



Open Story Tellers

**ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024  
OPENSTORYTELLERS LIMITED  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**COMPANY NUMBER 06829975  
CHARITY NUMBER 1130148**





### **Our Objectives**

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. The structure and content of this report is designed to reflect the requirement to explain how the charity has operated within that guidance.

### **The objects of the charity are:**

**To advance the education for the public benefit and preserve and protect the health of persons who have learning and communication disabilities, their families and carers by providing opportunities to develop stories and storytelling.**

**To advance the education of the public in the knowledge of the art, practice and value of oral storytelling and in knowledge of the form and content of the oral tradition of people and cultures.**

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## Message from the Chair

In my message to you all last year, we made a commitment to be a progressive provider. We said:

'we will demonstrate **active-allyship** in all aspects of our work; equally value the quality of the service we deliver with the responsibility to fight for wider change; use our limited resources to further the lives of people with a learning disability not just by providing a service but by embedding real jobs and paid work into our structure.'

I am delighted to report that we have made real strides with this and have exceeded our own expectations in terms of paid work becoming an intrinsic part of our offer. In its simplest terms, anyone who is an artist at OpenStoryTellers can now also work for us if that is the right thing for them. We are still refining our offer and learning as we go, but I am particularly pleased to commend the section of this report called **Proper Jobs** to you.

Employment remains one of the areas of inequality that faces the learning disability community, and our success in addressing this for our own corner of this community has emboldened us to think more widely about how our day to day operations might address other areas of stark inequality. Our motto has become 'social justice, not social care'.

The amazing companies of artists have begun a major new devised performance project (Through the Front Door), and an examination of our own internal governance and practice, making sure we are listening to every voice and that the way we govern OpenStoryTellers is inclusive and innovative (OST & Me). I would like to thank them and my fellow trustees for their dedication and heartfelt commitment to making OpenStoryTellers the best we can be.

We felt the loss of a longstanding volunteer and trustee for the organisation. Ruth Read died shortly before I sat to write this. It feels important now to honour her amazing work alongside artists at OpenStoryTellers. She is missed by everyone whose stories were enlivened and brightened by her careful and compassionate listening and encouragement. On behalf of all of us, thank you Ruth.





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# Arts and Expression

Creative arts and expression are the 'engine room' of what happens at OpenStoryTellers. Here are some words and pictures to give you a flavour of that work in 2023 -2024.

## More than a Provider Conference May 2023

A group of 10 of us met new people and learned about new organisations at the More Than a Provider Conference at the M-Shed in Bristol. We had our own exhibition space, we ran a workshop about Active Allyship and we even ended up opening the whole event in a surprise performance from our show Peter the Wild Boy in front of over 150 people.



## Frome Festival performances Jun 2023

Our Frome Festival 2023 performances were a great success. We found new ways of enabling artists who don't usually work together (because they come on different days) to collaborate in a meaningful, creative and dynamic way.

This was the first time we used our rooms at OpenStoryTellers as a performance space and we devised and performed with no additional project funding. It our first public performance done in this way and proved to us how resourceful we can be.

The performances were well attended and we received some great feedback not least from Wise Children director, Emma Rice, who attended along with her producer.



## The Creation of the Tree Room Studio



Our Frome Festival show and Remembering Tree projects saw the collective creation of a life sized, enormous paper maché tree in one of our rooms. In the days and weeks after the performances, we followed threads of inspirations from our artists, and built on the almost ceremonial atmosphere held by the tree.

People identified a need for a studio space where the focus could be on non-verbal exploration and creative expression. A space to move in; a space to be absorbed in a liminal quality; a space to understand sensory storytelling. Over time we set about designing and setting up The Tree Room Studio.

This space and some new technology has given birth to a whole new style and format of creativity which every artist has benefitted from.





## Through the Front Door Sept 2023...

We were overjoyed to be successful in our application to the Heritage Fund for our large scale project Through The Front Door, telling stories about the heritage of people with learning disabilities, through the lens of the historical buildings that have housed them.

The autumn and winter of 2023 saw us recruit a project researcher who has lived experience of learning disabilities, and a project assistant.

