

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

England & Wales · Charity number 1162410

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	08120254
Registered	2015-06-25
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	9a Peploe Road London NW6 6EB
Phone	02089600602
Email	thechildrensbookshow@gmail.com
Website	www.thechildrensbookshow.com

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF PUPILS AT SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE SUBJECT OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.

Activities: The Children's Bookshow Limited continues to provide children with education in the art of literature. The charity organises 'The National Tour of Writers and Illustrators of Children's Literature' which covers 15 theatre performances and 60 in-school workshops across the United Kingdom and continues to prove popular every financial year.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£213,711	£208,888	-	-
2024-03-31	£210,017	£208,313	-	-
2023-03-31	£171,814	£187,108	-	-
2022-03-31	£175,278	£168,110	-	-
2021-03-31	£146,195	£151,958	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Claire Boulton	Chair	2020-04-01
Errol Daly Lloyd		2021-07-14
Kate Arafa		2016-03-07
Robina Pelham Burn		2019-10-16
SIAN WILLIAMS		2016-03-07
Shoshannah Thompson		2017-03-28
Sinead Salatchi Naidoo		2021-07-14

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

England & Wales - Charity number 1162410

Accounts

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

ACCOUNTS for the
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

Charity No. 1,162,410

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRUSTEES	Mrs Katherine J Arafa Ms Claire Boulton Mr Errol Lloyd Ms Sinead Naidoo Ms Robina Pelham Burn Mr David Potter Ms Shoshannah Thompson Ms M Siân Williams
REGISTERED OFFICE	9a Peploe Road London NW6 6EB
CHARITY NO.	1,162,410
COMPANY NO.	8,120,254 (England and Wales)
ACCOUNTANTS	John D Kilby & Co Chartered Accountants Mutfords Hare Street Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0ED
BANKERS	Co-Operative Bank plc Business Direct PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their report, together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2025. The trustees confirm that the annual report and accounts of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Objectives and activities

The Children's Bookshow gives primary school children the benefits of reading and the joy of books. We do this by bringing thousands of children to their local theatre, library or their classroom's big screen, to experience some of the best illustrators, authors, poets and storytellers from around the world performing their work and talking about how they create their books.

Evidence shows that children who engage in an author visit are more likely to enjoy reading and those who own books and read for pleasure do better at school, have higher levels of mental well being, and are more confident to support their own children's learning in the future. Yet, research by the National Literacy Trust in 2024 finds that children's reading enjoyment has fallen to its lowest level in two decades and only one in three children say that they enjoy reading in their free time.

At The Children's Bookshow we are working hard to address this decline by bringing the joy of reading to thousands of primary school children who come to our programme of live theatre performances, to experience some of the best authors and illustrators from around the world performing their work and talking about how they create their books.

Following the performances, every child attending the theatre receives a free copy of the artist's book to take home and keep, and a targeted cohort of children participate in free, artist-led workshops in their own schools.

We select the best authors, illustrators and poets from the UK and around the world. We introduce international artists, whom we bring from countries ranging from Japan and the US to Europe, to our audience of children and their teachers. Celebrating international literature, including in translation, and the work of artists of colour is at the heart of what we do.

From our inception in 2003, we have built partnerships with major theatres throughout England. We are the only national children's literature organisation touring work to large scale venues. We are based in London but 87% of our work in 2024/25 took place outside the capital. Our team of place-based freelancers is located across the country, with the majority in regions outside London ranging from Sheffield to Devon.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed potential risks to the charity and taken action to put into place systems to mitigate those risks. Over the year the trustees will be reviewing and revising its policies regarding business risks, financial risks, health and safety risks and other identifiable risks.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the The Children's Bookshow. All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. The trustees who held office during the year to 31st March 2025 and up to the date of this report were;

Mrs Katherine J Arafa
Ms Claire Boulton
Mr Errol Lloyd
Ms Sinead Naidoo
Ms Robina Pelham Burn
Mr David Potter
Ms Shoshannah Thompson
Ms M Siân Williams

Achievements and performance

National Autumn Tour 2024:

Venue	Artist	Date
Buckinghamshire The Stables	Al Rodin	Thursday 26th September
Wolverhampton Grand	Owen Sheers and Helen Stephens	Wednesday 2nd October
Exeter Northcott	Kate Wakeling and Elina Braslina	Monday 7th October
Newcastle Theatre Royal	Valerie Bloom	Wednesday 9th October
London Old Vic	Kwame Alexander	Tuesday 15th October
Ipswich New Wolsey	Ele Fountain	Thursday 17th October
Hull New Theatre	Sydney Smith	Tuesday 22nd October
London Southbank	Sydney Smith	Friday 25th October
Warwick Arts Centre	SF Said	Tuesday 5th November
Portsmouth New Theatre Royal	Sam Usher	Tuesday 12th November
Peterborough New Theatre	Frank Cottrell-Boyce	Thursday 14th November
Blackpool Grand	Michael Rosen	Monday 18th November
Bristol Old Vic	Catherine Johnson	Wednesday 20th November
London L'Institut Français	Beatrice Rodriguez	Thursday 21st November

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

There were so many highlights from our autumn tour: children watched spellbound as award-winning Canadian author and illustrator Sydney Smith painted live on stage to a city soundscape at Hull New Theatre; Catherine Johnson fascinated children at Bristol Old Vic with the story of Matthew Henson, who was one of the first men to reach the North Pole, but has been airbrushed out of history because of the colour of his skin; and US poet and educator Kwame Alexander brought the house down with his poetry performance at the Old Vic in London for over 850 children. A vital part of our work is to give children their own copy of the author's book to share with their families and friends, and return to again and again.

Thanks to funding from Unwin Trust and Old Possum's Practical Trust we were able to give every child in our audiences a free book again this year. Handing a book out to every child is a marvellous experience for our Bookshow authors and team; a moment to see the benefit of our hard work and feel the delight of the children participating.

The National Literacy Trust found that book ownership relates directly to children's ability to read and reported enjoyment of reading. By giving every child a book, we open up the possibility of children sharing the book with their family, helping to instill a culture of reading at home.

Teachers' feedback reveals that The Children's Bookshow tour delivered transformative experiences through three primary areas of impact:

1. Enthusiasm for reading

Attending engaging in-theatre events sparks enthusiasm for reading among pupils across the board. Teachers consistently reported increased engagement with books and reading as a result of attending a tour event, with many pupils expressing excitement about meeting the artists, and getting repeated value from their free books.

"We had a 40 minute bus journey home and the children read the poems out loud to one another all of the way home!"

"One boy was literally jumping up and down at the end of the session saying 'I'm so happy, I love the book and I got to meet the author!' He's not someone who usually enjoys reading particularly."

2. Creative expression and confidence

Working directly with authors in schools has the power to transform pupils' approach to creative writing and artistic expression. Many teachers reported that children who normally hesitate to participate found their voice in our author workshops, gaining more confidence in their creative abilities.

"Catherine was very inspiring and inclusive, giving children from different backgrounds the sense that they have a voice and can tell stories that are important to them."

"SF Said's approach to editing and redrafting has made us rethink how we teach story writing. The way he encouraged the students to write freely made it accessible and successful for everyone."

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

3. Meaningful cultural experience

For many students, attending a Children's Bookshow event represents a significant cultural first – from visiting a theatre to meeting a professional author. Teachers valued the diversity of the cultural connections represented by our authors, and the opportunity to create inclusive learning experiences.

“The rich cultural links Valerie spoke about in Jamaica, how she taught some of the children Jamaican words/phrases”

“Hearing the journey to becoming an author (and how it isn't always for people who are successful and able writers from a young age)”

“The children really connected with the style of writing and have discovered a different genre of writing which appeals to their age/culture/background.”

Digital performances

To celebrate World Book Day in March 2025 we programmed an online, digital performance with Michael Rosen, which provided a wider range of schools across the UK and even internationally with an engaging, fun and interactive free author event. Having previously tried out various models on World Book Day, we have found that removing the cost barrier increases access for a wider and larger audience, and complements World Book Day's charitable mission.

Michael Rosen suggested a new format to his show to make it more interactive with his audience. The Michael Rosen Request Show took requests for particular poems from schools in advance of the performance and proved to be very popular. 3,500 schools registered and 2,797 schools watched the performance on the day. We live-streamed the show to YouTube enabling schools to watch the event at a later date convenient to them. Our teacher evaluation showed that 30–250 children watched per login, so we can confidently say that this online performance reached more than 100,000 children.

“So many of my children went off to look for Michael Rosen books in our library and at home. Several came back to school the next day reciting the poems they had learned by heart!”

“Over World Book Day, we looked at Michael's poems and concentrated on ‘Strict’ as part of their English unit on performance poetry. The children all wrote their own versions and seeing Michael live perform his poems was just the icing on the (chocolate) cake!”

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Library performances

We worked in partnership with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), based in Thetford, and Thetford Library Service to bring an exciting programme of story-telling, creativity and conservation to Year 3 children in Thetford. The project was designed to encourage children to learn about the birds in their local area and the importance of conservation, as well as celebrating the joy of reading and books and getting creative in the classroom.

BTO's Director of Engagement Ieuan Evans visited each school to deliver an inspiring assembly about the wonder of birds and the importance of protecting them, and BTO gave each school a bird nesting box, a feeder and an identification kit for their school playground to inspire the next generation of bird enthusiasts.

Ieuan Evans was *"delighted to support this fantastic initiative in our hometown of Thetford to both promote the enjoyment of reading and inspire children about the wonder of birds and the value of nature."*

As part of this project, five primary schools in Thetford were invited to bring their Year 3 classes to see author/illustrators Neal Layton and Helen Stephens perform at The Carnegie theatre on Monday 28th April. Neal and Helen read their stories, talked about the importance of conservation, answered children's questions and drew live for the mesmerised audience. At the end of the show Neal and Helen drew a branch on a long scroll of paper and invited three budding artists onto the stage to draw an animal onto the branch while the rest of the audience guessed what they were drawing!

Following the performance Neal and Helen visited each class who came to the show. Neal got the children making birds out of collage materials; they made ducks, geese, blue tits and sparrows. Helen brought sticks collected from her local beach in Northumberland, which children dipped in pots of ink and used to paint an owl. The results were full of character. Neal and Helen then spent the morning in Thetford library arranging an exhibition of all the children's work.

Children and their families were then invited to the library to see their bird on display.

Kaleigh Garrod at Norfolk Library Service said: *"We've been delighted to host this striking display of work created by local Year 3 children, inspired by their sessions with Neal Layton and Helen Stephens. It's been a fantastic opportunity to welcome new visitors to the library, gain new members, and showcase what we offer as a service. The project has strengthened our partnerships with schools, cultural organisations, and authors, while also celebrating the creativity of Thetford's young people and the nature in our town. It's been a joy to see families coming in to share in their children's achievements."*

Every child who participated in this project received a free copy of a book: either Neal Layton's *The Tree*, or Helen Stephens' picture book *Saving Mr Hoot*.

