

Gay Outdoor Club Limited Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year End 31st December 2023

Gay Outdoor Club Limited

Company registration number 8020133 Charity registration number 1158873

Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st December 2023

Trustees' Report:

Reference and administration details

The Gay Outdoor Club Limited is a company limited by guarantee. It is known as the Gay Outdoor Club, frequently abbreviated to GOC.

Company registration number: 08020133

Charity registration number: 1158873

Registered office: 27 Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N 3AX

The following persons served as Trustees during the reporting period, they served the entire year except where noted:

Mr J K Cornwell	Chair	Appointed: 1st April 2023
Mr A Barr	Secretary	Appointed: 18th January 2023
Mr R Sheldon	Treasurer	
Mr M Gilbraith		
Mr E Voelcker		
Miss A Evans		
Mr K German		
Ms G Giuffre		
Mr P B Blackburn		

Resignations:

Mr I Rose: 31st January 2023

Mr M Fanning: 9th May 2023

Mr M Woollard: 3rd January 2023

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, Tonbridge, Kent; The Bank of Scotland, Dava, Moray

Accountants: Crest Accounting Ltd, 49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, CR0 8TW

Structure, governance and management:

The Gay Outdoor Club existed as an unincorporated club from 1974. On the 4th April 2012 it was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and on the 16th October 2014, it was registered as a charity.

The charity is governed by the **Articles of Association**. These were last amended on the 29th July 2023 at the Annual General Meeting held at the University of Kent in Canterbury. The resolution to change the wording relating to our objects was agreed as follows:

From: *but not exclusively, **gay men and women** with the object of improving their conditions of life.*
To the following: *but not exclusively, **everyone in the LGBTQI+ community** with the object of improving their conditions of life.*

Payments were made to an outside contractor to maintain and upgrade the club's website.

All the **Activities** of the club are organised by members on a voluntary basis without payment. There are 33 local groups covering every part of England, Wales and Scotland, and ten specialists groups. During 2023, two new specialist groups were established: History & Culture, and Gardens. These groups have been very successful in attracting members who are unable to take part in our more strenuous activities, but who still enjoy going out and meeting fellow members.

Each summer the club holds an **Annual Outdoor Gathering** where members come together over a weekend. In 2023 the event was held at the University of Kent in Canterbury. As always, it was well supported and gave our members a chance to catch up with old friends and to make new ones.

Financial Review:

Taking into account that the club does not experience significant periods of negative cash flow and that income is reasonably predictable, the club's reserves policy aims to maintain reserves equivalent to between three and six months of total turnover.

However, as the reserves had built up to a greater amount than this, at the 2022 AGM, the club decided to reduce the reserve balance. This has been achieved by funding an upgrade of the club's website, providing diversity and inclusion and training for trustees, and a number of marketing initiatives.

It was also agreed in the October 2023 board meeting that those members facing financial hardship who wanted to attend the Annual Outdoor Gathering would be offered a self-identifying concessionary rate as part of the club's 50th Anniversary celebratory year.

The Charity has no restricted funds and does not act as a custodian or trustee for others.

Public benefit statement:

The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by The Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Objectives and activities:

The objects of the company are:

To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of any individuals who have need of such facilities especially, but not exclusively, everyone in the LGBTQI+ community with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Achievements and performance:

The club has upgraded and improved its website which contains full information about the club's activities, policies and procedures, as well as news items and reports of recent events. Members are also able to purchase a monthly magazine, which contains details of forthcoming events and other items of interest.

Membership During the course of 2023, membership increased from 1614 on 1st January to 1857 on 31st December. This represents an annual increase of 15%.

Activities which include boating, camping, cycling and swimming were well attended.

However, the club's main activity is walking. During 2023, there were 170 Easy Walks, 265 Moderate Walks, 13 Difficult Walks and 29 Mountain Walks.

Our new specialists groups were extremely active. During 2023, the Gardens group organised 23 visits to a wide range of gardens, while our History & Culture group was involved in organising 26 visits to other places of interest. In addition, the club organised 49 weekend or longer events, and our social Meet-up Group held 31 sessions.

50th Anniversary - 2024 The Gay Outdoor Club was formed in 1974, so celebrations to mark this milestone in our history will be taking place during the coming year. Some of these events will be organised by individual members; some by the club's local and specialists groups, and others, such as the celebrations at our Annual Outdoor Gathering, by the club as a whole.

Inclusive and diverse: The club continues to embrace and welcome all members of the LGBTQI+ community and is working diligently to ensure that our existing membership is friendly and welcoming.

Approved by the Board on the 6th April and signed on their behalf.



