

OUT OF CHARACTER

England & Wales · Charity number 1161399

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-04-23

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

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL INCLUSION AMONG PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, BY REASON OF MENTAL ILLNESS IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:- PROVIDING THEATRE OPPORTUNITIES TO ADULTS WHO USE OR HAVE USED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES- PROMOTING AN UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL ILLNESS THROUGH THE USE OF THEATRE.

Activities: The purpose of Out of Character is to promote social inclusion among people who are socially excluded from society, or parts of society by reason of mental illness, in particular by:- providing theatre opportunities to adults who use or have used mental health services.-promoting an understanding of mental illness through the use of theatre

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- City Of York
- Leeds City
- Lincolnshire
- Newcastle Upon Tyne City
- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£40,161	£36,904	-	-
2024-08-31	£27,293	£31,008	-	-
2023-08-31	£37,929	£30,554	-	-
2022-08-31	£8,883	£17,552	-	-
2021-08-31	£21,912	£14,200	-	-
2020-08-31	£32,807	£26,165	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JULIET FORSTER	Chair	2009-01-01
Matthew Harper		2017-09-28
NICK ROWE		2009-01-01
Professor Dianne Willcocks		2025-10-09
Simon Procter		2024-10-03

OUT OF CHARACTER

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Accounts



OUT OF CHARACTER THEATRE COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

SEPTEMBER 2024 - AUGUST 2025



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This year has proved to be one of our busiest yet, with a huge range of activity taking place.

Highlights have included working with professionals such as set designer, Catherine Chapman, and lighting designer, Vicky Lopez and the cast of professional show, *How to be a Kid*. Our company members again delivered high quality education opportunities for students at York University through simulated patient work.

We had the good fortune to work with third year Marketing student, Evie Tuckwell, who acted as Marketing Officer for the year. After completing her degree Evie moved in to full time employment and sadly her time with OOC ended. We appreciate all she did to promote our work and increase our visibility.

We continue to reach out to audiences to find out what they think of our work. Evaluation findings are included in the Appendix.

We welcome new company members Peter, Luke, Aaron and Olivia as they progress from the Converge Introduction to Theatre course in to OOC. Aaron and Olivia started a little earlier than intended, stepping up to cover parts in our production, *Chaos*. We are very grateful for this.

We are excited to welcome Dianne Willcocks CBE DL, former Vice Chancellor at York St John and former Deputy Principal of Sheffield Hallam University (as well as many other appointments) as a new trustee for 2025/2026.

We would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who continue to support us in so many ways. Our two production, *Chaos* and *Out of the Box*, were attended by our patron Mark Addy and his family. We really appreciate Mark's support for our company, especially his patience in regard to selfies with the company after the production.

Director's Report

Productions

This has been a really positive year for us as a company. In Autumn 2024 we worked towards a devised piece *Out of the Box*. This project was in partnership with York Theatre Royal Youth Theatre and explored themes of teenage mental health. OOC initially created questions for a questionnaire that was sent out to the 14-16s youth theatre companies, who answered digitally and creatively, sending short films of response pieces. OOC then devised a response piece centred around the idea of a factory that makes bespoke toolkits to be delivered to teenagers at times of ill mental health. Part way through the devising process, Kate and company members went in to two youth theatre groups at York Theatre Royal and ran sessions exploring sections of the text that we had created so far, gaining the young people's feedback and contributions to the script and characters which was then integrated into the final production. Jane integrated all of the devising work and young people's answers to questionnaires and session scenes into the finished script. The show ran for 3 nights in theatre 1, YSJ and was seen by approximately 80 people.

However, this was not the only project that the company devised this term. We worked with three York St John MA students, Beth, Henry and Jasmine who collaborated with the company to make *Behind the Curtain*; a piece based on the concept of actors preparing to go on stage. This rehearsed in the first hour of our sessions in the autumn and was performed in January 2025.

In January 2025 we embarked on our scripted project, working on Laura Lomas' play *Chaos*. The project was launched with a masterclass from our professional set and costume designer Catherine Chapman. We were able to hear about her process to create the design and undertook some creative tasks in order to contribute our ideas into her finished design. We performed *Chaos* in July at Friargate Theatre in York over 4 shows to an audience of 111. Audience data was gathered from 9 individuals and is summarised in the Appendix.

Simulated Patient work

We continued our work with University of York nursing students this year with Out of Character company members delivering 3 sessions in Spring 2025. Gill, Jean, Jane, Minnie, Patrick, Hannah, Bekhi, Adam and Meg worked with Kate to create 3 very different sessions. This included a session about Stigma where actors created installations around their own experiences and views on mental health, a ward based session where actors learnt character case studies and then were assessed by pairs of nursing students, and a forum theatre session where actors performed forum theatre scenes exploring mental health Unconscious Bias, and facilitated small group conversations about changes that needed to be made to character's responses, incorporating these in altered versions of the original scenes.

Over the 3 sessions we interacted with 170 students at University of York. OOC members gained a lot from these sessions and we had wonderful feedback from the students in each of the sessions. Images can be found in the Appendix.



Image shows members of OOC with the cast of *How to be a Kid*. We think one of our talented company members (also seamstress) is hiding in the bunny costume...

Company Representative Report

The last 12 months have been busy. The two productions were both challenging in their own way, but we learnt plenty and the special family atmosphere inside OOC provided support when it was needed, a sense of security.

We have had the chance to work with a lot of new groups and individuals. When we were preparing for *Out of the Box* we worked with a couple of groups of young actors. For *Chaos*, we had the chance to work with a designer, Catherine Chapman, so we saw the whole process, through to using the set.

There was an exciting chance to be part of a workshop with the cast of *How to be a Kid*, produced by Next Door but One and then to see the finished production. Some OOC members joined others from York organisations as part Create to Connect, opening different types of experience, starting with producing a radio play and moving on to other new things. Some members of Create to Connect have become members of Converge applying for the Introduction to Theatre course.

The connection with the nursing team at York University continued, we performed in a ward setting and some of the cast developed a seminar based round stigma. Feedback was very positive.

It was a good year socially from the Christmas meal in the new year, to a very enjoyable trip to see *Dear Evan Hansen* and a summer picnic in the Museum Gardens.

We have welcomed some new members to the company and are enjoying working alongside them and our thanks go out to Olivia and Aaron for joining the cast of *Chaos* at short notice

Performances and workshops

Productions

- *Out of the Box* - York St John University - December 2024
- *Chaos* - Friargate Theatre, York - July 2025

Simulated Patient Workshops delivered by OOC company members

- Mental Health Simulation - March 2025
- Stigma installations - May 2025
- Unconscious bias (Forum theatre) - June 2025



Partnership project

- R & D work with NDB1 theatre company on *How to be a Kid*

Workshops for OOC company members

- R & D for *How to be a Kid* led by Matt Harper-Hardcastle
- Masterclass with set designer Catherine Chapman - February 2025

Performances attended by company members

- *Dear Evan Hansen* at Grand Opera House, York
- *Hospital Doors* at Theatre 41, York
- *How to be a Kid* performed for the company at YSJ

ACCOUNTS

1st SEPTEMBER 2024 – 31st AUGUST 2025

Income	
Carried forward from 23-24	£11,796
Grants	£37,114
Donations	£252
Performance income	£2795
Refunds	£22
Total Income	£51,979

Expenditure	
Artistic Director	£8425
Assistant Direction	£6894
Pension payments	£1940
Playwriting	£280
Travel	£707
Refreshments	£923
Design	£2600
Technician	£1725
Fundraising	£315
Gifts	£154
Properties	£183
Training	£421
Refunds	£5760
Administration hours	£1155
Examination of accounts	£330
Public Liability Insurance	£146
Play scripts	£628
Promotion	£1600
Simulation work	£2743
Total Expenditure	£36,926.36

Balance to carry forward	£15,053
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APPENDIX

Analysis of OOC values following session on Thursday 18th September 2025, conducted by company member, Gill Main

An incredibly self-important and overly-complicated analysis of OOC values

The first table shows the ranks for each group, average rank, and standard deviation in rank for each item, ordered by average rank (i.e. with the item with the highest average rank at the top, and the lowest average rank at the bottom). The standard deviation is a measure of the variation in the ranks given by each group, so can be interpreted as a measure of how much consensus there is on the rank between the groups – for example, since all groups ranked ‘OOC must be inclusive and accommodate everyone’s needs’ as the most important item, this has a rank of one and a standard deviation of zero; while ‘the show should be of good quality’ was ranked very differently by the groups, so while the average rank is relatively high (6.3), the standard deviation of 6.7 represents the fact that one group placed this item much lower down the rankings than the other two groups. Items highlighted in orange were not ranked by all groups, and so rank and standard deviations should be treated with caution.