Alongside this project, we ran a local competition to design a bookmark with a picture of a bird on one side and an environmental call to action on the other side. The competition was open to Year 3 children across the country and we received lots of entries. The winner received bookmarks to give to every child in their school, as well as bird feeding and nesting equipment and 10 books about the environment and conservation chosen by The Children's Bookshow for their school.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

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Competition and Resources

Our national competition also focused on birds by asking children to draw and write about their favourite bird. The competition was judged by author and illustrator Sam Usher. The winner won £200 worth of books for her school and a trip to London to meet Michael Rosen at the Discover Children's Story Centre. The winner and her family were delighted with this opportunity!

We continued to design and create a range of resources linked to the books on our tour, offering teachers a way of deepening the experience of attending our theatre performances by engaging their pupils with creative activities in class after the show. The resources are available to download from our website.

Conclusion

It was another highly successful year for The Children's Bookshow. We delivered our programme of activities in 14 prestigious venues across the country and ran 54 creative workshops in schools. A third (five of the 15 venues) were in Arts Council Priority Places, areas that have been identified as having low cultural investment and engagement. Nearly three-quarters (72%) of the schools that received a free, creative workshop had above average levels of children receiving Pupil Premium. We are reaching children from areas of high deprivation with low levels of cultural activity on offer. We were delighted with the feedback from teachers confirming the impact that our work has on children in their classes. We are delivering our objectives:

- providing children and teachers with a rich experience of literature,
- increasing engagement and enjoyment of reading within the classroom and at home,
- introducing children to the creative process and building confidence in their own creative endeavours,
- putting free books directly into the hands of children to create a buzz about reading.

We look forward to the coming year.

Financial Review

Incoming resources were £213,711 (2024 - £210,017) and resources expended were £208,888 (2024 - £208,313). The surplus for the year was £4,823 (2024 – £1,704). No member of staff was paid more than £28,050 for the year covered by these accounts.

Principal income sources are NPO funding from the Arts Council England and contributions from publishers, cultural institutions and trusts, along with fundraising income from donations.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, making due allowance for a period of shutdown due to the coronavirus. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Future Plans

We will continue to:

- introduce children to world-class authors and illustrators through a programme of live theatre events and in-school workshops
- provide children and teachers with a rich experience of literature, that will help to inspire interest in reading and writing, increasing engagement and enjoyment of reading both within the classroom and at home
- introduce children to the creative process and to build confidence in their own creative endeavours
- give children the experience of seeing an artist talk about their book and work live on stage, as well as the opportunity to visit a theatre
- get free books into the hands of children and to create a buzz about reading

We aim to bring our work to areas of high deprivation and where there is a low level of cultural activity on offer, widening the opportunity for children to experience cultural excellence in their local area. By touring to areas where audiences are underserved we will widen access to our programme.

In 2025 we aim to:

- reach a total audience of 7,500 children and their teachers across 13 venues
- achieve 90% capacity audiences across all venues
- 50% of our programme will celebrate the work of international artists and artists of colour
- 31% of our autumn programme will occur in Priority/Levelling up for Culture Places.
- 65% of schools that receive a free author workshop will have above average levels (25%) of children receiving Pupil Premium.

Fundraising

As an Arts Council England National Portfolio organisation we have core funding confirmed until 2027. This means that we can continue to bring the very best authors and illustrators to children and their teachers across the country.

With substantial funding from Unwin Charitable Trust towards the core costs of delivering our work, we have been able to raise the daily rates for our artists and our team as well as helping us to weather the rise in costs of touring including increased hotel and travel expenditure. This funding is in place until 2027 and The Children's Bookshow is so grateful for this continued support and recognition of the work that we do.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Continued financial sustainability with modest year-on-year growth is crucial for us to fulfill our charitable objectives and aspirations for the future: to give more primary school children the invaluable experience of a live author event at a local theatre, provide more opportunities for children to work creatively with a world class artist in their own classroom, and increase book ownership by putting a free book into the hands of every child that attends one of our performances.

To do this we are working as a team with support from our Board to develop our fundraising strategy.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain at least a minimum level of reserves as recommended by the Charity Commission, and to keep sufficient restricted funds in order to see these funded projects to their conclusion.

	2025	2024
	-----	-----
Unrestricted funds	£ 12,301	£ 7,478
Restricted funds	-	-
	-----	-----
	£ 12,301	£ 7,478
	-----	-----

Structure, governance and management

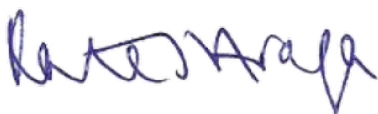
The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated and constituted under Articles of Association, registered number 8,120,254. It is an English registered charity, number 1,162,410.

The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. Additional trustees may be co-opted by the existing trustees as they deem advisable from time to time, and then stand for election as required by the Articles of Association.

Reference and administrative details can be found on page 1 of the accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in the Charities Act 2011.

Approved by the Trustees on 25th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Katherine Arafa
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT
EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Children's Bookshow Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 11 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the "2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.


Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS102).

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.

Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED


John D Kilby & Co
Chartered Accountants

25th June 2025

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
incorporating the
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	Note	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2025	2024
		-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	£ 144,255	£ 24,676	£ 168,931	£ 160,446
Activities for generating funds	3	32,480	-	32,480	48,166
Investment Income		12,300	-	12,300	1,405
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		£ 189,035	£ 24,676	£ 213,711	£ 210,017
		-----	-----	-----	-----
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities	4	177,603	24,676	202,279	201,294
Governance Costs	5	6,609	-	6,609	7,019
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Expended		£ 184,212	£ 24,676	£ 208,888	£ 208,313
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources for the year		4,823	-	4,823	1,704
Funds Brought Forward		7,478	-	7,478	5,774
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds Carried Forward		£ 12,301	£ -	£ 12,301	£ 7,478
		-----	-----	-----	-----

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET
31st MARCH 2025

	note	2025	2024
	-----	-----	-----
FIXED ASSETS		£ nil	£ nil
CURRENT ASSETS			
debtors	6	£ 6,809	£ 2,851
bank balance		296,904	364,147
		-----	-----
		303,713	366,998
CREDITORS - amounts			
falling due within one year	7	96,312	93,620
		-----	-----
Net current assets		207,401	273,378
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS less current liabilities		207,401	273,378
CREDITORS - amounts falling			
due after one year	8	195,100	265,900
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS		£ 12,301	£ 7,478
		-----	-----
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	9	12,301	7,478
Restricted funds	10	-	-
		-----	-----
		£ 12,301	£ 7,478
		-----	-----

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

Trustees' Responsibilities:

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 25th June 2025 and signed on its behalf:

Katherine Arafa
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2025

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015), UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

b. Income

Incoming resources are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy except for donations and investment income which are credited as income when received.

c. Resources expended

All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis. The irrecoverable element of Value Added Tax is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Depreciation is allocated to expenditure headings on the basis of the use of the assets concerned.

d. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company did not own any fixed assets during the year.

e. Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

f. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2. Voluntary Income

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2025	2024
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Arts Council Grant	£ 68,313	£ -	£ 68,313	£ 68,313
Publishers Contributions	5,118	-	5,118	3,275
Unwin Trust	67,822	12,178	80,000	45,000
Cultural Institutes	-	-	-	1,500
Charitable Grant	-	-	-	2,358
The Foyle Foundation	-	-	-	20,000
Old Possum's Practical Trust	2,502	12,498	15,000	20,000
Donations	500	-	500	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 144,255	£ 24,676	£ 168,931	£ 160,446
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2025

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2025	2024
	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Activities for Generating Funds				
Venues	£ 32,440	£ -	£ 32,440	£ 37,436
Digital Events	40	-	40	10,730
Fundraising	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 32,480	£ -	£ 32,480	£ 48,166
	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. Cost of Charitable Activities				
<u>Artistic Expenditure</u>				
Writers fees - theatres	£ 10,030	£ -	£ 10,030	£ 10,451
Writers fees - schools	24,190	-	24,190	22,400
Writers accommodation - theatre	2,542	-	2,542	1,390
Writers travel - theatre	3,071	-	3,071	3,264
Writers accommodation - schools	2,431	-	2,431	2,568
Writers travel - schools	889	-	889	514
Writers insurance	530	-	530	530
Organisers travel and subsistence	4,214	-	4,214	3,789
Organisers accommodation	3,320	-	3,320	3,928
Live streaming services	-	-	-	688
<u>Administrative Expenditure</u>				
Co-organisers fees	71,082	-	71,082	76,956
Admin and production fees	24,357	-	24,357	25,309
Evaluator	-	-	-	-
<u>Marketing</u>				
Sales and marketing	27,707	-	27,707	19,556
Printing and distribution	1,519	-	1,519	1,537
Electronic mailing	723	-	723	698
Stationery	80	-	80	168
Website maintenance	442	-	442	303
Staff fundraising costs	-	-	-	722
Workshop materials for schools	476	-	476	378
Acquisition texts for schools	-	24,676	24,676	26,145
Less school books for resale	-	-	-	(-)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 177,603	£ 24,676	£ 202,279	£ 201,294
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2025

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2025	2024
	-----	-----	-----	-----
5. Governance Costs				
Accountancy	£ 1,960	£ -	£ 1,960	£ 1,873
Travel	313	-	313	267
Postage	116	-	116	170
Video streaming	388	-	388	292
Meetings and subsistence	2,231	-	2,231	1,620
Bank charges	184	-	184	263
Carbon offsetting	200	-	200	200
Competition costs	977	-	977	1,385
General/contingency	240	-	240	949
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 6,609	£ -	£ 6,609	£ 7,019
	-----	-----	-----	-----
6. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year				
Grants outstanding			£ -	£ -
Other debtors			6,809	2,851
			-----	-----
			£ 6,809	£ 2,851
			-----	-----
7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals			£ 16,312	£ 4,420
Income in advance			80,000	89,200
			-----	-----
			£ 96,312	£ 93,620
			-----	-----
8. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year				
Income in advance			£ 195,100	£ 265,900
			-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31st March 2025

9. Unrestricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity, not including restricted funds, comprise of the following unexpended balances of donations and grants:

	Balance 1 Apr 24	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 25
	-----	-----	-----	-----
General Fund	£ 7,478	£ 189,035	£ 184,212	£ 12,301
	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. Restricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held in trust to be applied for specific purposes:

	Balance 1 Apr 24	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 25
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Unwin Trust	£ -	£ 12,178	£ 12,178	£ -
Old Possum	-	12,498	12,498	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ -	£ 24,676	£ 24,676	£ -
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

England & Wales - Charity number 1162410

Accounts

THE CHILDREN'S
BOOKSHOW LIMITED

ACCOUNTS for the
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Charity No. 1,162,410

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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1	General information
2 - 8	Report of the trustees
9	Report of the independent examiner
10	Statement of financial activities
11	Balance sheet
12 - 15	Notes forming part of the accounts

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRUSTEES	Mrs Katherine J Arafa Ms Claire Boulton Mr Errol Lloyd Ms Sinead Naidoo Ms Robina Pelham Burn Mr David Potter Ms Shoshannah Thompson Ms M Siân Williams
REGISTERED OFFICE	9a Peploe Road London NW6 6EB
CHARITY NO.	1,162,410
COMPANY NO.	8,120,254 (England and Wales)
ACCOUNTANTS	John D Kilby & Co Chartered Accountants Mutfords Hare Street Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0ED
BANKERS	Co-Operative Bank plc Business Direct PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their report, together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2024. The trustees confirm that the annual report and accounts of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Objectives and activities

The Children's Bookshow gives primary school children the benefits of reading and the joy of books. We do this by bringing thousands of children to their local theatre, library or their classroom's big screen, to experience some of the best illustrators, authors, poets and storytellers from around the world performing their work and talking about how they create their books.