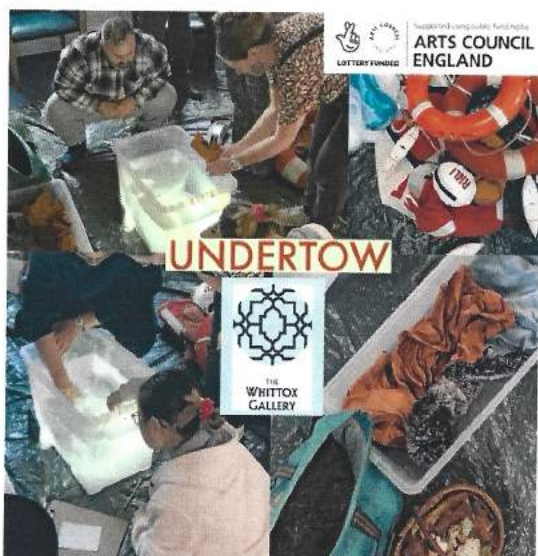
The research phase has taken us to Taunton Archives, Mendip Hospital Cemetery, Bristol Archives, Norah Fry Hospital, Frome Union Workhouse, and the further reaches of the internet, uncovering stories and systems that are by turns full of joy and sadness in equal measure.



A group of nine artist/researchers visited The Rural Life Museum to glean an understanding of some aspect of life in the time period we are looking at.

This research material is now finding its way into the creative practice of our day to day work, as we devise our performance for The Merlin Theatre on November 29<sup>th</sup> 2024. We are also making a short feature film (to be submitted to Oska Bright film festival), working alongside long term collaborators, Suited and Booted.

## Undertow (visiting artists) October 2023



At Openstorytellers we revel in collaborating with other companies and artists. In early 2023, we were approached by artists Pauline Scott-Garrett and Emma Kerr as we work in the building RISE where Pauline was to research and create work for an exhibition called "Undertow" (for The Whittox Gallery also in the same building).

They ran workshops with our artists, using sensory objects so the artists could explore the themes for themselves, creating their own unique work.

The effects of the work continue to resonate and ripple throughout our organisation and we always look forward to see where we will be taken to next.

For the full story: [openstorytellers.org.uk/2024/02/13/undertow/](https://openstorytellers.org.uk/2024/02/13/undertow/)

## Bradford on Avon Dec 2023



A trip was organised to Bradford-On Avon by a couple of our Friday artists. 7 of us went and visited the Tythe Barn. The excursion was a great exercise in hunting and gathering and much creative inspiration was brought back to

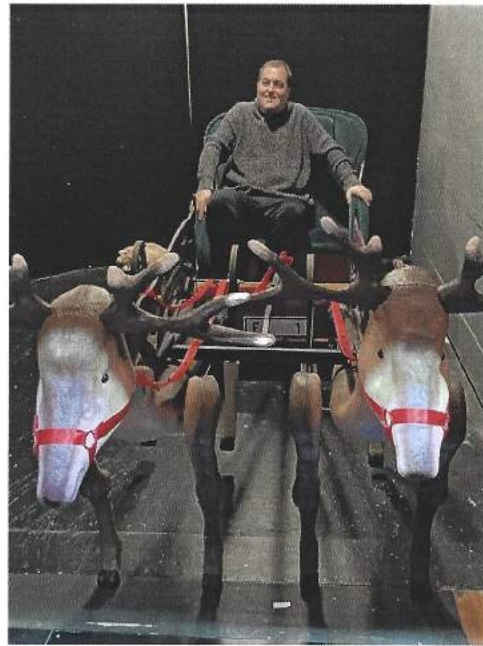
OpenStoryTellers on the topics of: acoustics and soundscapes; pattern-making; riverflow and more.



## Paul's trip to London Dec 2023

Paul undertook a personally important journey to London with our director Alex. Trips are already very significant for Paul, and this one held a special mission – entirely led and initiated by Paul – to eat at Harrods Foodhall.