Table 1: Ranks and standard deviations for items

Statement	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Average rank	Standard deviation
OOC must be inclusive and accommodate everyone's needs	1	1	1	1.0	0.0
There should be respect for the practitioner leading the task	2	2	7	3.7	2.9
Every play should have a job for everyone that wants one, but that doesn't have to be an acting role		5		5.0	
Once you have committed to a role, you should commit to further rehearsals	6			6.0	
The show should be of good quality	14	3	2	6.3	6.7
Friendships should not exclude other people	5	8		6.5	2.1
People should be able to choose which size role (how many lines) they have	8	7	5	6.7	1.5
We should always be prepared for the session. Whether that is bringing something we are asked to bring, learning lines, coming with ideas, or research	10	4	6	6.7	3.1
There must be a tea break in every session	7			7.0	
OOC should cover travel to the session for anyone who needs it	13	6	3	7.3	5.1
Every play we choose must have enough roles for everyone in the company	3	13		8.0	7.1
We need to decide on either WhatsApp or Facebook to communicate outside sessions	4	11	11	8.7	4.0
The session starts at 5pm. If people arrive late, they will be included at a suitable point and without attention	9	12	8	9.7	2.1
Everyone should try a given task	11		9	10.0	1.4
OOC should cover the cost of lunch when we have a full day in rehearsal	17	9	4	10.0	6.6
If people need to leave early for social commitments, that's fine	12	14	10	12.0	2.0
We need a separate social group chat	18	10	12	13.3	4.2
People should always be able to choose which role they have	15		13	14.0	1.4
The social element is more important than making theatre	16			16.0	

The final table organises the items in relation to how important each item is to the group as a whole – high, medium, or low - and what level of consensus there is on this between the groups – high, medium or low. We could interpret the different points on this table as below:

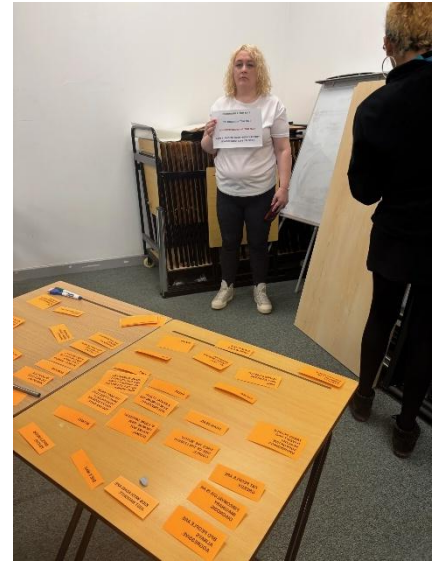
	High consensus	Medium consensus	Low consensus
High importance	We all agree these are important	Most of us agree that these are important	These are very important to most, but very unimportant to a minority
Medium importance	We all agree that these are moderately important	Most of us agree that these are of medium importance	There is a lot of variation in how important this is to us
Low importance	We all agree that these are not very important	Most of us agree that these are not very important	These are very unimportant to most, but very important to a minority

That is, this table suggests that we can be confident that core values for the whole group include ‘OOC must accommodate everyone’s needs’ and ‘people should always be able to choose which size role they have’; while ‘the show should be of good quality’ is very important to most members, but very unimportant to a minority. Conversely, ‘OOC should cover the cost of lunch when we have a full day in rehearsal’ is of low importance to most, but of high importance to a minority. This may suggest that there are particular needs of a minority of group members which other group members are not aware of or sensitive to (e.g. the cost of buying lunch being prohibitive). NB items which were not ranked by every group are excluded because there is not a valid measure of consensus for these.

Table 2: Importance and consensus on the items

	High consensus	Medium consensus	Low consensus
High importance	OOC must accommodate everyone’s needs People should always be able to choose which size role they have	There should be respect for the practitioner leading the task	The show should be of good quality
Medium importance	The session starts at 5pm, if people arrive late they will be included at a suitable point and without attention	We should always be prepared for the session We need to decide on either WhatsApp or Facebook to communicate outside sessions	OOC should cover travel to the session for anyone who needs it
Low importance	If people need to leave early for social commitments, that’s fine	We need a separate social group chat	OOC should cover the cost of lunch when we have a full day in rehearsal

Work with York University nursing students



Chaos Evaluation Findings

These findings were collected through Google Forms. 9 responses were collected following the June 2025 performance at Friargate Theatre.

Audiences told us that the performances were:



Some individual comments were...

'The staging was incredibly clever. The scenes with everyone on the railway platform were just perfect.'

'More ensemble, great movement work'

'The complexity of the choreography was impressive with the number of setting changes and screens/chairs to move, especially while the whole cast was in the same room in view of the audience'

Some of the statistics...

78% of respondents gave the performance a 5-star rating.

89% of respondents strongly agreed that the performance '... was absorbing and held my attention'.

89% of respondents strongly or very strongly agreed that the performance was 'thought provoking' and helped them to 'gain new insight or knowledge'.

100% of respondents said they would be 'interested in attending a similar performance in the future'.

A bit more about our audience...

Of the 7 respondents who were happy to answer questions about themselves:

- 78% attended with friends/family, 22% by themselves
- 34% had attended an OOC event, performance or workshop within 6-12 months, 11% within 0-6 months, 23% within the last 1-2 years and 34% not
- 45% booked a ticket because it was an OOC performance with 11% booking as theatre fans

www.outofcharactertheatre.com

Registered Charity (1161399)

Out of Character 24-5

Income		
C/F		11795.57
Emerging voices/transform		5484
National Lottery		16380
Error payment from Nick		22.3
	3	0
Total Income		33681.87
Expend		
Kate hours		750 1.10.24
Kate refresh		12.2 1.10.24
Travel Lucy Dawes		24 1.10.24
Travel Chris Hansen		15.2 1.10.24
Gifts fro Christie and Simon		65.98 3.10.24
Travel Jean		16 1.10.24
	22	0
		330
Insurance		145.6 4.10.24
Total Ex		1358.98
Balance		32322.89

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended

31st August 2025

outsourcing

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Out of Character

I report on the accounts of: **Out of Character**
for the year ended: **31st August 2025** which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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 except that the prior year's accounts presented as comparative

Jeff Todd

Jeff Todd (FCA)

30/4/26

Date:

Outsource independent examination services
24 First Avenue
York
YO31 7YQ

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:			31st August 2025	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	funds	funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	37,114	-	37,114	17,561
Donations	252	-	252	572
Events	-	-	-	-
Performance income	2,795	-	2,795	9,128
Sale of books	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	40,161	-	40,161	27,261
 Payments				
Artistic directors	8,425	-	8,425	10,555
Assistant Direction	8,049	-	8,049	8,563
Pensions	1,940	-	1,940	-
Performers	-	-	-	2,634
Simulations	2,743	-	2,743	1,619
Playwriting & scripts	1,123	-	1,123	412
Music	-	-	-	300
Fim making	-	-	-	500
Training	421	-	421	-
Travel & accomodation	707	-	707	477
Refreshments	684	-	684	2,010
Design	2,600	-	2,600	-
Promotion	1,600	-	1,600	860
Technician and technical equipment	1,724	-	1,724	1,256
Props	183	-	183	279
Grants paid	4,800	-	4,800	-
Professional fees	330	-	330	320
General and administration	1,275	-	1,275	888
Insurance	146	-	146	146
Gifts	154	-	154	158
Total payments	36,904	-	36,904	30,977
 Net of receipts/(payments)	3,257	-	3,257	- 3,716
 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	
 Balance brought forward	11,856	-	11,856	15,572
 Balance carried forward	15,112	-	15,112	11,856

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:		31st August 2025		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
Assets	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	15,052	-	15,052	11,796
Petty cash	60	-	60	60
	<u>15,112</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,112</u>	<u>11,856</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total Funds	2024 Total Funds
Liabilities	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination fee	350	-	350	330
	<u>350</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>330</u>

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:

31st August 2025

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:

31st August 2025

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:



Signature

Matthew Harper-Hardcastle

Name

Vice Chair

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

15/04/2026

Date

Signature

Name

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

Date

OUT OF CHARACTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1161399

Accounts



OUT OF CHARACTER THEATRE COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

SEPTEMBER 2023 - AUGUST 2024



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The year began, last September, with the addition of five new company members and for the first time a Marketing Officer, Abbie Turner. During her time with the company, Abbie considerably increased the company's visibility. Her work promoting *After Life* (at both York St John Creative Centre and York Theatre Royal) contributed significantly to strong ticket sales and increased media interest in the company. With fellow student Beth Fitch, she created promotional film material and short 'behind-the-scenes' documentary. Abbie also updated the website, making it more user friendly.

