591</u>		<u>(11,565)</u>	
Net current assets			18,591		(11,565)
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>£ 91,582</u>		<u>£ 41,191</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11		£ -		(£ 11,830)
Total net assets			<u>£ 91,582</u>		<u>£ 29,361</u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds			64,849		(£ 1,915)
Restricted funds	12		26,729		£ 31,276
			<u>£ 91,578</u>		<u>29,361</u>

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime (of the Companies Act 2006).

Approved by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:

name

signed

Date

31.1.22

13

name

signed

Date

31.1.22

M.B. Gane (Chair)
of Trustees

Margaret Gane

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. They have been applied consistently during the year, and in the preceding year.

a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRSSE version (effective January 2015).

b Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The charity has experienced a challenging last few months, however it has and is undergoing a process of improving its systems. Income stream since 31 August 2016 indicate that the charity is able to generate revenue to be a going concern.

c Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

d Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

e Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is included as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remains with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they fall due.

g Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Individual items costing less than £500 are not capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset Category	Annual rate
Improvements to premises	10%
Office furniture & equipment	25%
Computer equipment & software	33.3%

h Pensions

The charitable company contributes to defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of its employees. The assets of these schemes are entirely separate to those of the charity. The pension cost shown represents contributions payable by the charity on behalf of the employees.

i Cash flow statement

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 from preparing a Cash Flow Statement on the grounds that it is a small charitable company.

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

2 Incoming resources

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Grants				
Arts Council England		3,113	3,113	57,934
Awards For All		-	-	-
Big Lottery - revenue		3,139	3,139	-
The Booth Centre		9,456	9,456	2,280
Booth Centre Volunteers Programme		20,000	20,000	-
The Co-op		2,643	2,643	1,534
DCMS (Arts Council)	123,832	-	123,832	-
D'Oyly Carte		-	-	3,000
Esmee Fairbairn		-	-	-
European Social Fund		4,893	4,893	-
Evan Cornish Foundation		9,000	9,000	-
The Foyle Foundation		-	-	15,000
Garfield Weston Foundation		-	-	25,000
Gubay Foundation		-	-	-
The Henry Smith Charity		-	-	22,000
HMRC Job Retention Scheme		30,116	30,116	37,624
Homeless People's Projects		-	-	-
Hope Pilkington Trust		-	-	1,000
Manchester City Council	24,870	-	24,870	28,310
The Peter Kershaw Trust		-	-	-
Philanthropist		-	-	17,500
St James's Place Charitable Foundation		-	-	-
The Veolia Environmental Trust		28,690	28,690	-
Young Manchester - THRIVE		-	-	5,000
Other - needs classification		-	-	-
	148,702	111,050	259,752	216,182
Donations	17,806	-	17,806	3,421
Fees and other income				
Arts based training	-	-	-	1,800
Box office income	-	-	-	16,611
Café income	2,088	-	2,088	42,055
Classes	131	-	131	19,031
Other fees and income	159	-	159	270
Venue hire	1,690	-	1,690	12,801
	4,068	-	4,068	92,568
Interest received	7	-	7	68
Total incoming resources	£ 170,583	£ 111,050	£ 281,633	£ 312,239

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

3 Expenditure

	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£
<i>Raising funds</i>		
Staff costs	7,000	12,000
External consultants	5,833	15,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Staff costs	59,911	116,484
Freelance and actors' fees	10,272	29,860
In-house production costs	-	8,895
Visiting company fees	1,950	10,664
That Sketch Show	4,770	3,160
Marketing and publicity	1,000	1,942
Equipment and furniture	1,986	2,449
Café costs including casual workers	3,711	33,053
Depreciation	10,176	15,869
Premises costs	13,602	39,878
Insurance	1,634	2,764
Office costs	3,245	5,824
Party & event hosting	-	-
Miscellaneous costs	911	637
Professional fees	7,126	9,193
Accountancy & payroll	4,168	5,551
Interest payable	2,287	(2,498)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	126,749	283,725
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure	139,582	311,225
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