Kate Adams (one of our lead creative facilitators) was appearing and musically directing Raymond Briggs 'Father Christmas at the Lyric Hammersmith. In the afternoon Alex and Paul were thrilled to represent the OpenStoryTellers community



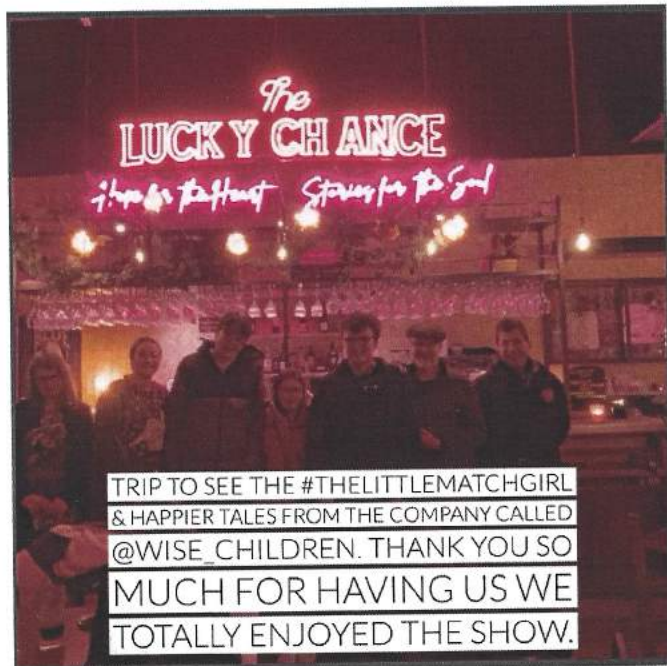
and show our support for Kate at a performance of the show. They were treated to a backstage tour - it was a day to remember.

## Wise Children and OpenStoryTellers

It's quite a thing to have a world class theatre company in our community and we have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the company and their work, and sharing our work with them too.

In March, 13 of us were given free tickets to see Bluebeard at the Theatre Royal Bath as part of Wise Children's commitment to sharing their work with our artists. Simon worked with Wise Children to help them understand all the barriers around access and they funded all travel costs and overtime for Ben, Kate and Simon. It's a rare thing for people to take the time to fully understand what it means financially to support access to something like this and is an indicator of how serious they are about equalising access to their work.

We have also been invited to performances at their space in Frome, The Lucky Chance.



## Bath Spa/Frome Museum co-production

Making museum spaces inclusive and accessible: From January to March, we worked in partnership with Bath Spa University co-producing access awareness in the cultural heritage sector for people with learning disabilities.

The aim of our project was to raise awareness of the access needs of people with learning disabilities in heritage spaces, such as museums. This has involved researchers coming to us at OpenStoryTellers and our artists heading out with them to Frome Museum which was used as a research and learning site.





## Developing our own creative process

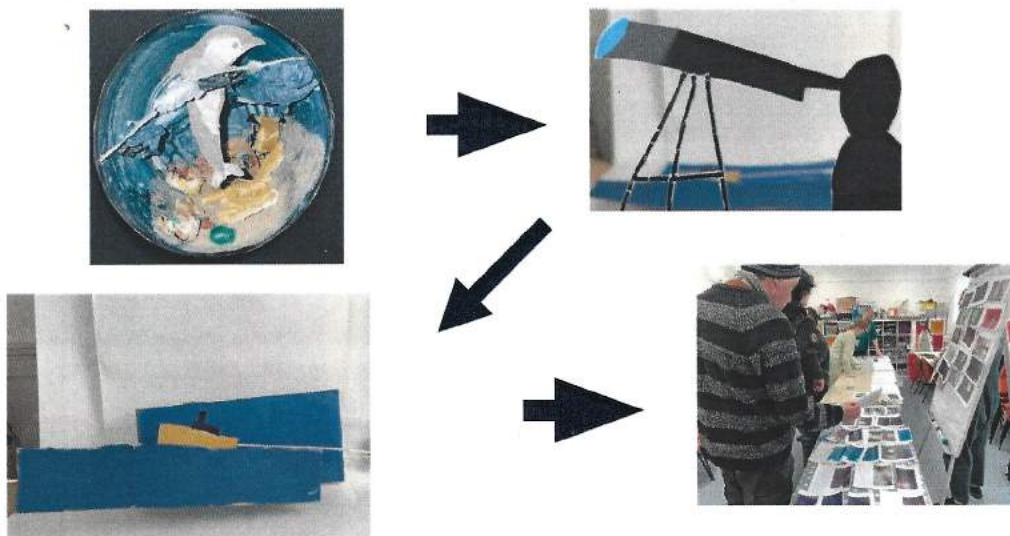
This year we found new ways to bridge the gap between artists who don't usually meet. The Fragment process supports building larger pieces of devised and collaborative work from the amazing minutiae of our everyday work.