ALEXANDER DAVID BARR

GOC COMPANY SECRETARY

06/04/2024

GAY OUTDOOR CLUB LIMITED

Registered Charity number 1158873

Company Number 8020133

ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

Gay Outdoor Club Ltd
Accounts for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Charity Name Gay Outdoor Club Limited
Working Name GOC
Charity Number 1158873
Company Number 8020133
Registered Office 27 Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N 3AX

Board of Trustee Directors:

Peter BLACKBURN	
Allyson May EVANS	
Edward Hunter VOELCKER	
Ivor ROSE (Secretary)	Resigned 31/01/2023
Roger SHELDON	
Alexander BARR (Secretary)	
Michael FANNING	Resigned 09/05/2023
Mark WOOLLARD	Resigned 03/01/2023
Kevin GERMAN	
Martin GILBRAITH	
Gabrielle GIUFFRE	
James CORNWELL	Appointed 01/04/2023

Independent Accountant
Crest Accounting Ltd

49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey. CR0 8TW

Bank

Lloyds Bank PLC

Tonbridge, Kent

Bank of Scotland

Dave, Moray

Gay Outdoor Club Ltd
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 December 2023 £	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 December 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31 December 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31 December 2022 £
Incoming Resources				
Income: General	81,376	0	81,376	71,808
Total incoming resources	<u>81,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>81,376</u>	<u>71,808</u>
Resources Expended				
Expenses	84,955	0	84,955	63,956
Total Resources expended	<u>84,955</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>84,955</u>	<u>63,956</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>(3,579)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,579)</u>	<u>7,852</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Total Funds brought forward	<u>91,871</u>	<u>0</u>	91,871	84,019
Total Funds carried forward	<u>88,292</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>88,292</u>	<u>91,871</u>

Gay Outdoor Club Ltd
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		31 December 2023	31 December 2022
		£	£
Fixed Assets		-	-
Current Assets	Note 3		
Debtors		746	953
Prepayments		792	2,990
Cash at bank and in hand		87,023	88,200
Total Current assets		<u>88,561</u>	<u>92,143</u>
Creditors falling due within one year	Note 4	269	272
Net Assets		<u>88,292</u>	<u>91,871</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted Funds		88,292	91,871
Restricted Funds		0	0
Total Funds		<u>88,292</u>	<u>91,871</u>

For the year ending 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

* 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

Chair **DIRECTOR**


Alexander David Barr
GOC COMPANY SECRETARY.

Date: **06/04/2024**

Gay Outdoor Club Ltd
Notes to the Accounts

Note 1: Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

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.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Grants and donations are included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and incoming resources from tax reclaims are included at the same time as the gift to which they relate.
Investment income is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.
Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its members. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.
Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SoFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are directly allocated.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:-

Computer equipment - 33.33% straight line basis
No assets are owned by the charity.

Note 2: Trustees Remuneration

No remuneration was paid to the trustees in the 12 month period ended 31 December 2021

Note 3: Current Assets

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>
Debtors		
Stripe/Go Cardless: Balance Held	746	953
Prepayments:		
AOG	0	2,286
Insurance	792	704
Total	<u>1,538</u>	<u>3,943</u>

Note 4: Creditors & Accruals

Amounts falling due within one year:

Accountancy	250	250
Bank charges	19	22
Total	<u>269</u>	<u>272</u>

Note 5: Annual Outdoor Gathering (AOG)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Income	30,213	26,612
Food Accomodation, Admin	28,178	23,140
Entertainments	475	1,200
Activities	1,638	980
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>30,291</u> <u>-78</u>	<u>25,320</u> <u>1,292</u>

Gay Outdoor Club Ltd
Statement of Financial Activities
Year Ended 31 December 2023

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Donations & Legacies		30
Charitable Activities:		
National Events inc AOG		30,720
Other Events Income		11,484
Trading Income (advertising/Magazine)		6,513
Subscriptions		26,996
Gift Aid		4,653
Interest		980
		<u>81,376</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Fund-raising Activities:		
Newsletter	8,014	
Advertising & Publicity:		
General	4,780	
Website	12,154	
Charitable Activities:		
National Events	30,411	
Local Events	13,511	
Donations	100	
Management & Administration:		
IT Support	6,315	
Postage/Telephone/Stationery	162	
Affiliation Fees	247	
Insurance/Registered address	3,235	
Bank Charges	1,506	
Travelling Expenses	2,437	
Training	1,800	
Independent Review/Governance	263	
Miscellaneous	20	
		<u>(84,955)</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for Period		-3,579
Balance B/F		<u>91,871</u>
Balance C/F		<u><u>88,292</u></u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE
GAY OUTDOOR CLUB**

I report on the accounts of the club for the year ended 2023 which are set out on pages 1 to 7

Respective responsibilities of the 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 trustee's consider that an audit is not required for the year under 144(2) 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 audit under 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 the 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 consideration of any unusual items 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:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep the accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the 2006 Act; and
 - To prepare account which accord with the accounting records and 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 Charitieshave not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Patricia Jane Ward FCMA, CGMA, MiP
Crest Accounting Ltd
49, Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Surrey. CR0 8TW

DATE: 8th April 2024