To develop further as a company, we have made real efforts this year to reach out to audiences. We invited those who came to watch *After Life* in December and May to share their reflections with us. 32 audience responses were collected through our online survey, allowing us to understand more about the demographics of our audiences and their response to our work. Evaluation findings have been included in the Appendix.

Company members got out and about supporting York Street performers, who generously gave their time to raise funds for Out of Character entertaining the crowds at King's Square, York in late September. Company members also spent time at York University delivering simulated patient workshops.

In November 2023 we were delighted to be awarded the **Special Prize** for our film submission, *Disability and Autonomy*, for the Eleanor Worthington Prize. This was shown in June 2024 at the Pesaro Film Festival.

Activity continued over the summer break with members continuing work on our next piece. The company continues to grow with four new company members moving in June from Introduction to Theatre and taking the company to twenty-three members.

We would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who continue to support us in so many ways. The year ended with the welcome news that we have gained a Patron. Mark Addy, a local actor with a national reputation for both deal of stage and screen work, has kindly agreed to take on this important role.

Director's Report

Productions

This year has marked some big steps forward for Out of Character. In Autumn 2023 we rehearsed and staged Jack Thorne's play *After Life* at the Creative Centre. This, to my knowledge, is the first time that OOC have performed an 'off the shelf' script (not commissioned for us) and this provided challenges in finding the right script, but also positives in having a script right at the start of the project. The company relished this. We performed four times to 139 audience members in total and the company came away with a big sense of achievement and also the desire to perform the text again.

After discussions with the company and the board, we decided to perform *After Life* as part of the Takeover Festival at York Theatre Royal in May 2024. This was a huge challenge; firstly vocally for the company as the main house space is very different and requires a great skill in projection. Associate Director, Jane and Adam (company member) worked each week with the company for an hour to develop and strengthen their vocal skills, also providing take home exercises to work on daily. This was a huge success and many audience members and trustees complemented the company's projection. A second challenge was the marketing of the production at YTR. We recruited a marketing officer, Abbie Turner, who developed a strong marketing strategy for the project and this was really impactful, with a social media campaign and radio and tv interviews which the company members undertook. This led to nearly 200 tickets being sold for the show.

Film

In January 2024 we were commissioned to make a film for Richard Knight, a PhD Researcher in Counselling and Disability. Richard's film explored some of the themes of his PHD findings through creativity. The film, *Counselling for Therapists; A therapists Guide to Client Experiences and Perceptions* will be used to disseminate his research at conferences. Richard's own description of what he took from the experience can found in the Appendix.

Simulated Patient work

We have continued working in partnership with the department of Health Sciences at the University of York to deliver simulated patient sessions. This year, Out of Character members delivered 6 sessions to 277 nursing students. Sessions included: one-to-one assessments; whole group forum theatre style sessions and installations that OOC actors created around their own mental health experiences. The relationship we have with the University of York nursing lecturers is a really positive one: they came to support our production of *After Life* and are planning to book more sessions in 2024-5 despite limited budgets.

Company Representative Report

The new members we welcomed last September slotted in perfectly and were amazing in *After Life*. You'd think they'd been with us for years!

The company gave a solid yes to performing at York Theatre Royal on the biggest stage that we've ever performed on and with the biggest audience yet. The company felt ready to take on a big challenge. We've built the trust in each other and know that we've always got each other's backs. We feel safe at OOC and that's why we're adamant that we are a family.



We're so glad to have Kate as our Director and the directing team to support us so that we can get on with the job of acting. They allow us to have input in to all our performances. It's so important to have our voices heard. It's been a pleasure and privilege to be the spokesperson for members, knowing that they trust us to put the points across to the board.

Performances and workshops

Productions

- After Life - Creative Centre YSJ - December 2023
- After Life - York Theatre Royal - May 2024

Simulated Patient Workshops delivered by OOC company members *(See Appendix)*

- Mental Health Simulation - March 2023
- Psychosocial Skills module assessment- April 2023
- Stigma – May 2023
- NA programme – June 2023
- Enhanced Psychosocial Skills module – May & August 2023

Partnership project *(See Appendix)*

- Film *Counselling for Therapists; A therapists Guide to Client Experiences and Perceptions* co-created with Richard Knight

Workshops for OOC company members

- R &D for *Hospital Doors* led by Matt Harper-Hardcastle – November 2023

Upcoming plans for OOC

It was recently suggested in a board away day that we work to create an annual blueprint for the company. This will help us apply for funding and plan ahead. This has been created with the company members and has been agreed by the trustees; we are excited about our future work.

Our next production will take place in November 2024 at York St John. The devised piece, working title *A Teenage Toolkit to Mental Health*, will explore company member's experiences of and advice given about mental health. The devised piece will be scripted by Jane. We are working in partnership with two York Theatre Royal Youth Theatre companies aged 14-19, who will input via questionnaires, workshops with Kate and company members, and then will be part of the audience for the finished production.

September 2024 will see the recruitment of our next Marketing Officer to help raise further the profile of Out of Character.



ACCOUNTS

1st SEPTEMBER 2023 – 31st AUGUST 2024

Income	
Grants	£17,561
Donations	£571.85
Performance income	£9,128.24
Refunds	£31.55
Total Income	£27,292.64

Expenditure	
Artistic Direction	£8,635.60
Assistant Art Direction	£8,563.25
Performers	£2,633.50
Pension Payments	£1919
Playwriting	£102
Travel	£476.50
Refreshments	£2,041.29
Simulated work	£1,619.45
Technical	£1256
Music for show	£300
General and Admin	£687.75
Gifts	£158.39
Props	£279.36
Exam of Accounts	£320
Public Liability Ins	£145.60
Playscripts	£310.27
Film making	£500
Promotion	£860.49
Sundries	£200
Total Expenditure	£31,008.45

Balance to carry forward	£15,511.38
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How grants are used:

£5000 from Image Foundation to support our core costs.

£5300 from Two Ridings Trust to make a step change in the promotion and management of the Company and in addition from the Belfry Fund an additional £4000 to support the transition of people from Converge to Out of Character.

£2691 from Postcode Lottery to cover the costs of a Marketing Officer for the company.

APPENDIX

Simulated patient workshops

Quotes below were given by nursing students. In each case OOC actors played case studies and were assessed by pairs of students.

Me and my partner had Fiona as our patient and it felt hard to believe she was not a 'real' patient. I almost forgot the simulation wasn't real at one point, a lot of the group said the same about their 'patients' too. She really wasn't giving much away, but that was good because this is what happens in practice and I have worked with people who present exactly like this. Even her sitting with her hood up was so convincing to me, it really added to her character we thought and was another barrier for us to try to break down. If she had made it too 'easy' for us I don't think we would have got as much out of it. She was absolutely brilliant.



I was allocated to Tracy as the patient to assess. I was nervous as she was disgruntled when I sat down and I thought this is going to be hard. But I started to have a conversation with her and I could see what I was doing was helping to make her more comfortable, I really got into the zone of being 'nurse' with my 'patient' and her amazing acting skills helped me to do this! She was responding to me in a way which felt very realistic and we would not have got this experience had it been just the lecturers or other students playing the part of the patient. I was really impressed by her and wanted to say thank you to her and the other actors for making this such an amazing experience for us all!

My colleague and I had Julie for our simulation experience. The way she was engaging with us was very convincing to me (I've had a placement in ALPS) because I have actually met lots of patients who appear like Julie, quite professional but you know they are hiding stuff from you! The way she was being was making it quite hard for us to get information out of her which was making me nervous but again, this is what happens in the real world! It really felt as though I was on a ward with a patient having to work hard to develop rapport with someone. I was so impressed with all the little things she was doing like the way she sat and talked to us, it really made it come alive. It just all felt very convincing.