Whether it's via our 'Fragments-to-Constellations' magnetic wall or in people's own art journals, every large scale project and exhibited piece is a construction, built upon a myriad of spontaneous moments that have been held carefully by artist and facilitator alike. This is our wall of fragments. Each time an artist creates something they want to build on, they make a small round fragment to represent that work. It is added to our magnetic fragments wall.



Other artists can then include any number of creative fragments to add to their own or build something new...

The creative journey you see above resulted in work that is currently earmarked for inclusion in our Merlin performance in November 2024. All because of a tiny dolphin fragment!



# Pigeon Productions

Pigeon productions is the commercial enterprise wing of our organisation. We take on commissions from external clients which in turn allow us to provide proper jobs for any artist who comes to OpenStoryTellers. Here is a taster of our work for clients this year. Easy read services:



**A2i Workshops** – 8 creative consultants provide an easy read checking service for A2i 3 or 4 times a year.

**Spark Somerset** - 2 creative consultants provided a one off easy read checking service on an information leaflet for the Open Mental Health Community Engagement Team.

**Go Easy Read** - Research project funded by the **British Journal for Learning Disabilities**. Looking at how artificial intelligence can support easy read. 5 creative consultants took part in the research in a series of workshops.



**Frome Museum 'Top Tips'** – with Bath Spa University. We produced an illustrated poster, leaflet & invitation, to the launch of their project, which informed staff how to be an accessible service



**Somerset Mortality Review Team Inclusion work** - Building on our work developing a workshop to support inclusion around loss and bereavement, 8 creative consultants went on to run 4 workshops. We used creative tools to help people with learning disabilities talk about death.



**Hate Crime Workshops** – We ran 3 training sessions with a team of 6 creative consultants, to plan and prepare for the workshops. We delivered 4 workshops for groups with learning disabilities across Mendip and the police service.



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## Proper jobs

2023-2024 has been our year of creating proper jobs! We pride ourselves on providing real jobs, not 'opportunities', not 'training' in the hopes that someone else will one day employ people. We believe responsibility lies with all organisations to receive money to provide support to also lead the way in showing other organisations what they are missing.

OpenStoryTellers now has a team of 14 salaried people. 4 of these have a learning disability which is a 100% increase on the previous year. These roles are:

- 2x supported internships (initially a 6 month contract, extended to 12 months and recently extended to 24 months), each role works 6 hours each week.
- 1x resources officer, permanent contract 1.5 hours a week.
- 1x peer mentor, permanent contract, 3 hours a week.

We currently have a bank of 7 creative consultants, all of whom have a learning disability. These roles are contracted on a freelance type basis. Hours vary and are available when commissioned.

Robin Meader, artist: We are honoured to continue to work with Robin on a regular basis as our preferred freelance artist.





Clemma Lewis (Special projects advisor and creative consultant) describes below what a proper job means to her:

It's nice to  
Be  
Apart of each  
Work and workshop  
It helps me  
Feel  
Important and heard  
People at  
Openstorytellers  
Give good feedback  
Makes me  
Feel  
Part of a team  
I help people  
With  
Learning difficulties  
We all  
Help  
One another  
That's why we  
Do this  
Everyone  
Is part of  
A team  
And good  
Friends  
In deed

*Clemma Lewis 2024*

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## OST & Me

The National Lottery Community Fund is supporting us to take a deep dive into our own practice and governance to explore what it truly means to be a 'user-led' organisation when everyone has a voice.

There are particular challenges and opportunities for a learning disability organisation and we got off to a flying start by employing 2 supported interns to take on the design and delivery of our initial survey.

We completed the first 6 months of this project. OST & Me will find out exactly what people who come to OpenStoryTellers think about what we do and how they would like the next 5 years to develop. This is what has happened so far!

- We recruited out 2 project workers, Joe and Ellie, both of whom have a learning disability.
- They spent time learning about governance in charities
- They have had 2 meetings with trustees to discuss how the trustees can be closer to the views of OST artists
- They have worked with Katy Brickley, and amazing volunteer who has experience as a researcher at universities
- Together with Katy they designed and implemented consent forms for this research
- They designed the questions and recording formats

We are very excited to find out what they discover and, with our board of trustees, find the best ways of including people's voices in the running of OpenStoryTellers.