Following the performances children participate in artist-led workshops in their own schools and each child attending a theatre or library show receives a free copy of the artist's book to take home and keep.

Our own evidence, and that from across the sector, shows that children who have an author visit are more likely to enjoy reading, and those who own books and read for pleasure do better at school, have higher levels of mental wellbeing and are more confident to support their own children's learning in the future.

We select authors, illustrators and poets because of their excellence. We introduce our audience of children and their teachers to international artists who often have high profiles in their home countries but may be less well known in the UK. International literature and celebrating the work of artists of colour is at the heart of what we do.

From our inception in 2003, we have built national partnerships with major theatres throughout the UK. We are the only children's literature organisation touring work to large scale venues nationally. We are based in London but 86% of our work takes place outside. Our team of freelancers are based across the country; 22% in London and 78% in areas ranging from Sheffield to Devon.

"The Children's Bookshow is a truly inspirational charity" Ele Fountain, author

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed potential risks to the charity and taken action to put into place systems to mitigate those risks. Over the year the trustees will be reviewing and revising its policies regarding business risks, financial risks, health and safety risks and other identifiable risks.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the The Children's Bookshow. All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. The trustees who held office during the year to 31st March 2024 were;

Mrs Katherine J Arafa
Ms Claire Boulton
Mr Errol Lloyd
Ms Sinead Naidoo
Ms Robina Pelham Burn
Mr David Potter
Ms Shoshannah Thompson
Ms M Siân Williams

Achievements and performance

National Autumn Tour 2023:

Our national tour started with a dynamic and thought-provoking performance from author Ele Fountain at The Bloomsbury Theatre in London and finished at Insititut Francais in London with a performance from another master storyteller, Anna Woltz from the Netherlands, the author of the brilliant novel *Talking to Alaska*.

In between, we went to 13 theatres across the country ranging from the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to the Grand in Wolverhampton and the Northcott in Exeter. We delivered brilliant performances by poets, authors, storytellers and illustrators ranging from Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Jan Blake, John Agard, Satoshi Kitamura and Marta Altes. Each performance was unique and fascinating, helping children to engage with books and reading.

We achieved 96% capacity audiences across all theatres. 8801 children and their teachers attended our performances from 134 schools. Feedback from teachers showed that our work helps to create a buzz about books and reading in schools:

"Year 6 children were ecstatic to welcome Ele Fountain to Brecknock and have her share her writing process. Not only do they love Ele's books, but they are buzzing about the stories they created in her workshop."
Brecknock Primary school, London 2023

"It has been a crucial part of our reading for pleasure curriculum." Highlands Primary School, Hull

"The Library has noticed an increase in poetry borrowed and the content will nicely lead on to further learning topics next term." Dame Allans, Newcastle

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Behind the scenes, our team faced challenges in delivering our programme of events mainly due to train strikes which caused logistical difficulties in getting authors and our team around the country to the various performances and workshops. The strikes caused chaos to our tour scheduling and resulted in days of additional administration and associated costs to change train bookings and reschedule.

Thanks to funding from Unwin Trust and Old Possum's Practical Trust we were able again this year to give every child in our audiences a free book to take home and keep. Handing a book out to every child is a marvellous experience for our Bookshow team as it is a moment when we really get to see the benefit of all our hard work and feel the excitement and delight of the children participating.

The National Literacy Trust found that book ownership relates directly to children's ability to read and reported enjoyment of reading. By giving every child a book we open up the possibility of children sharing the book with their family, helping to improve a culture of reading at home. When asked whether teachers perceived that children had shared the book at home representative responses include:

"They were sharing their thoughts on the book after the event and sharing what they had read. They enjoyed that they had their own copy to take home and read, and it was a personal connection to the text as they had seen the author and heard her talk about the text firsthand."

"I've had lots of reading records stating the children chose to read their new book as well as their home reader. Also had pictures from parents of their children reading their new books on the way home."

Our programme of 52 workshops in schools gave children the chance to express and develop their own creativity by working collaboratively with a world class artist. Our artists' wealth of experience, their rich cultural lives and their capacity to innovate, feed the creative and cultural lives of the children participating. Whether they are assuming the role of an illustrator or creating a class poem, our workshops engage children with literature on a deep level and increases their confidence in working creatively. Feedback from teachers highlighted how valuable it is for children to see an author on the stage of a large and impressive theatre and then have the opportunity to work with them in their own classroom. Teachers felt that this in itself was a valuable experience and helped to raise aspirations.

1571 children participated in a workshop and lots of lovely creative work was produced. 100% of teachers who responded to our questionnaire in 2023 said that the workshop increased children's engagement with the book and increased children's confidence in working creatively.

"A forever moment and memory. I was very grateful that Benji and Natalie were so flexible to the point that the KSI children had a special Story Escape assembly moment. We have saved Benji's drawings and kept them in our special reading book of memories."

"Really brought the session to life. It raised aspirations working with a real author"

"It made it real to the children. They were comfortable in their setting and saw a renowned author in their space - not on a screen - it becomes more real and something they can aspire to do. This is a memory they will always hold. It was so simple in nature and equally great. Encouraged the children's writing and let them ask questions."

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Digital Performances

To celebrate World Book Day in March 2024 we programmed two digital performances aiming to provide schools across the country with an engaging, fun and interactive author event that is affordable.

We were thrilled to deliver our first ever live stream to schools across the country and some in Europe. Schools joined from Spain, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Slovenia. Michael Rosen performed his Big 50 Year Show to a sell out audience at The New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich. This performance celebrated 50 years of Michael on the road sharing poems and talking to children about poetry and writing and 50 years since the publication of his very first book, *Mind Your Own Business!* In partnership with Warehouse Digital, The Children's Bookshow streamed this performance live to an estimated audience of over 64,000 children and a further 1,260 watched the replay at a later date. This was a great success.

We also delivered a live digital performance on the platform Crowdcast with the author illustrator Helen Stephens celebrating her new book *Smelly Peggy!* An estimated audience of over 25,000 children watched this event and the comments from teachers highlighted how much children loved listening to the story being read and watching Helen draw live.

"Thank you to @ChildrensBkShow for a fantastic live event with the wonderful Helen Stephens. The children loved listening to her fantastic stories and joining in with her amazing illustrations. You made it a fantastic #WorldBookDay for all of our children in KSI" Broomwood primary Manchester

Library performances

We delivered another new project in Spring 2024 this time in collaboration with libraries in Arts Council Priority Places, areas in the country that have low levels of participation in cultural activities. We chose to work with the library service in Rotherham and Portsmouth.

In Rotherham we organised two days of work featuring a performance on each day for two schools with the author and illustrator Catherine Rayner followed by two in-school creative workshops. The work produced in these sessions was then included in an exhibition at the library with the aim of encouraging children back into the library with their families to see their work on display. With Catherine's help children created vibrant Arlo the lion pictures using collage displayed their work in an attractive exhibition.

In Portsmouth the project followed a similar structure but this time was focused on the environment and conservation and was organised in collaboration with the library service and the British Trust for Ornithology. Neal Layton gave a performance at Portsmouth Central Library in which he shared his stories and how he creates his work but also talked about the magic of trees, birds and how children can help to protect the environment and habitats in their local area. Children loved looking at the beautiful blackbird's nest he brought in to show them. In the four creative workshops in local schools Neal got each class making a different local garden bird out of collage, which then went on display at the Central Library. The British Trust for Ornithology provided each school with bird feeders, bird identification kits and bird seed which was a wonderful legacy for the project.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Competition

The winner of our 2023 competition was delighted to receive a trip to London to meet poet Owen Sheers at the Natural History Museum and £200 of books for their school library. Six runners up received signed copies of Owen Sheers' picture book *Drew Moo and Bunny Too*.

Resources

We developed engaging resources and creative activities relating to each book celebrated in the national autumn tour. These resources were devised by one of our team who is also a teacher and were designed to be used in class or at home. All the activities provided a creative way of exploring in greater depth the free book that each child received.

Conclusion

It was another successful year for The Children's Bookshow. We delivered our project to thirteen prestigious venues across the country, organised workshops with 52 classes of children, ran in depth projects with two library services in Priority Places and produced our first ever live stream of Michael Rosen's Big 50 Year Show on World Book Day. We worked with authors and illustrators from Japan, Latvia and The Netherlands. Increased funding from Unwin Charitable Trust has secured our future for the next few years, allowing us to begin to plan further ahead. We are looking forward to creating an excellent and diverse programme over the coming years to delight and inspire school children across the country, bringing them the joy of reading and books.

Financial Review

Incoming resources were £210,017 (2023 - £171,814) and resources expended were £208,313 (2023 - £187,108). The surplus for the year was £1,704 (2023 – deficit £15,294 which related to funds received in 2022 and expended in 2023). No member of staff was paid more than £28,620 for the year covered by these accounts.

Principal income sources are NPO funding from the Arts Council England and contributions from publishers, cultural institutions and trusts, along with fundraising income from donations.

Future plans

From the outset, The Children's Bookshow has embraced a rich variety of talent with artists of colour, artists in translation, and young and upcoming artists as well as household names such as Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake in its autumn tour to theatres and schools. In the next three years we shall build on our success and once again introduce both new unknown and established talent from the UK and abroad. In so doing, we shall promote the artists producing the best of contemporary children's literature to a wide audience.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

We intend to deliver performances in theatres across the country and workshops in schools in a variety of communities, embracing urban conurbations such as Manchester and Hull and rural areas such as Barnstaple and Warwick. We will extend our reach by working in areas where children are facing high levels of poverty, focusing on widening the opportunity for children to experience cultural excellence in their local area. By touring to areas where audiences are underserved we will widen access to our programme. We will be focusing on fundraising over the coming year aiming to build relationships with more Trusts and Foundations that will support our work and help us deliver our programme, bringing the joy of reading to children across the country.

Fundraising

Last year our funding was confirmed from Arts Council England for the next two years as one of their National Portfolio Organisations. This means that we can continue to bring the very best authors and illustrators to children and their teachers across the country.