Reflections from Richard Knight,
PhD Researcher in Counselling and Disability.

What I knew from discussing with the Converge research and evaluation team is that this needed to be shared in a fun and accessible way and not in a usual academic paper locked behind academic language barriers and pay walls.

It was then that I thought of Out of Character, who else would understand and be able to convert my participants' words into something fun and accessible then other people with lived experience. Some similar to my participants.

Thus, allowing the amazing creative skills of the Out of Character cast to put their abilities and lived experience to use and breath creativity into participants' original voices to generate something, fun, beautiful and challenging. Hopefully, challenging enough to start a fire throughout the profession to change and work more collaboratively and co-productively with our clients.

I met OOC as a counsellor and researcher, but I make no secret that I was at one of my own darkest periods of life. What I found was support, understanding, acceptance and instead of leaving OOC on the completion of an amazing piece of work, I have joined the company and built new friendships with a fantastic group of people.

After Life Evaluation Findings

These findings were collected through Google Forms. 9 responses were collected following the December 2023 performance at York St John Creative Centre and 23 responses after the May 2024 performance at York Theatre Royal.

The data below is drawn from the performance at York Theatre Royal.

Audiences told us that the performances were:



Some individual comments were...

'The subject matter was great, it was different, made me think and lovely to see a diverse cast.'

'An incredible professional production, and the choice of script was superb for everyone.'

'Keep on doing exactly what you are doing and it will go far.'gave the

Some of the statistics...

65% of respondents gave the performance a 5-star rating.

65% of respondents strongly agreed that the performance '... was absorbing and held my attention'.

82% of respondents strongly or very strongly agreed that the performance was 'thought provoking' and helped them to 'gain new insight or knowledge'.

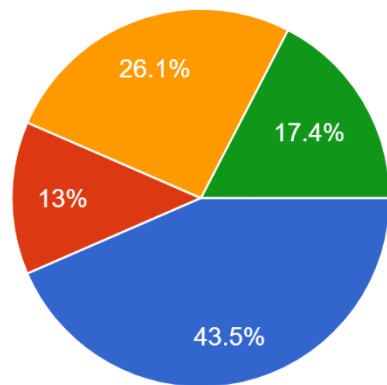
A bit more about our audience...

Of the 23 respondents attending the York Theatre Royal performance:

- 35% identified as disabled
- 21% identified as neurodivergent
- just under 50% had caring responsibilities of some kind.

Have you been to an Out of Character performance, event or workshop before?

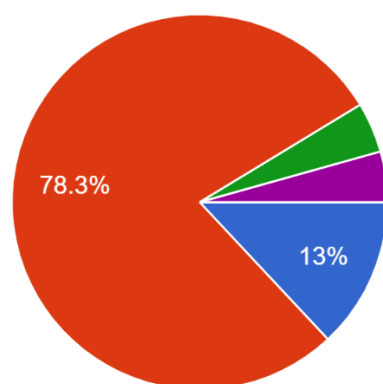
23 responses



- No
- Yes - within 0<6 months
- Yes - within 6<12 months
- Yes - within last 1 year<2 years
- Yes - within last 2 years<3 years
- More than 3 years ago

How has attending this performance developed your interest in Out of Character?

23 responses



- I'd like to join Out of Character
- I'd like to see more of Out of Character's work
- I'd like Out of Character to come and work with/for an organisation I am con...
- I'd be interested in finding out more about becoming a Trustee of Out of C...
- I'd like to support the development/ fundraising of Out of Character
- None of the above

www.outofcharactertheatre.com

Registered Charity (1161399)

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the year ended

31st August 2024

outsourc

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

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Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:		31st August 2024		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	17,561	-	17,561	25,600
Donations	572	-	572	11
Events	-	-	-	5,800
Performance income	9,128	-	9,128	6,350
Sale of books	-	-	-	168
Total receipts	<u>27,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,261</u>	<u>37,929</u>
Payments				
Artistic directors	10,555	-	10,555	13,142
Assistant Direction	8,563	-	8,563	4,000
Performers	2,634	-	2,634	3,480
Simulations	1,619	-	1,619	-
Playwriting & scripts	412	-	412	1,500
Music	300	-	300	-
Fim making	500	-	500	-
Travel & accomodation	477	-	477	484
Refreshments	2,010	-	2,010	740
Design	-	-	-	400
Promotion	860	-	860	-
Technician and technical equipment	1,256	-	1,256	2,276
Props	279	-	279	822
Professional fees	320	-	320	200
Website	-	-	-	412
General and administration	888	-	888	2,894
Insurance	146	-	146	146
Gifts	158	-	158	48
Total payments	<u>30,977</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,977</u>	<u>30,544</u>
Net of receipts/(payments)	(3,716)	-	(3,716)	7,385
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	15,572	-	15,572	8,187
Balance carried forward	<u><u>11,856</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>11,856</u></u>	<u><u>15,572</u></u>

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	31st August 2024			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	funds	funds	Total	Total
Assets	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	11,796	-	11,796	15,512
Petty cash	60	-	60	60
	11,856	-	11,856	15,572
	11,856	-	11,856	15,572
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
Liabilities	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination fee	330	-	330	320
	330	-	330	320
	330	-	330	320

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2024
--------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2024
-------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:

Signature

Name

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

Date

Signature

Name

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

Date

OUT OF CHARACTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1161399

Accounts



OUT OF CHARACTER THEATRE COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

SEPTEMBER 2022 - AUGUST 2023



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September arrived and the newly merged Out of Character began work in earnest.

The company's first piece together was the hugely ambitious *A Christmas Carol*, performed as a promenade piece at York St John's Creative Centre. This work was devised by the company. The snow even fell during our final performance!

Our new directing team of Kate Veysey and Jane Allanach then navigated the company through a challenging new work, *Shattered*. This was written for the company by Paul Birch, who took the company's responses to his provocations and carefully crafted them into an original piece of theatre. *Shattered* was performed at the Studio, York Theatre Royal as part of a YSJ Takeover.

Out of Character carried out more valuable patient simulation work with York University Nursing students, providing opportunities for members to develop their acting skills.

Our new website was launched, allowing us to accept donations and sell tickets directly to audiences.

Members also had the privilege of assisting Richard Knight, therapist, in his research journey to bring into focus the complex relation between disability and counselling.

Activity continued over the summer break with some (very enthusiastic) members devising, performing, and recording a short film as our entry for the Eleanor Worthington prize.

We would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who continue to support us in so many ways.

Director's Report

COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS

A Christmas Carol.

This was devised and written by the company and performed in multiple locations around the Creative Centre at York St John. Music was provided by the Converge Music team, and the Converge choir performed at the start of each performance. The piece was seen by 120 people over 4 performances. The company enjoyed the process, and the production showcased many strong performances, some from company members who had previously undertaken smaller roles.

Shattered

This was a commission from writer Paul Birch, who was previously Artistic Director at OOC. The piece was performed at York Theatre Royal as part of the Takeover Festival, with an open dress rehearsal at York St John.

Connecting Our City

This was a commission from The Hub; initially a request to dramatically interpret the lived experience of one person during their time connecting with the service. This plan changed when we found that we wouldn't be able to connect with that individual. It felt unethical to try and portray their assumed experience so instead myself and the actor, Minnie interviewed members of staff, volunteers and their service users (this is how they identify) about their experiences and opportunities. We then created a thirty-minute piece which showed this through verbatim, characterisation, an audio tour and a game show. This was received really positively by the 90 people who attended the conference at which it was shown, and the commissioners. Minnie shone in the experience and was a wonderful collaborator.

Life Without Autonomy

This was created as a submission for the Eleanor Worthington Prize, a response piece to the title given, Disability and Autonomy. Some company members had said that they missed being connected to the company over the summer break, so this was a week-long intensive project in August where company members could come for all, or some, of the 10.30am-3.30pm session. We worked with Converge tutor and film maker Paul Gowland to create the three-minute film with audio description, which will be submitted to the prize committee in November. Over the week 14 company members contributed to the piece, including new members who had moved up from Introduction to Theatre.

University of York sessions

These were commissions and we paid the company members who delivered the sessions. All sessions had a different brief, with actors providing case studies for assessment, presenting short productions, sharing their own life experiences, and also creating installations based on their experience. These sessions were really well received by the nursing students and staff members, and we have been asked to deliver even more in the next year. OOC company members came out of sessions buzzing and knowing that this will impact the way that future nursing students view mental health.