Here is a quote from Joe:

*"My best achievement at work has been your work on OST & Me. I have helped people express their thoughts and feelings about OpenStoryTellers"*



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## Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The trustees who served during the period and up to the date the accounts were approved are as follows:

Sarah Talbot-Williams (Chair)  
Jane Flood  
Claire Edgar  
Benjamin Banks  
Jackie Lucas (joined 01 March 2024)  
Elanor Steel (joined 16 November 2023)  
Bill Palmer - resigned at our AGM August 2023  
Judith Beresford - resigned 20th November 2023

Two trustees stepped down this year and two new trustees were appointed.

The registered office is RISE, Whittox Lane, Frome BA11 3BY.  
The bankers are HSBC plc, 24 Market Place, Frome BA11 1AJ  
The Independent Examiner is Tim Green  
The patrons are Nick Hennessey, Storyteller and Taffy Thomas MBE.  
The full name of the Charity is Openstorytellers Limited. Charity number 1130148, Company number 0682997

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity was incorporated on the 23rd September 2009 as a Company Limited by Guarantee. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Charity registered with the Charity Commission on 12th June 2009.

The Directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The Board meets four times a year. The three longest serving trustees retire each year, but are subject to re-election.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for determining the overall policy direction of the charity, for fixing and reviewing its annual budget, and for approving annual accounts. The Charity Director is responsible for day-to-day management in accordance with determined policies.

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# Financial Review

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Reference and administrative details set out on page 17 form part of this report. For financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

## Reserves Policy and Risk Management

It is the intention of the Trustees that the freely available reserves of the charity should be sufficient to ensure the continuance of its activities, should there be an unexpected short-term adverse fluctuation in income. The Trustees consider that an appropriate level of free reserves is approximately six months' normal expenditure. This equates to approximately £51,500. At 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2024 there was a total of £60,036 of funding freely available for general purposes. The Trustees are satisfied that the long-term financial plans generate sufficient free reserves to satisfy its reserves policy over the coming 12 months and beyond.

The Trustees have examined and addressed the financial risks to which the Charity is exposed and in association with its insurers, has mitigated those risks to the best of its ability.

## Transactions and Financial Position

During the year the Charity incurred total expenditure of £228,772 of which £208,576 was directly charitable.

Over the year the Charity received income of £253,907 leading to an overall surplus of £25,135. The Balance sheet shows total reserves on 28th February 2022 of £83,482.

## Trustees' responsibilities in relation to financial statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Company's state of affairs at the end of the financial year and of its income and expenditure for that year. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply these consistently



- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charitable Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**OPENSTORYTELLERS LTD**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

I report on the accounts of the company for the 12 months ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 which are set out on pages 21 to 26

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to;

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**


My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes a consideration of any unusual issues or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice; Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met.

No other matter has come to my attention in accordance with my examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Timothy Green FCMA

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024



**OPENSTORYTELLERS LTD**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING 31st MARCH 2024**  
**(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOME &amp; ENDOWMENTS FROM;</b>					
Donations & Legacies	2 & 3	3,857	64,231	68,088	37,376
Charitable Activities	4	112,740	72,172	184,912	172,087
Other Trading	5	907	-	907	1,989
Investments		-	-	-	-
Other Income		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; ENDOWMENTS</b>		<b>117,504</b>	<b>136,403</b>	<b>253,907</b>	<b>211,452</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON;</b>					
Raising Funds		20,196	-	20,196	18,549
Charitable Activities	6 & 7	83,344	125,232	208,576	210,971
Other Expenditure		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>103,540</b>	<b>125,232</b>	<b>228,772</b>	<b>229,520</b>
<b>NET EXPENDITURE BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		<b>13,964</b>	<b>11,171</b>	<b>25,135</b>	<b>(18,068)</b>
Gross Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>13,964</b>	<b>11,171</b>	<b>25,135</b>	<b>(18,068)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARDS</b>		<b>52,347</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>58,347</b>	<b>76,415</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARDS</b>	9	<b>66,311</b>	<b>17,171</b>	<b>83,482</b>	<b>58,347</b>

All activities derive from continuing operations  
The notes on pages 23 to 26 form part of the financial statements