We were thrilled to receive substantial funding from Unwin Charitable Trust towards the core costs of delivering our work, enabling us to raise the daily rates for our artists and our team as well as helping us to weather the rise in costs of touring including increased hotel and travel expenditure. This funding is in place until 2027 and The Children's Bookshow is so grateful for this continued support and recognition of the work that we do.

We were also delighted to receive a grant from Foyle Foundation supporting our work in 2023 and a grant from Sir James Knott Trust in support of our performance and workshops in Newcastle with John Agard.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain at least a minimum level of reserves as recommended by the Charity Commission, and to keep sufficient restricted funds in order to see these funded projects to their conclusion.

	2024	2023
	-----	-----
Unrestricted funds	£ 7,478	£ 5,774
Restricted funds	-	-
	-----	-----
	£ 7,478	£ 5,774
	-----	-----

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, making due allowance for a period of shutdown due to the coronavirus. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Structure, governance and management

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated and constituted under Articles of Association, registered number 8,120,254. It is an English registered charity, number 1,162,410.

The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. Additional trustees may be co-opted by the existing trustees as they deem advisable from time to time, and then stand for election as required by the Articles of Association.

Reference and administrative details can be found on page 1 of the accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in the Charities Act 2011.

Approved by the Trustees on 18th December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Children's Bookshow Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are set out on pages 10 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the "2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS102).

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.

Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED

John D Kilby & Co
Chartered Accountants

18th December 2024

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
 incorporating the
 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
 YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

	Note	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2024	2023
		-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	£ 130,800	£ 29,646	£ 160,446	£ 133,147
Activities for generating funds	3	48,166	-	48,166	38,661
Investment Income		1,405	-	1,405	6
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		£ 180,371	£ 29,646	£ 210,017	£ 171,814
		-----	-----	-----	-----
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities	4	171,648	29,646	201,294	181,434
Governance Costs	5	7,019	-	7,019	5,674
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Expended		£ 178,667	£ 29,646	£ 208,313	£ 187,108
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources for the year		1,704	-	1,704	(15,294)
Funds Brought Forward		5,774	-	5,774	21,068
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds Carried Forward		£ 7,478	£ -	£ 7,478	£ 5,774
		-----	-----	-----	-----

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET
31st MARCH 2024

	note -----	2024 -----	2023 -----
FIXED ASSETS		£ nil	£ nil
CURRENT ASSETS			
debtors	6	£ 2,851	£ 2,302
bank balance		364,147	156,965
		-----	-----
		366,998	159,267
CREDITORS - amounts			
falling due within one year	7	93,620	28,493
		-----	-----
Net current assets		273,378	130,774
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS less current liabilities		273,378	130,774
CREDITORS - amounts falling			
due after one year	8	265,900	125,000
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS		£ 7,478	£ 5,774
		-----	-----
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	9	7,478	5,774
Restricted funds	10	-	-
		-----	-----
		£ 7,478	£ 5,774
		-----	-----

For the year ended 31st March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' Responsibilities:

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 18th December 2024 and signed on its behalf:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2024

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015), UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

b. Income

Incoming resources are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy except for donations and investment income which are credited as income when received.

c. Resources expended

All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis. The irrecoverable element of Value Added Tax is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Depreciation is allocated to expenditure headings on the basis of the use of the assets concerned.

d. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company did not own any fixed assets during the year.

e. Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

f. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2. Voluntary Income

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2024	2023
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Arts Council Grant	£ 68,313	£ -	£ 68,313	£ 68,313
Publishers Contributions	3,275	-	3,275	5,600
Unwin Trust	31,505	13,495	45,000	36,772
Cultural Institutes	-	1,500	1,500	-
Charitable Grant	-	2,358	2,358	-
The Foyle Foundation	20,000	-	20,000	-
Old Possum's Practical Trust	7,707	12,293	20,000	20,000
Donations	-	-	-	2,462
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 130,800	£ 29,646	£ 160,446	£ 133,147
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2024

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2024	2023
	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Activities for Generating Funds				
Venues	£ 37,436	£ -	£ 37,436	£ 28,086
Digital Events	10,730	-	10,730	3,600
Fundraising	-	-	-	6,975
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 48,166	£ -	£ 48,166	£ 38,661
	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. Cost of Charitable Activities				
<u>Artistic Expenditure</u>				
Writers fees - theatres	£ 9,042	1,409	£ 10,451	£ 6,590
Writers fees - schools	21,900	500	22,400	18,575
Writers accommodation - theatre	1,257	133	1,390	2,081
Writers travel - theatre	2,192	1,072	3,264	4,875
Writers accommodation - schools	2,202	366	2,568	2,644
Writers travel - schools	493	21	514	1,078
Writers insurance	530	-	530	530
Organisers travel and subsistence	3,789	-	3,789	3,721
Organisers accommodation	3,928	-	3,928	2,248
Live streaming services	688	-	688	-
<u>Administrative Expenditure</u>				
Co-organisers fees	76,956	-	76,956	60,768
Admin and production fees	25,309	-	25,309	20,280
Evaluator	-	-	-	900
<u>Marketing</u>				
Sales and marketing	19,556	-	19,556	21,198
Printing and distribution	1,537	-	1,537	1,282
Electronic mailing	698	-	698	633
Stationery	168	-	168	276
Website maintenance	303	-	303	342
Staff fundraising costs	722	-	722	4,036
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	2,757
Workshop materials for schools	378	-	378	135
Acquisition texts for schools	-	26,145	26,145	26,610
Less school books for resale	-	-	-	(125)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 171,648	£ 29,646	£ 201,294	£ 181,434
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2024

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2024	2023
	-----	-----	-----	-----
5. Governance Costs				
Accountancy	£ 1,873	-	£ 1,873	£ 1,792
Travel	267	-	267	219
Postage	170	-	170	567
Video streaming	292	-	292	535
Meetings and subsistence	1,620	-	1,620	1,137
Bank charges	263	-	263	113
Carbon offsetting	200	-	200	-
Competition costs	1,385	-	1,385	-
General/contingency	949	-	949	1,311
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 7,019	£ -	£ 7,019	£ 5,674
	-----	-----	-----	-----
6. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year				
Grants outstanding			£ -	£ -
Other debtors			2,851	2,302
			-----	-----
			£ 2,851	£ 2,302
			-----	-----
7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals			£ 4,420	£ 3,493
Income in advance			89,200	25,000
			-----	-----
			£ 93,620	£ 28,493
			-----	-----
8. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year				
Income in advance			£ 265,900	£ 125,000
			-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31st March 2024

9. Unrestricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity, not including restricted funds, comprise of the following unexpended balances of donations and grants:

	Balance 1 Apr 23	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 24
	-----	-----	-----	-----
General Fund	£ 5,774	£ 180,371	£ 178,667	£ 7,478
	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. Restricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held in trust to be applied for specific purposes:

	Balance 1 Apr 23	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 24
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Unwin Trust	£ -	£ 13,497	£ 13,497	£ -
Old Possum	-	12,292	12,292	-
BTO	-	357	357	-
Japan Foundation	-	1,500	1,500	-
Knott Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ -	£ 29,646	£ 29,646	£ -
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

England & Wales - Charity number 1162410

Accounts

THE CHILDREN'S
BOOKSHOW LIMITED

ACCOUNTS for the
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Charity No. 1,162,410

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRUSTEES	Mrs Katherine J Arafa Ms Claire Boulton Mr Errol Lloyd Ms Sinead Naidoo Ms Robina Pelham Burn Mr David Potter Ms Shoshannah Thompson Ms M Siân Williams
REGISTERED OFFICE	9a Peploe Road London NW6 6EB
CHARITY NO.	1,162,410
COMPANY NO.	8,120,254 (England and Wales)
ACCOUNTANTS	John D Kilby & Co Chartered Accountants Mutfords Hare Street Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0ED
BANKERS	Co-Operative Bank plc Business Direct PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their report, together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2023. The trustees confirm that the annual report and accounts of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Objectives and activities

The Children's Bookshow is a charity that gives the joy of reading to children through an annual programme of theatre performances, in-school workshops and digital events with some of the best writers, poets, storytellers and illustrators. The artists selected are from a wide variety of countries and cultures to give children the opportunity to experience the best literature from around the world. The annual autumn tour is backed up by a series of schools workshops in which children work with inspiring, internationally acclaimed artists who help them to develop their own creative skills.

We know that children who have an author visit are more likely to enjoy reading and those who own books and read for pleasure do better at school, have higher levels of mental wellbeing and are more confident to support their own children's learning in the future. The Children's Bookshow gives school children the benefits of reading and the joy of books. We do this by bringing thousands of children to their local theatre, library or their classroom's big screen, to experience some of the best illustrators, authors, poets and storytellers from around the world performing their work and talking about how they create.

Following the performances children participate in artist led workshops in their own schools and each child attending a theatre or library show receives a free copy of the artist's book to take home and keep.

We select authors and illustrators because of their excellence. We introduce unknown international artists whom we bring from countries ranging from Japan to the US to Europe, to our audience of children and teachers. International literature and celebrating the work of artists of colour is at the heart of what we do.

From our inception in 2003, we have built national partnerships with major theatres throughout the UK. We are the only children's literature organisation touring work to large scale venues nationally. We are based in London but 86% of our work takes place outside. Our team of freelancers are based across the country; 50% in London and 50% in areas ranging from Sheffield to Devon.

"This is an organisation that schools and venues across England can trust to deliver transformative and immersive experiences that have the power to nurture a love of reading in young children." External Evaluation of Children's Bookshow programme 2022

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit as explained in more detail in the achievements and performance section below.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the The Children's Bookshow. All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. The trustees who held office during the year to 31st March 2023 were;

Mrs Katherine J Arafa
Ms Claire Boulton
Mr Errol Lloyd
Ms Sinead Naidoo
Ms Robina Pelham Burn
Mr David Potter
Ms Shoshannah Thompson
Ms M Siân Williams

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed potential risks to the charity and taken action to put into place systems to mitigate those risks. Over the year the trustees will be reviewing and revising its policies regarding business risks, financial risks, health and safety risks and other identifiable risks.

Achievements and performance

This year The Children's Bookshow celebrated our 20th anniversary. It was a time to look back and see what we have achieved over the last two decades, and forward to what we want to do in the years ahead. Over the last 20 years:

- **140,000** children have come to our performances.
- **30,000** children have worked creatively with an artist in their school.
- **50,000** children have received a free book to take home and keep.
- **Over 150,000** children have taken part in our live digital author performances.

To celebrate our 20th year we programmed a stellar cast for our national autumn tour, commissioned illustrator Alexis Deacon to create a 20th birthday logo, organised a party and an exhibition of some of the wonderful illustrators with whom we have worked over the last 20 years with our long term partner Institut francais, as well as offering two engaging live digital events for children on World Book Day with Frank Cottrell-Boyce and Yasmeen Ismail.