4 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within S505 of the Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (ICTA 1998) or S256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

5 Net incoming/(outgoing) resources

This is stated after charging/(crediting) the following:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent Examiner's remuneration	3,600	4,800
Depreciation	10,176	15,869
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Independent Examiner's remuneration comprised:		
Independent examination	600	800
Accountancy	3,000	4,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 3,600	£ 4,800
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

6 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	61,424	118,044
Social security costs	4,115	7,845
Pension contributions	1,090	2,077
Staff training	240	-
Travel & entertainment	42	518
Freelance staff	15,042	37,887
	<u>£ 81,953</u>	<u>£ 166,371</u>

The average number of employees during the year calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents was as

Chief executive	1.0	1.0
Business Development manager	0.5	0.5
Centre manager	1.0	1.0
Other staff	4.2	4.5
	<u>6.7</u>	<u>7.0</u>
Total	<u>6.7</u>	<u>7.0</u>

The number of employees earning over £60,000 per annum excluding pension contributions was nil (2020: nil).

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received reimbursed travel expenses during the period (2020: nil).

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the period (31 August 2020: nil).

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

8 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Software £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2020	86,541	9,000	21,934	117,475
Additions	19,461	-	10,950	30,411
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2021	106,002	9,000	32,884	£ 147,886
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 September 2020	48,703	5,417	10,599	64,719
Charge for the year	5,439	1,750	2,987	10,176
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2021	54,142	7,167	13,586	£ 74,895
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	51,860	£ 1,833	£ 19,298	£ 72,991
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>At 31 August 2020</i>	<i>£ 37,838</i>	<i>£ 3,583</i>	<i>£ 11,335</i>	<i>£ 52,756</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Accounts receivable	-	-
Prepayments	8,333	1,042
Accrued income	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 8,333	£ 1,042
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Accounts payable	1,430	-
Accruals	13,949	22,953
Social security and other taxation	1,610	19,673
CAF Loan	8,000	8,000
Loans - Directors & Employees	-	396
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 24,989	£ 51,022
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

11 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Loans - Directors & Employees	-	11,830
	£ -	£ 11,830
	£ -	£ 11,830

12 Restricted funds

	As at 1 September 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2021 £
Arts Council England	21,306	3,113	(7,660)		16,759
Awards For All	9,970	-	-		9,970
Big Lottery - revenue	-	3,139	(3,139)		-
The Booth Centre	-	9,456	(9,456)		-
Booth Centre Volunteers Progi	-	20,000	-		20,000
The Co-op	-	2,643	(2,643)		-
D'Oyly Carte	-	-	-		-
Esmee Fairbairn	-	-	-		-
European Social Fund	-	4,893	(4,893)		-
Evan Cornish Foundation	-	9,000	(9,000)		-
The Foyle Foundation	-	-	-		-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-		-
Gubay Foundation	-	-	-		-
The Henry Smith Charity	-	-	-		-
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	30,116	(30,116)		-
Homeless People's Projects	-	-	-		-
Hope Pilkington Trust	-	-	-		-
Manchester City Council	-	-	-		-
The Peter Kershaw Trust	-	-	-		-
St James's Place Charitable Fi	-	-	-		-
Thomas Bailey Foundation	-	-	-		-
The Veolia Environmental Trus	-	28,690	-		28,690
Young Manchester - THRIVE	-	-	-		-
Other - needs classification	-	-	-		-
	£ 31,276	£ 111,050	£ (66,907)	£ -	£ 75,419
	£ 31,276	£ 111,050	£ (66,907)	£ -	£ 75,419

Waters Edge Arts Ltd
Notes to the accounts
for the 7 months ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	72,991	-	72,991
Net current assets	(56,828)	75,419	18,591
Long-term liabilities	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net assets	£ 16,163	£ 75,419	£ 91,582
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

14 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Leases expiring in:				
One year	-	-	-	-
Two to five years	-	-	-	-
Over 5 years				
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>