**OPENSTORYTELLERS LTD**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31st MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible Assets	11		6,275		3,260
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	12	16,289		15,912	
Cash at bank and in hand		95,842		66,714	
		<u>112,131</u>		<u>82,626</u>	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	34,924		27,539	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<u>77,207</u>		<u>55,087</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>83,482</u>		<u>58,347</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds			66,311		52,347
Restricted funds			17,171		6,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			<u>83,482</u>		<u>58,347</u>

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the 12 months ended 31st March 2024

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the 12 months ended 31st March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for;

ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and

preparing Accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the year in accordance with the requirement of Section 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on

and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee



SARAH TALBOT-WILLIAMS  
 9.08.2024



JACKIE LUCAS  
 9.08.2024

The notes on pages 23 to 26 form part of these accounts



**OPENSTORYTELLERS LTD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING 31st MARCH 2024**

**1 Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and following the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities and are in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (effective January 2015 and updated by Bulletin 1 effective February 2016) and the Companies Act 2006

**a Going Concern**

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue.

**b The Charity**

The Charity is a public benefit entity.

**c Income**

Income from donations, grants and subscriptions is taken to the Statement of Financial Activity on receipt unless there is a Service Level Agreement or Contract in which case it is taken into account in the period to which it relates.

**d Resources Expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Costs are allocated on the basis of usage on each project..

**e Operating Leases**

The costs of operating leases are charged as they accrue.

**f Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life;

Equipment (including IT items) 20% pa straight line

**g Funds**

Fund designations are formally approved and minuted by the Trustees. Separate accounting records are kept for restricted funds.

**2 Income from Donations & Legacies**

	2024 £	2023 £
Donations	3,357	3,636
Other Grants	500	-
Restricted Grants	64,231	33,740
	<u>68,088</u>	<u>37,376</u>

**3 Analysis of Donations**

	2024 £	2023 £
Monetary Donations	3,357	3,636
	<u>3,357</u>	<u>3,636</u>

**4 Income from Charitable Activities**

	Fee for Service £	Restricted Grant £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Fee for Service</b>				
Day Services	99,163	16,601	115,764	88,577
Pigeon Productions	10,440	9,045	19,485	29,579
Community Hub	1,125	22,288	23,413	21,869
Memory People	-	-	-	15,354
Performances & Events	-	-	-	10,582
Bookclubs	182	4,920	5,102	3,126
Heritage Project	1,655	10,903	12,558	3,000
Wellbeing	175	8,415	8,590	-
Other	-	-	-	-
	<u>112,740</u>	<u>72,172</u>	<u>184,912</u>	<u>172,087</u>

**5 Income from Other Trading**

	2024 £	2023 £
Room hire	226	1,898
Merchandise sales	248	-
Other trading	433	91
	<u>907</u>	<u>1,989</u>

**6 Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2024 £
Day Services	103,041	22,955	125,996
Pigeon Productions	25,697	5,864	31,561
Community Hub	23,396	4,624	28,020
Bookclubs	2,690	235	2,925
Heritage Project	13,112	1,150	14,262
Wellbeing	5,608	77	5,685
Other	127	-	127
	<u>173,671</u>	<u>34,905</u>	<u>208,576</u>

**7 Allocation of Support Costs**

	Staff Costs £	Office Costs £	Total 2024 £
Day Services	14,007	8,948	22,955
Pigeon Productions	3,578	2,286	5,864
Community Hub	2,822	1,802	4,624
Bookclubs	143	92	235
Heritage Project	702	448	1,150
Fundraising	2,501	1,598	4,099
Wellbeing	47	30	77
Other	-	-	-
	<u>23,800</u>	<u>15,204</u>	<u>39,004</u>

Staff Costs have been allocated on Actual Hours spent

Office Costs have been allocated based on specific project contributions and the remainder on Total Staff and Freelance Cost

**8 Trustees Remuneration & Benefits**

During the year no trustee received expenses in respect of delivering courses (2023 - £0).