National Tour:

Our national tour started with a mesmerising performance by poet Valerie Bloom at The Shaw Theatre in London in late September, and finished at the end of November at Institut francais in London with award winning French author and illustrator François Place painting live on stage and talking about his life and work with translator Sarah Ardizzone.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

In between, we went to 13 theatres across the country ranging from the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to the Grand in Wolverhampton and the Queen's Theatre in Barnstaple. We delivered brilliant performances by poets, authors, storytellers and illustrators ranging from Frank Cottrell-Boyce to US authors Kwame Alexander and Jon Agee, and Catherine Rayner and Hilary McKay. Each performance was unique and fascinating, helping children to engage with books and reading.

We achieved 96% capacity audiences across all theatres and 11 out of 15 performances were completely sold out. 8,459 children and their teachers attended a performance. This was a return to our pre-pandemic success rate and we were delighted to see auditoriums packed with excited children again!

'Thank you so much for today the children are enthused, excited and wanting to become poets. It was brilliant!'
Bishop Road Primary, Bristol 2022

Behind the scenes, our team faced challenges in delivering our programme of events. Two artists were unable to perform due to illness but we were relieved and thrilled to be able to find two brilliant authors able to take their place at the last minute. The schools participating had a wonderful time and were grateful that the events and workshops could go ahead on the planned dates and times despite the change in artist.

Train strikes caused chaos to our tour planning and scheduling and resulted in days of additional admin and associated costs to change train bookings, re-do schedules and help artists find a way to get home. We did it though and despite some very difficult journeys we felt that our artists had a positive experience of working with The Children's Bookshow.

"The Children's Bookshow is the most organized, engaging, and inspirational book festival I've ever been a part of. The quality of venues mixed with the enthusiasm of the students is a writer's dream come true—we get to entertain hundreds of young readers who view us as rock stars. I've presented two years in a row, and I hope I get invited back a third time." Kwame Alexander 2022

Thanks to funding from Unwin Trust and Old Possum's Practical Trust we were able again this year to give every child in our audiences a free book to take home and keep. Handing a book out to every child is a marvelous experience for our Bookshow team as it is a moment when we really get to see the benefit of all our hard work and feel the excitement and delight of the children participating.

The National Literacy Trust found that book ownership relates directly to children's ability to read and reported enjoyment of reading. By giving every child a book we open up the possibility of children sharing the book with their family, helping to improve a culture of reading at home.

They loved getting their own book - I think this was a real highlight for them! Most of the class then went home and used it as their bedtime reading, sharing it with their family. By the sounds of it, they enjoyed doing the voices and used lots of expression!!' Wavendon Gate School, Milton Keynes 2022

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Our programme of 60 workshops in schools gave children the chance to express and develop their own creativity by working collaboratively with a world class artist. Our artists' wealth of experience, their rich cultural lives and their capacity to innovate, feeds the creative and cultural lives of the children participating. Whether they are assuming the role of an illustrator or creating a class poem, our workshops engage children with literature on a deep level and increases their confidence in working creatively. 1,779 children participated in a workshop and lots of lovely creative work was produced. 100% of teachers who responded to our questionnaire in 2022 said that the workshop had deepened the experience of attending the performance.

Digital performances

To celebrate World Book Day in March 2023, we programmed two performances for schools with author Frank Cottrell-Boyce for Key Stage 2, and author/illustrator Yasmeen Ismail for Key Stage 1. Our aim is to provide schools across the country with an engaging, fun and interactive author event that is affordable. Our performances worked out at a maximum cost of 30p per child taking part.

Teacher strikes were planned to take place on World Book Day and so we decided to move our performances to the day after. We also used a new version of the platform Crowdcast which had numerous technical problems that took time to iron out. Both of these situations had an effect on our ticket sales for these performances and we didn't reach quite as many children as 2022.

However, the performances were brilliant and schools that took part responded to say how much the children enjoyed the events. We reached a total of 14,337 children from across the country which is a great achievement.

Competition

For our 2022 competition we asked children to write a poem on the theme of The Environment and award winning poet Rachel Rooney was the judge. The prize was a trip to London to meet the brilliant poet and national treasure Michael Rosen in the National Poetry library, a signed copy of a poetry book from each of the poets in our 2022 tour and £200 of books for their school library.

Six runners up also won a copy of Michael Rosen's *Mustard, Custard, Grumble Belly and Gravy* and *On The Move: Poems about Migration*.

The judge was really impressed with all the entries but the overall winner was Cameron Martin aged 11 from Weymouth. Cameron loved meeting Michael at the Poetry library and talking about his poem and getting top tips on developing his writing. The competition and Cameron's experience of going to London and meeting Michael Rosen were all published in *The Week Junior*.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Resources

We developed engaging resources and creative activities relating to each book celebrated in the national autumn tour. These resources were devised by one of our team who is also a teacher and were designed to be used in class or at home. All the activities provided a creative way of exploring in greater depth the free book that each child received. In 2022, 52% of teachers who filled in our evaluation form had used the creative activities with their classes.

Exhibition, party and auction

As part of our 20th birthday celebrations we created an exhibition in collaboration with our long term partner Institut français which featured some of the wonderful illustrators with whom we have worked over the past two decades. With artists ranging from Satoshi Kitamura from Japan, Sydney Smith from Canada, François Place from France and UK based illustrators such as Catherine Rayner, Benji Davies and Yasmeen Ismail, this exhibition celebrated some of the great performances that The Children's Bookshow has staged over the last twenty years, as well as the sheer beauty and joy of illustration!

The exhibition ran from 3rd October - 26th November at Institut français in South Kensington and then all the pieces were auctioned in an online fundraiser for The Children's Bookshow. We were so grateful for the continued help of our artists and their generous support of our work. We raised £6,975 helping to fund our work with schools to bring the joy and benefits of books and reading to children across the UK.

Conclusion

Despite the challenges caused by train and teacher strikes we delivered a dynamic, engaging and imaginative programme of events in 2022 - 23 that brought the joy of reading and books to 22,795 children and their teachers. It was great to be back in theatres with none of the difficulties and restrictions of the last few years of the pandemic. It is fantastic to be looking ahead over the next three years, secure in the knowledge of our Arts Council NPO funding and our renewed funding agreement with Unwin Trust. This gives us an excellent base to continue to build upon. We need to focus on increased fund raising activity over the next year to ensure that in the face of the cost of living crisis we can continue to grow and bring our programme to children across the country who are most in need.

Financial Review

Incoming resources were £171,814 (2022 - £175,278) and resources expended were £187,108 (2022 - £168,110). The deficit for the year was £15,294 (2022 – surplus £7,168) which related to funds received in 2022 and expended in 2023. No member of staff was paid more than £23,011 for the year covered by these accounts.

Principal income sources are NPO funding from the Arts Council England and contributions from publishers, cultural institutions and trusts, along with fundraising income from donations.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Future plans

From the outset, The Children's Bookshow has embraced a rich variety of talent with artists of colour, artists in translation, and young and upcoming artists as well as household names such as Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake in its autumn tour to theatres and schools. In the next three years we shall build on our success and once again introduce both new unknown and established talent from the UK and abroad. In so doing, we shall promote the artists producing the best of contemporary children's literature to a wide audience.

Fundraising

We were thrilled to have our funding confirmed from Arts Council England for the next three years as one of their National Portfolio Organisations. This means that we can continue to bring the very best authors and illustrators to children and their teachers across the country.

Unwin Charitable Trust has given us funding for the next five years (2023 - 2027) to buy and distribute a free book to every child attending our performances. We are so delighted to have this funding confirmed, enabling us to continue to buy books for children, giving a legacy to our performances and workshops, and opening up the possibility of children sharing the book with their families and helping to create a culture of reading at home.

We intend to deliver 13 performances in theatres across the country and 52 workshops in schools in Autumn 2023 in a variety of communities, embracing urban conurbations such as Manchester and Hull and rural areas such as Barnstaple and Warwick. We will extend our reach by working in areas where children are facing high levels of poverty, focusing on widening the opportunity for children to experience cultural excellence in their local area. The final two performances and 8 workshops will be programmed in Spring 2024 in libraries in places where there is low cultural provision. By touring to areas where audiences are underserved we will widen access to our programme. We will be focusing on fundraising over the coming year aiming to build relationships with more Trusts and Foundations that will support our work and help us deliver our programme, bringing the joy of reading to children across the country.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain at least a minimum level of reserves as recommended by the Charity Commission, and to keep sufficient restricted funds in order to see these funded projects to their conclusion.

	2023	2022
Unrestricted funds	£ 5,774	£ 21,068
Restricted funds	-	-
	£ 5,774	£ 21,068

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, making due allowance for a period of shutdown due to the coronavirus. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Structure, governance and management

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated and constituted under Articles of Association, registered number 8,120,254. It is an English registered charity, number 1,162,410.

The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. Additional trustees may be co-opted by the existing trustees as they deem advisable from time to time, and then stand for election as required by the Articles of Association.

Reference and administrative details can be found on page 1 of the accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in the Charities Act 2011.

Approved by the Trustees on 22nd September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Ms M Siân Williams

Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT
EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Children's Bookshow Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 which are set out on pages 10 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the "2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS102).

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.

Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED



John D Kilby & Co
Chartered Accountants

22nd September 2023

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
incorporating the
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

	Note	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2023	2022
		-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	£ 106,537	£ 26,610	£ 133,147	£ 139,842
Activities for generating funds	3	38,661	-	38,661	35,424
Investment Income		6	-	6	12
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		£ 145,204	£ 26,610	£ 171,814	£ 175,278
		-----	-----	-----	-----
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities	4	154,824	26,610	181,434	164,398
Governance Costs	5	5,674	-	5,674	3,712
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Expended		£ 160,498	£ 26,610	£ 187,108	£ 168,110
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources for the year		(15,294)	-	(15,294)	7,168
Funds Brought Forward		21,068	-	21,068	13,900
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds Carried Forward		£ 5,774	£ -	£ 5,774	£ 21,068
		-----	-----	-----	-----

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET
31st MARCH 2023

	note	2023	2022
	-----	-----	-----
FIXED ASSETS		£ nil	£ nil
CURRENT ASSETS			
debtors	6	£ 2,302	£ 1,910
bank balance		156,965	41,769
		-----	-----
		159,267	43,679
CREDITORS - amounts			
falling due within one year	7	153,493	22,611
		-----	-----
Net current assets		5,774	21,068
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS		£ 5,774	£ 21,068
		-----	-----
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	8	5,774	21,068
Restricted funds	9	-	-
		-----	-----
		£ 5,774	£ 21,068
		-----	-----

For the year ended 31st March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' Responsibilities:

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 22nd September 2023 and signed on its behalf:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2023

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015), UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

b. Income

Incoming resources are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy except for donations and investment income which are credited as income when received.

c. Resources expended

All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis. The irrecoverable element of Value Added Tax is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Depreciation is allocated to expenditure headings on the basis of the use of the assets concerned.

d. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company did not own any fixed assets during the year.

e. Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

f. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2. Voluntary Income

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2023	2022
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Arts Council Grant	£ 68,313	£ -	£ 68,313	£ 68,313
Arts Council Cultural Recovery Fund	-	-	-	5,134
Publishers Contributions	5,600	-	5,600	3,800
Unwin Trust	15,942	20,830	36,772	17,873
Cultural Institutes	-	-	-	3,475
Charitable Grant	-	-	-	18,013
Marsh Trust	-	-	-	1,200
Old Possum's Practical Trust	14,220	5,780	20,000	20,000
Donations	2,462	-	2,462	2,034
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 106,537	£ 26,610	£ 133,147	£ 139,842
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2023

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2023	2022
	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Activities for Generating Funds				
Venues	£ 28,086	£ -	£ 28,086	£ 19,164
Digital Events	3,600	-	3,600	16,260
Fundraising	6,975	-	6,975	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 38,661	£ -	£ 38,661	£ 35,424
	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. Cost of Charitable Activities				
<u>Artistic Expenditure</u>				
Writers fees - theatres	£ 6,590	-	£ 6,590	£ 7,771
Writers fees - schools	18,575	-	18,575	16,270
Writers accommodation - theatre	2,081	-	2,081	1,524
Writers travel - theatre	4,875	-	4,875	2,278
Writers accommodation - schools	2,644	-	2,644	2,238
Writers travel - schools	1,078	-	1,078	1,491
Writers insurance	530	-	530	530
Organisers travel and subsistence	3,721	-	3,721	2,398
Organisers accommodation	2,248	-	2,248	1,831
<u>Administrative Expenditure</u>				
Co-organisers fees	60,768	-	60,768	62,271
Admin and production fees	20,280	-	20,280	19,635
Evaluator	900	-	900	-
<u>Marketing</u>				
Sales and marketing	21,198	-	21,198	25,377
Printing and distribution	1,282	-	1,282	1,163
Electronic mailing	633	-	633	490
Stationery	276	-	276	145
Website maintenance	342	-	342	382
Staff fundraising costs	4,036	-	4,036	-
Fundraising costs	2,757	-	2,757	29
Workshop materials for schools	135	-	135	222
Acquisition texts for schools	-	26,610	26,610	18,353
Less school books for resale	(125)	-	(125)	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 154,824	£ 26,610	£ 181,434	£ 164,398
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2023

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2023	2022
	-----	-----	-----	-----
5. Governance Costs				
Accountancy	£ 1,792	-	£ 1,792	£ 1,710
Travel	219	-	219	22
Telephone	-	-	-	8
Postage	567	-	567	172
Video conferencing	535	-	535	752
Meetings and subsistence	1,137	-	1,137	379
Bank charges	113	-	113	444
General/contingency	1,311	-	1,311	225
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 5,674	£ -	£ 5,674	£ 3,712
	-----	-----	-----	-----
6. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year				
Grants outstanding			£ -	£ -
Other debtors			2,302	1,910
			-----	-----
			£ 2,302	£ 1,910
			-----	-----
7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals			£ 3,493	£ 4,445
Deferred income			150,000	18,166
			-----	-----
			£ 153,493	£ 22,611
			-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31st March 2023

8. Unrestricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity, not including restricted funds, comprise of the following unexpended balances of donations and grants:

	Balance 1 Apr 22	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 23
	-----	-----	-----	-----
General Fund	£ 21,068	£ 145,204	£ 160,498	£ 5,774
	-----	-----	-----	-----

9. Restricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held in trust to be applied for specific purposes:

	Balance 1 Apr 22	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 23
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Unwin Trust	£ -	£ 17,192	£ 17,192	£ -
Unwin Trust – World Book Day 2022	-	3,638	3,638	-
Old Possum	-	5,780	5,780	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ -	£ 26,610	£ 26,610	£ -
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

England & Wales - Charity number 1162410

Accounts

THE CHILDREN'S
BOOKSHOW LIMITED

ACCOUNTS for the
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Charity No. 1,162,410

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

PAGE	CONTENTS
1	General information
2 - 8	Report of the trustees
9	Report of the independent examiner
10	Statement of financial activities
11	Balance sheet
12 - 15	Notes forming part of the accounts

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRUSTEES	Mrs Katherine J Arafa Ms Claire Boulton Mr Errol Lloyd Ms Sinead Naidoo Ms Robina Pelham-Burn Mr David Potter Ms Shoshannah Thompson Ms M Siân Williams
REGISTERED OFFICE	9a Peploe Road London NW6 6EB
CHARITY NO.	1,162,410
COMPANY NO.	8,120,254 (England and Wales)
ACCOUNTANTS	John D Kilby & Co Chartered Accountants Mutfords Hare Street Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0ED
BANKERS	Co-Operative Bank plc Business Direct PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their report, together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2022. The trustees confirm that the annual report and accounts of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Objectives and activities

The Children's Bookshow is a charity that gives the joy of reading to children through an annual programme of theatre performances, in-school workshops and digital events with some of the best writers, poets, storytellers and illustrators. The artists selected are from a wide variety of countries and cultures to give children the opportunity to experience the best literature from around the world. The annual autumn tour is backed up by a series of schools workshops in which children work with inspiring, internationally acclaimed artists who help them to develop their own creative skills. Every participating child receives a free copy of the author's book to take home and keep.

We select authors and illustrators because of their excellence. We introduce unknown international artists whom we bring from countries ranging from Japan to the US to Europe, to our audience of children and teachers. International literature and celebrating the work of artists of colour is at the heart of what we do. We have strong relationships with both large and small UK publishers and publishers abroad. Inclusion in our programme has often resulted in reprints, keeping important titles in stock, as well as instigating translation into English of a number of international books, making them available to UK audiences.

From our inception in 2003, we have built national partnerships with major theatres throughout the UK. We are the only children's literature organisation touring work to large scale venues nationally. We are based in London but 86% of our work takes place outside. Our team of freelancers are based across the country in areas ranging from Sheffield to Devon.

We have enduring links with cultural institutes, and have partnered with organisations from The Reader, to BookTrust, to the British Trust for Ornithology and collaborated with newspapers *The Independent*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Week Junior* and *The Guardian*.

"Through its annual theatre tour The Children's Bookshow brings to thousands of young people across the country some of the world's best children's books. It gives them the opportunity of excitement and discovery which may even inspire in them a love of words and images that will last a lifetime."
Quentin Blake

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit as explained in more detail in the achievements and performance section below.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the The Children's Bookshow. All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. The trustees who held office during the year to 31st March 2022 were;

Mrs Katherine J Arafa
Ms Claire Boulton
Mr Ghassan Fergiani – resigned 14/07/2021
Mr Errol Lloyd – appointed 14/7/2021
Ms Sinead Naidoo – appointed 14/7/2021
Ms Robina Pelham-Burn
Mr David Potter
Ms Shoshannah Thompson
Ms M Siân Williams

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed potential risks to the charity and taken action to put into place systems to mitigate those risks. Over the year the trustees will be reviewing and revising its policies regarding business risks, financial risks, health and safety risks and other identifiable risks.

Achievements and performance

National Tour:

As we emerged from the pandemic we still faced uncertain times. How could we deliver our national autumn tour, bringing the best writers and illustrators to audiences of children and teachers in theatres across the country, whilst protecting ourselves financially from ever changing restrictions and loss in public confidence in attending live performances indoors? We faced a real risk of losing substantial box office income. However, children have had such a varied experience of national lockdowns and as a result have missed vital experiences and so it felt important to try and deliver our core aim and bring children back into theatres to experience the magic of a live performance with some of the best authors, illustrators, poets and storytellers.

We programmed 15 performances in theatres ranging from the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to the Lyceum in Crewe and the Northcott in Exeter alongside 60 creative workshops in schools.

We delivered 13 live performances. One performance at The New Wolsey in Ipswich with German illustrator Jorg Mueller had to move online as the local authority changed the restrictions for schools to try and mitigate a local surge in cases. We had to cancel our performance at Home in Manchester, an area which was particularly badly hit by Covid, as uptake from schools was too low to make the performance viable.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Our average capacity audience across 13 theatres was 78%. This is lower in comparison to our usual average capacity of over 90% but still a huge achievement considering the impact of the pandemic. 80% of our 2021 performances were in areas of high deprivation and over 63% of schools had above average (25%) levels of children receiving Pupil Premium. Each year we analyse Pupil Premium data for each participating school in order to track and measure our success in reaching children facing high levels of deprivation.

“The kind of background we have, our children don't get experiences like this very often, if at all, so for us to be able to say we're going to a theatre to see someone on stage, and use that kind of vocabulary with them, it's actually really beneficial, because that's an experience now they won't forget.” Teacher, London Primary 2021

Teachers highlighted that the sheer excitement of being in such awe-inspiring cultural spaces was valuable to their students.

“The Theatre Royal is a very special place in itself and just added to the "awe & wonder" of going to see a storyteller rather than bringing someone into school.” Teacher, Margate 2021

Each year we programme dual language events exploring the process of translating stories in a playful and creative way. In 2021 this element of our programming was delivered by Kathrin Rohmann, German author of a wonderful book called *Apple Cake and Baklava*, translated by Ruth Ahmedzai Kemp. This event was supported by The German Embassy. Kathrin and Ruth were on stage at The Stables in Milton Keynes and delighted children with the chance to learn words in German and Arabic whilst exploring the main themes of the story.

Vielen dank to Kathrin Rohmann and Ruth Ahmedzai Kemp for an insightful experience today, talking to our Year 6s about the processes involved in both writing and translating a novel! Hugely interesting and great to learn some German and Arabic along the way! Awesome! Teacher, Chantry Primary, 2021

We programme artists, such as Michael Rosen, who incorporate community languages in their performances, celebrating as an asset the language skills of children with EAL. Michael Rosen's performances at the Shaw theatre in London were particularly moving in 2021. It was the first time he had performed live on stage since his recovery from Covid. The crowd roared and cheered as he appeared from behind the grand red velvet curtain and took to the stage. It was inspiring, joyful and emotional to see Michael back on stage performing his classics like *No Breathing* and *Chocolate Cake*!

Just under 50% of our programme in 2021 involved international authors and artists of colour. We are focused on maintaining this track record as we know that it is vital that our programme is representative of the diverse audiences of children that we serve. In 2021 audiences of children and their teachers were delighted by performances from storyteller Jan Blake in Margate, Jamaican poet Valerie Bloom in Wolverhampton and African American poet Kwame Alexander to a sellout audience in Newcastle.

“A lot of our children aren't white. So that was a massive thing that Kwame (artist) is not white, but also the characters in the Crossover book were not white either. And that's huge.” Teacher, Newcastle 2021

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

We also staged performances by two German artists, Kathrin Rohmann (mentioned above) and illustrator Jorg Mueller who drew live online from his studio in Germany and talked to children about drawing the hilarious penguin characters in Meet at The Ark at Eight. Sydney Smith came all the way from Nova Scotia in Canada to The Northcott in Exeter where he thrilled his audience by painting live on stage to a soundscape of the city and then the sea.