PERFORMANCES AND WORKSHOPS

Productions

- A Christmas Carol- Creative Centre YSJ- December 2022
- Shattered- York Theatre Royal- May 2023
- Connecting Our City (commission)- Priory Centre, York, June 2023
- Life without Autonomy (film) August 2023

Workshops delivered by OOC company members at University of York

- Suicide and Self Harm- March 2023
- Case study for MA assessment- April 2023
- Unconscious Bias- June 2023
- Case study 2 for MA assessment- June 2023
- Stigma- July 2023

Partnership project

- Pacific Students partnership project- list project- June 2023

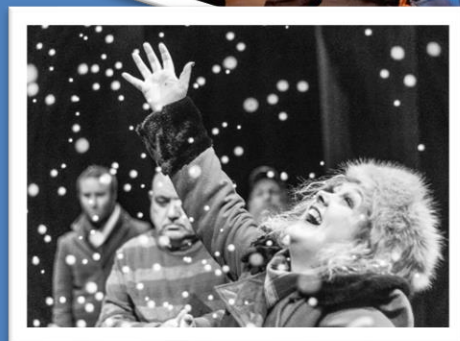
Workshops for OOC company members

- July- Richard Knight, a Counselling PHD Student from YSJ ran a session about his PHD, with a view to the company creating a piece of work in 2024.
- July- Matt Harper-Hardcastle (trustee) from Next Door But One ran a session to develop his new piece, Hospital Doors.

Upcoming plans for OOC

We are starting rehearsal for our next production, *After Life* by Jack Thorne, which will be performed in the Creative Centre at York St John in December 2023.

We are also planning in sessions with the nursing department at University of York. The street performers in York are fundraising for us in September 2023.



Income:	
Grants received from:	
YSJ	£800.00
Uni of York	£600.00
Imagine Foundation	£5,000.00
Feoffes	£3,000.00
Sheila and John Shepherd Foundation	£500.00
Main Grants National Lottery	£9,600.00
Imagine Foundation	£5,000.00
Two Ridings	£2,000.00
Shears Foundation	£5,500.00
York Friends CAST	£750.00
Donation	£9.81
Aydon	£1.56
Sale of books for Converge	£167.53
From Converge for the Christmas Carol	£5,000.00
Total Income	£37,928.90

Expenditure	
Artistic Directors	£13,141.53
Assistant direction	£4,000.80
Performers	£3,480.00
Travel	£483.88
Playwriting	£1,500.00
Refreshments	£739.74
Design	£400.00
Technician	£1,300.00
Website	£411.51
General Admin	£2,521.16
Gifts	£48.50
Props	£821.93
Training	£110.00
Administration	£263.25
Technical equipment	£976.47
Independent exam of accounts	£200.00
Liability insurance	£145.60
Total Expenditure	£ 30,544.37

Income less Expenditure £7,384.53
 Plus CF from 21-22 £8126.85

Balance at end of year £15,511.38

ACCOUNTS

1st September 2022-

31st August 2023

How grants are used:

National Lottery Community Fund to support the first year of the new set up of OOC.

York Friends Central Adult School, Sheila and John Shepherd and Feoffes to support core costs.

Two Ridings Community Foundation gave cost-of-living grant to support access.

In addition, we received funding for company member's travel, which funds a year up to the value of £2000. Company members are now claiming travel to all sessions, rehearsals and projects connected to OOC.

The Imagine Foundation continued their generous support of Out of Character.





OOC
in
rehearsal



www.outofcharactertheatre.com
Registered Charity (1161399)

Out of Character Accounts 2022-3

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 Plus CF from 21-22 8126.85

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Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

**Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements
for the year ended**

31st August 2023

outsourc

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

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Charity information

From: 01 September 2022

To: 31 August 2023

Charity's full name Out of Character

Registered Charity number 1161399

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document Constitution

How the charity is constituted (e.g. CIO

Trustee selection methods including details of All trustees and postholders are elected at the AGM

Reference and administration details

Charity's full name Out of Character Theatre Company

Other names the charity is known by N/A

Charity's principal address 165 Haxby Road
York

Postcode YO31 8JL

Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Juliet Forster	Chair		
Nick Rowe	Treasurer		
Christie Barnes			
Matthew Harper			
Simon Newton			

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the accompanying Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Name Juliet Forster

Position Chair

Date 2nd October 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Out of Character

I report on the accounts of: **Out of Character**
for the year ended: **31st August 2023** which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

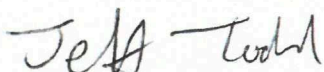
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

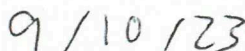
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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 except that the prior year's accounts presented as comparative



Jeff Todd (FCA)
Outsource independent examination
services
The Hiscox Building
Peasholme Green
York YO1 7PR



Date:

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:		31st August 2023		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Receipts				
Grants	25,600	-	25,600	6,662
Donations	11	-	11	50
Events	5,800	-	5,800	2,171
Performance income	6,350			
Sale of books	168			
Total receipts	37,929	-	31,411	8,883
Payments				
Artistic directors	13,142	-	13,142	9,586
Assistant Direction	4,000	-	4,000	2,419
Performers	3,480	-	3,480	1,309
Playwriting	1,500	-	1,500	-
Travel & accomodation	484	-	484	39
Refreshments	740	-	740	485
Design	400	-	400	745
Training	110	-	110	-
Technician and technical equipment	2,276	-	2,276	985
Props	822	-	822	280
Professional fees	200	-	200	200
Website	412	-	412	118
General and administration	2,784	-	2,784	1,061
Insurance	146	-	146	146
Gifts	48	-	48	179
Total payments	30,544	-	30,544	17,552
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,385	-	867	(8,669)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	
Balance brought forward	8,187	-	8,187	16,856
Balance carried forward	15,572	-	9,054	8,187

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:		31st August 2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
	funds	funds	Total	Total
	£	£	funds	funds
Assets			£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	15,512	-	15,512	8,127
Petty cash	60	-	60	60
	15,572	-	15,572	8,187
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	funds	funds
Liabilities			£	£
Independent Examination fee	320	-	320	200
	320	-	320	200

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2023
--------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2023
-------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:



Signature

Julie Forster

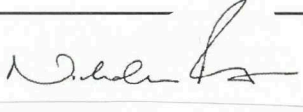
Name

Chair

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

03/10/2023

Date



Signature

Nick Rowe

Name

Treasurer

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

06/10/2023

Date

OUT OF CHARACTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1161399

Accounts



OUT OF CHARACTER THEATRE COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

SEPTEMBER 2021 - AUGUST 2022



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Finally, after what felt like a very long time, members of Out of Character were back together again for live sessions.

The company threw themselves into rehearsals for Paul Birch's last production as Artistic Director. After successful performances in other venues, *Voices of Reason* finally made it to the wonderful new stage at York St John's new Creative Centre.

The Company was extremely sad to goodbye to long standing Artistic Director, Paul Birch but also happy to welcome Kate Veysey who joined the company in January 2022. Also of note was the departure of Rachel Wall, Assistant Director, who brought such a lot to the company.

Out of Character have continued their valuable patient simulation work with York University Nursing students and will build on this in the coming year.

Both Out of Character and In the Moment spent time devising content as a response to the Converge Evaluation Report. The short film that resulted, was shared with audiences at the recent Converge Conference.

September 2022 heralds a new direction as In the Moment and Out of Character merge to form a new company. The future looks exciting!

We would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who continue to support us in so many ways.

Director's Report

OUT OF CHARACTER

(THURSDAY EVENING
GROUP)

**From Paul Birch...**

Voices of Reason was an ambitious project which told an epic story with a large cast. We invited two other artists - the cellist Rachel Gray and the Sound designer Matt Seymour to help us tell a terrific true story of the reformation of Bootham Psychiatric hospital and how it impacted our nation. We experimented, for the first time, with using scent in the show. Filling jam jars with port, earth and some other (rather unmentionable) smells we sought to transport listeners back in time. With a blindfolded audience we captivated our audience with a tale of liberation and it was wonderful to hear so many positive responses to the show afterwards. Its final performance also saw us be part of the opening of the new YSJ Creative Centre. This is a wonderful space and we look forward to filling its stage, once again, with future performances...

From Kate Veysey...