During the year no trustee donated services (2023 - £0)

There were no related party transactions with trustees in the year

**9 Independent Examination**

The independent examiner was paid £800 (2023 - £750) to prepare and examine these accounts

**10 Staff Costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages & Salaries	168,505	159,865
Social Security Payments	5,350	5,308
Employer Pension Contributions	2,946	2,847
	<u>176,801</u>	<u>168,020</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 17 (2023 - 13)

No employee received remuneration of over £60,000

**11 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
As at 1 March 2023	14,361	14,361
Additions	4,146	4,146
As at 31st March 2024	<u>18,507</u>	<u>18,507</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
As at 1 March 2023	11,101	11,101
Charge for the period	1,131	1,131
As at 31st March 2024	<u>12,232</u>	<u>12,232</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
As at 1 March 2023	3,260	3,260
As at 31st March 2024	<u>6,275</u>	<u>6,275</u>



12	Debtors	2024 £	2023 £
	Trade Debtors	10,843	11,751
	Other Debtors	2,933	2,933
	Prepayments & Accrued Income	2,513	1,228
		<u>16,289</u>	<u>15,912</u>
13	Creditors	2024 £	2023 £
	Trade Creditors	-	239
	Accruals	1,475	1,825
	PAYE/NI	922	2,178
	Other Creditors	546	498
	Deferred Income	31,981	22,799
		<u>34,924</u>	<u>27,539</u>

Deferred Income relates to the Heritage Lottery Fund and National Lottery Award for All which extend into the 2023-24 financial year.

14	Fund Accounts	Opening Balance £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Closing Balance £
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	52,347	117,504	103,540	-	66,311
	<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
	Day Services - The Will Charitable Trust	-	7,000	7,000	-	-
	Day Services - Music For All	-	1,410	-	-	1,410
	Heritage - Historic England	3,000	15,852	18,852	-	-
	Bookclubs - Frome Town Council	-	1,120	1,120	-	-
	Bookclubs - D'Oyly Carte Trust	-	3,000	1,299	-	1,701
	Bookclubs - Leonard Laity Stoate Trust	-	800	-	-	800
	Community Hub - National Lottery Awards for All	-	3,334	3,334	-	-
	Community Hub - Sorbell Foundation	-	4,000	4,000	-	-
	Community Hub - Weinstock Fund	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
	Community Hub - Mercers Company	-	8,850	8,850	-	-
	Community Hub - SCF	-	2,829	2,829	-	-
	Community Hub - National Grid	-	1,500	185	-	1,315
	Pigeon Productions - SCF OCCF	-	3,145	3,145	-	-
	Pigeon Productions - Bailey Thomas	-	5,000	2,550	-	2,450
	Wellbeing/ Hub - Groundworks/Comic Relief	-	9,815	9,815	-	-
	Wellbeing/ Hub - Local Giving, Magic Little Grant	-	500	500	-	-
	Wellbeing/ Hub - Frome Town Council	-	1,995	-	-	1,995
	Core - The Neighbourly Fund	-	500	500	-	-
	Core - National Lottery Cost of Living Fund	-	34,869	34,869	-	-
	Core - Woodroffe Benton Foundation	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
	Core - Garfield Weston	-	15,000	7,500	-	7,500
	Core - National Lottery Community Fund	-	11,884	11,884	-	-
	Core - Hedley Foundation	3,000	-	3,000	-	-
	<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>136,403</u>	<u>125,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,171</u>
	<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>58,347</u>	<u>253,907</u>	<u>228,772</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,482</u>

#### Fund Purposes

Day Services - A commissioned service providing arts based, progressive day service support  
Heritage Project - A creative research project exploring the hidden histories of people with learning difficulties  
Bookclubs - Sensory storytelling for people with learning difficulties and complex needs  
Community Hub - No cost, social and community focussed activities, accessible to all  
Pigeon Productions - Our creative enterprise producing accessible resources for and by people with learning difficulties  
Wellbeing - Gently therapeutic sessions supporting positive mental and physical wellbeing  
Core - Supporting the core charity operations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Tangible Assets	6,275	-	6,275	3,970
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors	15,307	982	16,289	15,912
Bank	47,672	48,170	95,842	66,714
	62,979	49,152	112,131	82,626
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Creditors	2,943	31,981	34,924	27,539
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	60,036	17,171	77,207	55,087
<b>Net Assets</b>	66,311	17,171	83,482	59,057

**15 Members' Liability**

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation. As at the 31st March 2024 there were 15 members.

**16 Controlling entity**

The charity is controlled by the trustees who are all directors of the company.