Creative Workshops in Schools

We programmed 60 creative workshops in schools, 4 in each area to which we tour. We were able to deliver 52 of these sessions. We had to cancel four workshops in Manchester because we were unable to stage the performance due to low uptake from schools. We made the decision to cancel the workshops in Ipswich. In discussion with Jorg Muhle we felt that the workshops wouldn't work well digitally. He wanted to work creatively with the children and felt that it was important to be able to see the work that they produced and comment on it and encourage each child; something that would have been impossible online.

1590 children took part in an artist led creative workshop in 2021. 88% of teachers who filled in our workshop evaluation form in 2021 said that having an artist in school created a buzz about books and reading. Our artists' wealth of experience, their rich cultural lives and their capacity to innovate, feeds the creative and cultural lives of the children participating. Whether they were assuming the role of an illustrator or creating a class poem, our workshops engaged children with literature on a deep level and increased their confidence in working creatively.

"My son who is 7 came to hear you talk in Crewe. Ever since he came back he has been drawing all manner of creatures and monsters and adding little stories about them. I just wanted to say that you really inspired him."
Parent, Crewe 2021

Free book for every child

We have made a change in how we provide books for children and through successful fund-raising we have achieved our ambition to buy a book for every participating child to take home and keep. This has removed the cost barrier and widened access for all children no matter their socio-economic background. In the past our bookstalls were popular but as one teacher said:

"Only a few of them had money, very few because it's not a very wealthy school."

In 2021, we witnessed children's delight as they got their own book as they left the theatre; one little boy ran and hugged the author's legs! Teachers said:

"They love their free books! We even had children reading them on the coach back to school and in the playground at lunch!" Teacher, Newcastle 2021

"My Abigail hasn't put her poetry book down since she got home. Thank you for such a lovely trip." Parent, Merseyside 2021

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The National Literacy Trust found that book ownership relates directly to children's ability to read and reported enjoyment of reading. By giving every child a book we open up the possibility of children sharing the book with their family, helping to improve a culture of reading at home.

"I know they've shared it with family members. They've got their own book, it's theirs to keep. That's quite special for them. Because, the community we are in, the children are quite literature deprived at home, they don't have access to books, if any at all. It's not something that's kind of culturally in their families to read."
Teacher, Newcastle 2021

Resources

We developed engaging resources and creative activities relating to each book celebrated in the national autumn tour. These resources were devised by one of our team who is also a teacher and were designed to be used in class or at home. All the activities provided a creative way of exploring in greater depth the free book that each child received. 2021 was the first year of offering resources and 51% of teachers reported that they used them. We will aim to increase uptake to 65% in 2022.

"Still very much loving the resources and activities. They are so engaging for the children." Teacher, Warwick 2021

We also delivered a weekly newsletter to our database of teachers and parents offering book recommendations, a focus on individual artists, short films of books being read and fun and creative activities to do with children.

Live online performances and Digital offer

To celebrate National Poetry Day we programmed a live digital performance with Michael Rosen on the Digital platform Crowdcast. Schools signed up for the event and children watched on the whiteboard in their classroom as Michael performed his poems live from his home. Children were delighted by his performance and also his top tips for writing their own poems as well as the chance to ask Michael a question. We reached 77 schools and an estimated audience of 7,368.

Following on from this performance we organised two live digital events for World Book Day in March 2022 with Michael Rosen and author/illustrator Catherine Rayner. Schools participated from across the country from Scotland to Cornwall. We achieved audiences of 34,713 children and teachers from 324 schools. Teachers want to give children the chance to engage with an author on this important date in the school calendar. Our offer to schools provides an affordable way for all primary aged children to experience the work of a world class artist through an interactive and dynamic digital performance. Thanks to funding by Unwin, 40 of the schools that attended were also given 1,482 books for their pupils to keep.

Buoyed by our success and our sense of possibility in working digitally, we have experimented by creating video trailers for our performances, filming author interviews and live readings for our website and social media. We have had 71,983 views on Youtube which is an increase of 27,133 from the previous year. Our digital programme helps us to build audiences for our work and augments our national profile as well as enabling us to respond quickly to changing circumstances. It also allows us to reach children located in areas far from our shows.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Conclusion

Despite the challenges of delivering our live programme of events; the increased time and workload it took to generate the audiences for our work, the extra administration required to make the performances and workshops happen and the logistical struggle to deliver the performances with a reduced team due to illness, we are delighted to have done it! It was wonderful to be back in theatres and to witness the joy of children participating in a live performance. Children across the country have had varied experiences of the pandemic over the last two years. The effect of disrupted education and limited access to live cultural experiences needs to be reversed. Children and their teachers have a strong appetite to connect personally with an artist and be inspired by this live encounter. We want to help children everywhere to feel that great literature and art is for them; that they can engage with it, enjoy it and practice it.

Financial Review

Incoming resources were £175,278 (2021 - £146,195) and resources expended were £168,110 (2021 - £151,958). The surplus for the year of £7,168 (2021 – deficit £5,763) was due to successful fundraising. No member of staff was paid more than £30,105 for the 15 months covered by these accounts.

Principal income sources are NPO funding from the Arts Council England and contributions from publishers, cultural institutions and trusts, along with fund-raising income from donations. We received the second part of a special grant from the Arts Council England this year as part of the Cultural Recovery Fund from the government and a £15,000 grant from Garfield Weston.

Future plans

From the outset, The Children's Bookshow has embraced a rich variety of talent with artists of colour, artists in translation, and young and upcoming artists as well as household names such as Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake in its autumn tour to theatres and schools. In the next three years we shall build on our success and once again introduce both new unknown and established talent from the UK and abroad. In so doing, we shall promote the artists producing the best of contemporary children's literature to a wide audience.

We are applying to Arts Council England for a further three years funding as one of their National Portfolio organisations and we hope to be successful in our bid. We intend to deliver 13 performances in theatres across the country and 52 workshops in schools in Autumn 2023 in a variety of communities, embracing urban conurbations such as Manchester and Hull and rural areas such as Barnstaple and Warwick. We will extend our reach by working in areas where children are facing high levels of poverty, focusing on widening the opportunity for children to experience cultural excellence in their local area. The final two performances and 8 workshops will be programmed in Spring 2024 in libraries in places where there is low cultural provision. By touring to areas where audiences are underserved we will widen access to our programme. We will be focusing on fundraising over the coming year aiming to build relationships with more Trusts and Foundations that will support our work and help us deliver our programme, bringing the joy of reading to children across the country.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain at least a minimum level of reserves as recommended by the Charity Commission, and to keep sufficient restricted funds in order to see these funded projects to their conclusion.

	2022	2021
	-----	-----
Unrestricted funds	£ 21,068	£ 6,750
Restricted funds	-	7,150
	-----	-----
	£ 21,068	£ 13,900
	-----	-----

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, making due allowance for a period of shutdown due to the coronavirus. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Structure, governance and management

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated and constituted under Articles of Association, registered number 8,120,254. It is an English registered charity, number 1,162,410.

The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. Additional trustees may be co-opted by the existing trustees as they deem advisable from time to time, and then stand for election as required by the Articles of Association.

Reference and administrative details can be found on page 1 of the accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in the Charities Act 2011.

Approved by the Trustees on 15th December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT
EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Children's Bookshow Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out on pages 4 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the "2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS102).

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.

Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED

John D Kilby & Co
Chartered Accountants

15th December 2022

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
incorporating the
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

	Note	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2022	2021
		-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	£ 122,384	£ 17,458	£ 139,842	£ 146,185
Activities for generating funds	3	35,424	-	35,424	-
Investment Income		12	-	12	10
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		£ 157,820	£ 17,458	£ 175,278	£ 146,195
		-----	-----	-----	-----
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities	4	139,790	24,608	164,398	148,088
Governance Costs	5	3,712	-	3,712	3,870
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Expended		£ 143,502	£ 24,608	£ 168,110	£ 151,958
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources for the year		14,318	(7,150)	7,168	(5,763)
Funds Brought Forward		6,750	7,150	13,900	19,663
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds Carried Forward		£ 21,068	£ -	£ 21,068	£ 13,900
		-----	-----	-----	-----

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET
31st MARCH 2022

	note -----	2022 -----	2021 -----
FIXED ASSETS		£ nil	£ nil
CURRENT ASSETS			
debtors	6	£ 1,910	£ 2,218
bank balance		41,769	36,982
		-----	-----
		43,679	39,200
CREDITORS - amounts			
falling due within one year	7	22,611	25,300
		-----	-----
Net current assets		21,068	13,900
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS		£ 21,068	£ 13,900
		-----	-----
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	8	21,068	6,750
Restricted funds	9	-	7,150
		-----	-----
		£ 21,068	£ 13,900
		-----	-----

For the year ended 31st March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' Responsibilities:

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 15th December 2022 and signed on its behalf:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2022

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015), UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

b. Income

Incoming resources are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy except for donations and investment income which are credited as income when received.

c. Resources expended

All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis. The irrecoverable element of Value Added Tax is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Depreciation is allocated to expenditure headings on the basis of the use of the assets concerned.

d. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company did not own any fixed assets during the year.

e. Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

f. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2. Voluntary Income

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2022	2021
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Arts Council Grant	£ 68,313	£ -	£ 68,313	£ 68,313
Arts Council Cultural Recovery Fund	5,134	-	5,134	46,206
Publishers Contributions	3,800	-	3,800	975
Unwin Trust	8,684	9,189	17,873	17,580
Cultural Institutes	3,475	-	3,475	-
Charitable Grant	17,500	513	18,013	6,500
Marsh Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Old Possum's Practical Trust	12,244	7,756	20,000	-
Donations	2,034	-	2,034	5,411
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 122,384	£ 17,458	£ 139,842	£ 146,185
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2022

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2022	2021
	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Activities for Generating Funds				
Venues	£ 19,164	£ -	£ 19,164	£ -
Digital Events	16,260	-	16,260	-
Auction	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 35,424	£ -	£ 35,424	£ -
	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. Cost of Charitable Activities				
<u>Artistic Expenditure</u>				
Writers fees - theatres	£ 5,846	1,925	£ 7,771	£ -
Writers fees - schools	14,070	2,200	16,270	7,180
Writers accommodation - theatre	1,334	190	1,524	-
Writers travel - theatre	2,048	230	2,278	-
Writers accommodation - schools	1,848	390	2,238	-
Writers travel - schools	1,456	35	1,491	-
Writers insurance	530	-	530	-
Artists – special project	-	-	-	2,535
Organisers travel and subsistence	2,398	-	2,398	-
Organisers accommodation	1,831	-	1,831	-
<u>Administrative Expenditure</u>				
Co-organisers fees	61,271	1,000	62,271	70,120
Admin and production fees	19,350	285	19,635	14,771
<u>Marketing</u>				
Sales and marketing	25,377	-	25,377	22,337
Printing and distribution	1,163	-	1,163	279
Electronic mailing	490	-	490	485
Stationery	145	-	145	416
Website maintenance	382	-	382	5,620
Fundraising costs	29	-	29	8,979
Workshop materials for schools	222	-	222	-
Acquisition texts for schools	-	18,353	18,353	15,728
Less school books for resale	(-)	-	(-)	(362)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 139,790	£ 24,608	£ 164,398	£ 148,088
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2022