Since I started working with Out of Character in March 2022, we have had a lot of exciting projects, new members and some changes. Not only has the company had a new Artistic Director, but also the wonderful Rachel Wall has left us as Assistant Director and the great Hannah Munro has taken the role. We have had a few members leave too, and will miss Christie, Chloe and Wayne but have welcomed Rose to the company.

We have undertaken two projects, with some of the company and supporting YSJ and myself and Nick delivering a workshop on Stigma for 70 nurses at the University of York in July. This workshop included the sharing of monologues and a facilitated workshop, alongside Nick's lecture on Stigma. The university are keen to continue this partnership, which is longstanding, and potentially extend this to new projects.

Our second project, alongside In the Moment, was a commissioned film which was a response to the Converge Report findings. We worked with Paul Gowland, filmmaker, and Lucy Coleman, Melissa Hartman and Ben Herron from the Converge Music department to create a 25-minute film of creative responses. 17 Out of Character members performed, with some also writing, directing and filming sections. The films will be shown at the Converge conference in September.

We now look forward to the autumn term where members of In the Moment will join Out of Character to form a single company going forward. Sessions will now be 3 hours long, with an hour long 'Out of Character Prepares' skills development and warm up session, followed by 'Out of Character Production' which will be rehearsals for productions and projects. Jane Allanach will take the role of Associate Director, working with myself as Artistic Director and Hannah Munro as Assistant Director.

Our first production will be A Christmas Carol. This will be a promenade performance, across various rooms and spaces in The Creative Centre at YSJ to be performed the week before Christmas. The Converge music department and Creative writing departments, as well as the Converge choir, will be contributing to this production, which will be our first as a merged company with previous Introduction to Theatre members moving into the company too.

Director's Report

IN THE MOMENT

(WEDNESDAY EVENING GROUP)

BY JANE ALLANACH (DIRECTOR)

In December 2021 In the Moment performed their new piece *Campfire Stories* as part of the Foss Park Autumn Exhibition.

Campfire Stories, an energetic and light hearted performance, explored the origin of fire through myths, story and song. The audience were warmed and sang away their winter blues with rousing choruses of 'She'll be Rubbing Sticks Together as She Comes', as well as making wishes for a brighter future, whilst seated around a fire that each member of the audience helped to build on their arrival. The piece was devised by Neanderthals of the group – I mean members!

The first few weeks of the New Year were spent analysing text and performing to each other, whilst waiting for the next project to come in, which soon did – an artistic response to the Converge Evaluation Project, alongside OOC.

Three key areas were workshopped by members of In the Moment – Creativity, Identity and Knowledge Exchange – using poetry, puppets and music. A work in progress of the project was presented at the Converge Summer Festival by members and puppets in June 2022. Paul Gowland filmed and edited the finished project which was shown on 5th September 2022 as part of the Converge Evaluated: Findings & Responses Conference.

In the Moment's six years came to an end on 29th June 2022. The merge with Out of Character began on 8th September with a Christmas Project of A Christmas Carol. Fifteen members of the group join Out of Character on Thursday evenings.



Income	
Grants received from: <i>Imagine Trust</i> <i>Cooperative Society</i> <i>Arnold Clark</i> <i>York St John University</i>	£6,662
Donations	£50
Events	£2,171
Total Income	£8,883

Expenditure	
Artistic directors	£9,586
Assistant direction	£2,419
Performers	£1,309
Pension payments	-
Playwriting	-
Refreshments	£485
Design	£745
Simulated admin	-
Website	£118
General and administration	£1,061
Training	-
Props	£280
Technician and technical equipment	£985
Insurance	£146
Gifts	£179
Travel and accommodation	£39
Total Expenditure	£17,552

Balance to carry forward	£8,187
--------------------------	--------

Cash in hand	£60
--------------	-----

ACCOUNTS

1 September 2021-

31st

August 2022



Out of Character working on their creative response to the
Converge Evaluation Report 2022



outofcharactertheatre.squarespace.com
Registered Charity (1161399)

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the year ended

31st August 2022

outsourcing

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

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Receipts & Payments Accounts	3
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	4
Notes to the Accounts	5

Charity information

From: 01 September 2021 **To:** 31 August 2022

Charity's full name Out of Character

Registered Charity number 1161399

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document Constitution

How the charity is constituted CIO

Trustee selection methods including All trustees and postholders are elected at the AGM

Reference and administration details

Charity's full name Out of Character

Other names the charity is known by N/A

Charity's principal address 165 Haxby Road
York

Postcode YO31 8JL

Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Juliet Forster	Chair		
Nick Rowe	Treasurer		
Christie Barnes			
Matthew Harper			
Simon Newton			

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the accompanying Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature
Full Name
Position
Date

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of UK Friends of Khwendo Kor

I report on the accounts of: **Out of Character**
for the year ended: **31st August 2022** which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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 except that the prior year's accounts presented as comparative figures

Jeff Todd

5/9/22

Jeff Todd (FCA)

Date:

Outsource independent examination
services
The Hiscox Building
Peasholme Green
York YO1 7PR

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:		31st August 2022		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total funds	2021 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	6,662	-	6,662	20,090
Donations	50	-	50	-
Events	2,171	-	2,171	1,822
Total receipts	8,883	-	8,883	21,912
Payments				
Artistic directors	9,586	-	9,586	5,978
Assistant Direction	2,419	-	2,419	1,708
Performers	1,309	-	1,309	980
Pension payments	-	-	-	1,274
Playwriting	-	-	-	500
Travel & accomodation	39	-	39	-
Refreshments	485	-	485	266
Design	745	-	745	540
Simulated admin	-	-	-	73
Training	-	-	-	300
Technician and technical equipment	985	-	985	530
Props	280	-	280	-
Professional fees	200	-	200	355
Website	118	-	118	153
General and administration	1,061	-	1,061	1,543
Insurance	146	-	146	-
Gifts	179	-	179	-
Total payments	17,552	-	17,552	14,200
Net of receipts/(payments)	(8,669)	-	(8,669)	7,712
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	16,856	-	16,856	9144
Balance carried forward	8,187	-	8,187	16,856

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	31st August 2022			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total funds	2021 Total funds
Assets	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	8,127	-	8,127	16,816
Petty cash	60	-	60	40
	8,187	-	8,187	16,856
	8,187	-	8,187	16,856
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
Liabilities	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination fee	200	-	200	200
	200	-	200	200
	200	-	200	200

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2022
--------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2022
-------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting
of the Trustees held on:

29/9/22

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:

Nick Rowe

Signature

Nick Rowe

Name

Treasurer and Trustee

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

29/9/22

Date

Juliet Forster

Signature

Juliet Forster

Name

Chair

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

--

Date

OUT OF CHARACTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1161399

Accounts



OUT OF CHARACTER
THEATRE COMPANY
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

SEPTEMBER 2020 - AUGUST 2021



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This year saw members of Out of Character once again operating under highly unusual circumstances. This was done, as always, with a great deal of creativity, resilience and good humour!

The year began with a hugely anticipated and very welcome return to live sessions for both groups. Unfortunately, these had to pause through a third lockdown.

Undeterred, In the Moment focused their energies on producing a well-received short

Out of Character also continued their valuable work with York University Nursing students through a series of online workshops. The company continued to meet and make online until the summer break. Company members were able to contribute to the ongoing development of Out of Character through the company's AGM.

We would like to thank the Imagine Foundation and the Two Ridings Community Foundation for their ongoing support. Thank you to all the individuals and organisations who have

Director's Report

OUT OF CHARACTER (THURSDAY EVENING GROUP)

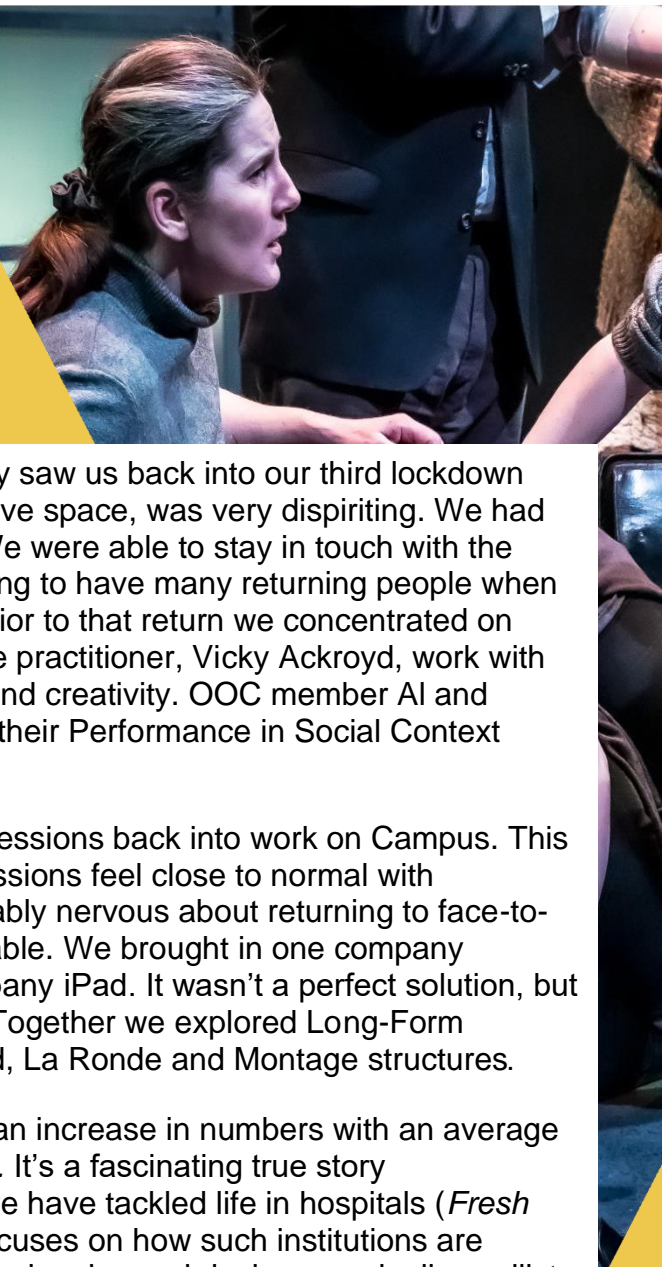
BY PAUL BIRCH (DIRECTOR)

The past year has been both difficult and rewarding. January saw us back into our third lockdown and, coming so swiftly after finally being back together in a live space, was very dispiriting. We had our lowest numbers (averaging around 8) for that season. We were able to stay in touch with the non-participants by other means and it was really encouraging to have many returning people when we came back to campus at the end of the summer term. Prior to that return we concentrated on skills sessions and were privileged to have a visiting creative practitioner, Vicky Ackroyd, work with us for three weeks using fine art approaches to discussion and creativity. OOC member AI and another undergraduate student also ran sessions as part of their Performance in Social Context module.

The end of the summer term saw us move from the online sessions back into work on Campus. This was a most welcome move and it was wonderful to have sessions feel close to normal with fuller numbers. Even some members who were understandably nervous about returning to face-to-face work made the decision to return and seemed comfortable. We brought in one company member (who had to shield for health reasons) via the company iPad. It wasn't a perfect solution, but it did mean that anyone who wanted to join us was able to. Together we explored Long-Form Improvisation and created 30-minute comedies using Harold, La Ronde and Montage structures.

We are now back into the Autumn Term and we have seen an increase in numbers with an average of 15 artists. We are making a new show, *Voices of Reason*. It's a fascinating true story of Bootham's dark past in the late Georgian period. Whilst we have tackled life in hospitals (*Fresh Visions* trilogy) and asylums (*Objects of Terror*) this show focuses on how such institutions are reformed. It will be a live audio drama - working with a professional sound designer and a live cellist to bring this hidden world to life. Originally this was planned to open at the new YSJ creative centre which is now not ready. The date for the new launch and opening has been postponed until January (date to be announced) and we still intend to perform the show then. However, we didn't think not right to not perform the show this term and so we are building a relationship with a new (to us anyway) York venue - Theatre@41 Monkgate. They will host the first show on Friday 19 November and we will repeat the show in Quad South Hall (on Campus) on the 16th December as part of the Converge sharing. The sporadic nature of these performances is not ideal but it was the only solution we could find given the extremely late notice of the Creative Centre's delay. Members of the *In The Moment* have been invited to join the production and we hope to invite other guests to pre-record or perform live cameos as part of the show. They might be past members of the company, mental health professionals and other carers. I am pleased to say that we have also been able to make this offer to a member of the company who wanted to be part of the show but is unable to join regular rehearsals for personal reasons.

The wider workshops have continued throughout on the zoom platform. In particular, we have done two workshops on stigma for the York University Nursing students as well as one on unconscious bias. Next week (as I write this) will see us repeat the Unconscious Bias workshop with the skill and expertise of Mark and Christie. It will be interesting to see if these online workshops gradually disappear or are retained as we move closer to a return to live teaching.



Director's Report

IN THE MOMENT

(WEDNESDAY EVENING GROUP)

BY JANE ALLANACH (DIRECTOR)



Autumn 2020 saw us back in the space enjoying a term of Improvisation skills. Due to apprehension surrounding Covid, our numbers dwindled in November and December, to an average of 4-5 members per session.

The New Year saw us back in Lockdown with a new project – making a film for York's Festival of Ideas around the subject of Gift Exchange. We looked at other cultures- mythology and traditions from around the world for our inspiration, which culminated in just short of an hour length film. The film can be seen on YouTube and is a light-hearted 'documentary style' journey, which aims to answer the question of How can we keep the spirit of the gift alive? Throughout the journey we meet characters from mythology, a puppet called Dora and a very intense professor, alongside an array of characters which tell real life gift stories which the cast had fun collecting and retelling. It was great for the group to have a focus during lockdown and we managed to maintain regular attendance by a core group.

We have returned to work on a new project with Lucy Coleman and Ben Herron as part of a performance (yet to be decided when and where) for Foss Park. Ben has chosen the theme of *campfire stories* which In the Moment have begun to explore and will continue to do so over the coming weeks.

In August, In the Moment teamed up with Helen Kenwright to make a series of film clips talking about their feelings of attending Converge classes for the first time (the apprehension, excitement, the not knowing), through to the end of the course and how they were changed throughout the experience. The group used their own experiences and also responded artistically to the testimonies of various members of the Creative Writing Course. The videos can be accessed on the Converge Connected Website.

Our numbers average around 10 including two students from last term who have come back to work with us – Peter and Louise. Sadly, we lost Anna this year to primary teaching, which is a huge loss to the group, having been with us since the beginning in 2016. Marie Hillcoat has joined the team as assistant artistic director – Marie volunteered with us in 2016-17 as an A level student, before going to Salford University to gain a degree in theatre. She's a great performer – including stand-up comedy at Edinburgh Fringe – no mean feat!

We have two members of the group working with Out of Character on their performance - Voices of Reason. I hope to be able to take part also but due to working with Converge on Thursday evenings my participation will be limited.

ACCOUNTS

1 September 2021-31st
August 2021

Income	
Imagine Foundation	£5,000.00
Baring	£12,000.00
Arts Council	£695.00
Coop	£716.93
Two Ridings	£1,678.00
Amazon error repayment	£22.23
University of York	£1,800.00
Total Income	£21,912.16

Expenditure	
Artistic directors	£5,977.56
Assistant direction	£1,708.25
Performers	£980.00
Pension payments	£1,274.00
Playwriting	£500.00
Refreshments	£266.03
Design	£540.00
Simulated admin	£73.50
Website	£153.35
General and administration	£191.62
Training	£299.99
Administration	£1,351.50
Technical equipment	£529.73
Independent examination of accounts	£355.00
Total Expenditure	£14,200.53

Balance to carry forward	£16,815.96
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Cash in hand	£39.91
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Total Assets	£16,855.87
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In the Moment in rehearsal at York St. John University



outofcharactertheatre.squarespace.com
Registered Charity (1161399)

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the year ended

31st August 2021

outsourc

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:		31st August 2021		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Receipts				
Grants	20,090	-	20,090	28,025
Donations	-	-	-	1,687
Events	1,822	-	1,822	3,095
Total receipts	21,912	-	21,912	32,807
Payments				
Artistic directors	5,978	-	5,978	9,199
Assistant Direction	1,708	-	1,708	4,191
Performers	980	-	980	982
Pension payments	1,274	-	1,274	794
York Theatre Royal show	-	-	-	5,431
Playwriting	500	-	500	3,105
Travel & accomodation	-	-	-	532
Refreshments	266	-	266	422
Design	540	-	540	350
Simulated admin	73	-	73	294
Training	300	-	300	-
Technical equipment	530	-	530	-
Professional fees	355	-	355	-
Website	153	-	153	143
General and administration	1,543	-	1,543	126
Other costs	-	-	-	596
Total payments	14,200	-	14,200	26,165
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,712	-	7,712	6,642
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	9,144	-	9,144	2,502
Balance carried forward	16,856	-	16,856	9,144

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	31st August 2021			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	funds	funds	Total	Total
Assets	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	16,816	-	16,816	9,104
Petty cash	40	-	40	40
	16,856	-	16,856	9,144
	16,856	-	16,856	9,144
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
Liabilities	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination fee	280	-	280	280
	280	-	280	280
	280	-	280	280

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2021
--------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:	0
-------------------------------------------------	----------

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:

Signature

Name

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

Date

Signature

Name

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

Date

OUT OF CHARACTER

England & Wales - Charity number 1161399

Accounts



**OUT OF CHARACTER
THEATRE COMPANY
ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

Photograph by Jackson Portraiture

SEPTEMBER 2019- AUGUST 2020



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page 4



SUMMARY

This year has been a very different one for Out of Character, as it has been for all. It started with performances at the Multiple Complex Needs Conference and at York Theatre Royal, both well received and thought provoking performances.

In March lockdown began and Out of Character strived to remain creative and connected in a different way, making use of online video platforms and running the usual weekly sessions.

Through this time it was important company members remained involved in the decision making process, and the company's AGM was held both online and face-to-face to ensure members could access in the best way for them.

We would like to thank the Imagine Foundation and the Two Ridings Community Foundation for their ongoing support. Thank you to all the people and organisations who have supported us through this challenging time.

Director's Report

OUT OF CHARACTER (THURSDAY EVENING GROUP)

BY PAUL BIRCH (DIRECTOR)

Just before lockdown we were able to produce our show *Less Than Human* at York Theatre Royal. It was ultimately an extraordinary success - an ambitious show, wonderfully directed, which left a powerful satiric punch upon its audience. Many people remarked as to how it was the best show we have made yet. Despite the creeping fears about covid the audience numbers were surprisingly healthy and it was a huge relief that the show was able to be performed just before the lockdown occurred. We made something daring, special and challenging. All the company members, I think, grew in their capabilities as performers and actors.

During Lockdown we found ways online to keep together and creative and, whilst not everyone was able to join us, we were able to keep Thursday's OOC moving forward with games, exercises and some much needed chat! We are looking forward to starting back on campus at the end of the month.

Photograph by Jackson Portraiture



Director's Report

IN THE MOMENT (WEDNESDAY EVENING GROUP)

BY JANE ALLANACH (DIRECTOR)

In November, In the Moment performed at the Multiple Complex Needs Conference at the Quaker Meeting House. The performance, devised by the group between September and November, was based around the lived experience of individuals from various organisations across York that have experienced severe and multiple disadvantage and complex needs such as homelessness, addiction and ill mental health. The conference aimed to share those experiences with health professionals in health and social care, the voluntary sector and those that work in this area.

Our performance included those individual experiences, often using verbatim testimonials.

We worked closely with the Converge Evaluation and Research Team who wrote a full and extensive report. Our artistic response, 'It's My Life' was performed by 14 members of In the Moment and received very positively, with comments such as,

'I just wanted to say a massive thanks to everyone involved in the peer research project. It was so insightful, thought provoking and inspiring to see the performance and I picked up lots of positive feedback about it'.

Following on from that, we had approximately three weeks to make a performance for the Christmas Converge sharing, so quickly began workshopping and playing with Commedia d'ellArte. We ended up with a Commedia inspired short panto involving wobbly jellies, a huge string of sausages and a Benny Hill chase! Our audience laughed along with us enjoying the complimentary marshmallows thrown at them!

The New Year brought a change in direction for us – puppet making! Anna took the lead after attending a puppet making and operating course last summer in Brighton. This was hugely successful culminating in some brilliant creations. It meant that when we went into lockdown, the group were able to continue their work with puppets via online weekly meetings. Our puppet sessions lasted until the end of May when we decided to have a change and look at writing our own duologues, which we did and performed at the Converge Open Mic event at the beginning of June.

We continued to meet weekly until the end of July when we went into our summer break.



ACCOUNTS

1 September 2019-31st
August 2020

Please see attached document for Independent
Examiner's report and signed accounts



Photograph by Jackson Portraiture



Out of Character on stage at York Theatre Royal-
Photograph by Jackson Portraiture



In the Moment on stage at York St. John University



outofcharactertheatre.squarespace.com
Registered Charity (1161399)

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended

31st August 2020

outsourcing

Out of Character

(Charity Number: 1161399)

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Charity information

From: 01 September 2019 **To:** 31 August 2020

Charity's full name Out of Character

Registered Charity number 1161399

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document Constitution

How the charity is constituted CIO

Trustee selection methods including All trustees and postholders are elected at the AGM

Reference and administration details

Charity's full name Out of Character

Other names the charity is known by N/A

Charity's principal address 165 Haxby Road
York

Postcode YO31 8JL


Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Juliet Forster	Chair		
Nick Rowe	Treasurer		
Christie Barnes			
Matthew Harper			
Simon Newton			

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the accompanying Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature 
Full Name Juliet Forster

Position Chair of Trustees

Date

28.1.2021

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of UK Friends of Khwendo Kor

I report on the accounts of: **Out of Character**
for the year ended: **31st August 2020** which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

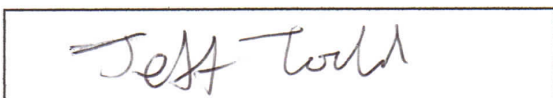
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

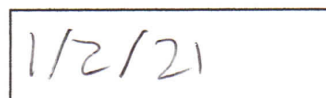
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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 except that the prior year's accounts presented as comparative



Jeff Todd (FCA)
Outsource independent examination
services
The Hiscox Building
Peasholme Green
York YO1 7PR



Date:

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:		31st August 2020		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total funds	2019 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	25,994	2,031	28,025	25,932
Donations	1,687	-	1,687	731
Events	3,095	-	3,095	-
Total receipts	30,776	2,031	32,807	26,663
Payments				
Artistic directors	7,599	1,600	9,199	12,126
Assistant Direction	3,760	431	4,191	5,754
Performers	982	-	982	6,290
Pension payments	794	-	794	389
York Theatre Royal show	5,431	-	5,431	
Playwriting	3,105	-	3,105	
Travel & accomodation	532	-	532	2,074
Refreshments	422	-	422	1,998
Design	350	-	350	100
Simulated admin	294	-	294	227
Technician	200	-	200	775
Music for show	200	-	200	
Website	143	-	143	164
Printing & tickets	130	-	130	273
General and administration	126	-	126	2,537
Gifts	51	-	51	21
Props	15	-	15	477
Total payments	24,134	2,031	26,165	33,205
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,642	-	6,642	(6,543)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	2,502	-	2,502	9,045
Balance carried forward	9,144	-	9,144	2,502

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:		31st August 2020		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total funds	2019 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	9,104	-	9,104	2,343
Petty cash	40	-	40	159
	<u>9,144</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,144</u>	<u>2,502</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total Funds	2019 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Liabilities				
Independent Examination fee	280	-	280	-
	<u>280</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>-</u>

Out of Character
(Charity Number: 1161399)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:

31st August 2020

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

2. Analysis of Funds

2.1 Details of restricted funds

Multiple Complex Needs Network

Purpose

To finance performance at multiple complex needs conference

2.2 Movement of major funds

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/fwd £
Unrestricted Funds					
General unrestricted funds	2,502	30,776	24,134	-	9,144
	<u>2,502</u>	<u>30,776</u>	<u>24,134</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,144</u>
Restricted Funds					
Multiple Complex Needs	-	2,031	2,031	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,031</u>	<u>2,031</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u><u>2,502</u></u>	<u><u>32,807</u></u>	<u><u>26,165</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>9,144</u></u>


Approval of Accounts for the year ended: 31st August 2020

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

28 January 2021

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:



Signature

Nick Rowe

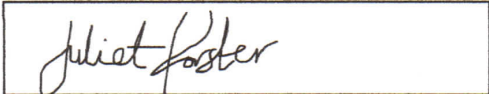
Name

Treasurer

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

28.1.21

Date



Signature

Juliet Forster

Name

Chair

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

28.1.21

Date

Text