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	2022	2021
	-----	-----	-----	-----
5. Governance Costs				
Accountancy	£ 1,710	-	£ 1,710	£ 1,683
Travel	22	-	22	84
Telephone	8	-	8	420
Postage	172	-	172	763
Video conferencing	752	-	752	409
Meetings and subsistence	379	-	379	14
Bank charges	444	-	444	47
General/contingency	225	-	225	450
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 3,712	£ -	£ 3,712	£ 3,870
	-----	-----	-----	-----
6. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year				
Grants outstanding			£ -	£ 2,218
Other debtors			1,910	-
			-----	-----
			£ 1,910	£ 2,218
			-----	-----
7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals			£ 4,445	£ 7,427
Deferred income			18,166	17,873
			-----	-----
			£ 22,611	£ 25,300
			-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31st March 2022

8. Unrestricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity, not including restricted funds, comprise of the following unexpended balances of donations and grants:

	Balance 1 Apr 21	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 22
	-----	-----	-----	-----
General Fund	£ 6,750	£ 157,820	£ 143,502	£ 21,068
	-----	-----	-----	-----

9. Restricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held in trust to be applied for specific purposes:

	Balance 1 Apr 21	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 22
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Margate performance	£ 4,000	£ -	£ 4,000	£ -
Stafford performance	2,500	-	2,500	-
Various performances	650	-	650	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 7,150	£ -	£ 7,150	£ -
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

England & Wales - Charity number 1162410

Accounts

THE CHILDREN'S
BOOKSHOW LIMITED

ACCOUNTS for the
15 MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Charity No. 1,162,410

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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9	Report of the independent examiner
10	Statement of financial activities
11	Balance sheet
12 - 15	Notes forming part of the accounts

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRUSTEES

Mrs Katherine J Arafa
Ms Claire Boulton
Mr Ghassan Fergiani
Ms Robina Pelham Burn
Mr David Potter
Ms Shoshannah Thompson
Ms M Siân Williams

REGISTERED OFFICE

Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED

CHARITY NO.

1,162,410

COMPANY NO.

8,120,254 (England and Wales)

ACCOUNTANTS

John D Kilby & Co
Chartered Accountants
Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED

BANKERS

Co-Operative Bank plc
Business Direct
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their report, together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the 15 months ended 31st March 2021. The trustees confirm that the annual report and accounts of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Objectives and activities

The Children's Bookshow is a charity that brings the joy of reading to children across the country through our annual programme of 15 theatre performances and 60 in-school workshops with some of the best writers and illustrators from around the world.

"Through its annual theatre tour The Children's Bookshow brings to thousands of young people across the country some of the world's best children's books. It gives them the opportunity of excitement and discovery which may even inspire in them a love of words and images that will last a lifetime." Quentin Blake

Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the The Children's Bookshow. All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. The trustees who held office during the period to 31st March 2021 were;

Mrs Katherine J Arafa

Dr Myra Barrs - resigned 28/11/2019

Ms Claire Boulton - appointed 01/04/2020

Mr Ghassan Fergiani

Mr Daniel Hahn - resigned 28/11/2019

Ms Robina Pelham-Burn - appointed 16/10/2019

Mr David Potter

Ms Shoshannah Thompson

Ms M Siân Williams

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed potential risks to the charity and taken action to put into place systems to mitigate those risks. Over the year the trustees will be reviewing and revising its policies regarding business risks, financial risks, health and safety risks and other identifiable risks.

Achievements and performance

In normal times, during the autumn, our team would be up with the lark and trekking across the country to beautiful, iconic theatres where we would welcome our artists and streams of excited children and their teachers. It's the most thrilling point in our year and the culmination of months of work to produce 15 live theatre performances and 60 in-school workshops with some of the world's best authors, illustrators, poets and storytellers.

As a result of Covid none of this was possible and we had to cancel our autumn 2020 theatre tour and programme of in-school workshops. However, thanks to a successful application to Arts Council England's Cultural Recovery Fund, we were able to pull our small team together and adapt rapidly to working in new ways, showing versatility and resilience.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Since March 2020 we have worked together to create exciting new projects that allowed us to reach our audience, refine our working practices, build our national profile and, most importantly, inspire children and their teachers with a love of reading, writing and drawing.

Projects:

Letters from Lockdown

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/news/letters-from-lockdown>

Letters from Lockdown involved 20 artists including Quentin Blake, Posy Simmonds, Neal Layton, Hilary McKay and Valerie Bloom to name but a few. Each wrote a letter sharing their own experience of lockdown with children across the country and we published one a day on our website and social media for 20 days. We invited children to write their own letters describing their own experiences of lockdown. The children's letters were entered into a competition run with *The Sunday Times* which was judged by Sian Griffiths, their Education editor. The child who submitted the winning entry won a trip for herself and two adults from anywhere in the UK to London to meet author and illustrator Bruce Ingman at Tate Britain, Millbank, and from there to be taken by boat to Tate Modern to meet the Publishing Director of Tate Children's Publishing, Tom Avery and to have tea with Tom, Bruce and one of the directors of The Children's Bookshow in the Members Room. The winner and two runners up won a selection of chapter books written by authors who have taken part in the Children's Bookshow tour and ranged from Costa Book Awards winner Hilary McKay's *Saffy's Angel* to Norwegian Maria Parr's *Waffle Hearts* translated by Guy Puzey.

"The 'Letters from Lockdown' are lovely! The letters already written and shared from the authors are comforting and inspiring and I believe many of our children will enjoy them immensely. I'll be happy to share with the staff and children and hopefully get some over to you to share online." Sana Khokhar, Bangabandhu Primary

Bookshow at Home newsletter

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/news>

Our Letters from Lockdown were published in a weekly newsletter that was sent out to subscribers to our mailing list each week. We felt that this was a great way of staying in touch with our audience of teachers and children and increasingly we wanted to find a way of helping teachers and parents during the first lockdown when everyone was having to adapt very quickly to children learning at home. The Bookshow at Home newsletter was born. Each week we focused on a different author and a book of the week. It was a way of introducing our audience to writers, poets and illustrators that they may not know as well as celebrating some firm favourites and household names. One of our team is a primary school teacher and she developed a series of resources to go with each book providing creative and fun activities for teachers and parents to do with their children at home.

"Thank you for the wonderful resources which you have made available. I have been sharing them with staff, and some are on our website for home learners. The Children's Bookshow is definitely a Good Thing!" Sue Dearie, Blue Gate Fields Junior

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

A-Z of artists

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/artists>

This year has provided moments to look back at what we have achieved over the last 19 years as well as the chance to look ahead and plan what we want to do over the next 20 years! We wanted everyone who visits our website to be able to see the extraordinary and brilliant artists we have worked with from household names like Quentin Blake, Roger McGough and Judith Kerr, to lesser known (in this country) talents from all over the world like Hanneke Siemensma, Bernardo Atxaga and Gunilla Bergstrom. One of our team was assigned the task of collating information for new biography pages for each artist that has ever participated in The Children's Bookshow. She was astounded by the range of artists we have worked with over the years - it is definitely something to celebrate!

"Researching the long list of outstanding CBS artists who have appeared with us over the years and being steeped in its potted history was remarkable and inspiring. Seeing the sheer breadth and range of artists since the first 2003 show, each year consistently top-drawer with a mix of renowned stalwarts and the freshest of gems to delight our young audience made me feel privileged to be part of the continuing team."
Marian Keen-Downs, CBS Team

What Makes You Smile

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/news/what-makes-you-smile>

Then in autumn 2020 when children were returning to school after a long time at home we created a heart warming project called What Makes You Smile. We asked 10 illustrators to take part and create us a picture of what makes them smile. At a time of so many restrictions we wanted to reach beyond our shores and so the artists chosen were from all over the world: Satoshi Kitamura (Japan) who was the first, with his clever illustration *Smile Gets In Your Eyes*, then Ulla Saar (Estonia), Viviane Schwarz (Germany), Victoria Semykina (Russia), Mikel Valverde (Spain), François Place (France), Gitte Spee (Belgium), Jun Takabatake (Japan), Marta Altes (Spain) and Jörg Muehle (Germany). Some were simply beautiful, some touched the heart, and some simply made us laugh out loud!

Children across the country had varied and unique experiences of lockdown and all needed support to reintegrate and to reflect on their experiences, deal with the present challenges of daily life and look ahead to what the future holds. We hoped that our project could help a little towards this by providing daily opportunities to discuss, reflect and consider the things which make children smile.

This time, our children's competition linked to the project What Makes You Smile? was run by the *Tes* and judged by the wonderful picture book writer and illustrator Jessica Souhami who's taken part in the Bookshow many times and who wrote,

"WOW! What a response to the competition. It was difficult to choose winners. Most children drew what they loved: family, pets, friends, the countryside. Some drew what they liked to do: swimming, walking, playing Minecraft... Some wished for special things: two wonderful pictures of cars, being an astronaut, meeting dinosaurs, an amazing picture of flying through the air on the tail of a magnificent bird. One or two offered advice: have a cup of tea, appreciate what you have. There was some wonderful artwork. BUT in the end I chose pictures where you could actually feel the smile on the artists' faces."

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Let's Celebrate Black Lives

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/news/let-s-celebrate-black-lives>

In response to the Black Lives Matter movement sweeping the world after the killing of George Floyd we created a project called *Let's Celebrate Black Lives*. *The Guardian* gave us 160 sets of Black History wallcharts for free which went out to schools with over 4,900 copies of a powerful and moving picture book called *The Undefeated* by US writer and poet Kwame Alexander. Funding from the Unwin Trust paid for the books. One of our Bookshow team, a primary school teacher, prepared a set of teaching resources to accompany these, aimed at Year 6. They were written to support the use of *The Undefeated* and the Guardian's wallcharts as starting points for exploring and celebrating black lives within an historical context. *The Undefeated* would be used as a class text, and our teacher colleague provided the ideas in the teaching resources for using the wallcharts to inform and extend the children's knowledge of black history.

We have had great feedback

"I am a Year 6 teacher in an inner city, ethnically diverse primary school. We have committed to increase the representation of people of colour in the books we teach and more conversations around Black History and significant people of colour in all areas of the curriculum. Our kids are from low income homes and many of them do not have any books at home, let alone books which feature people who look like them. It would mean a lot for them to have this."

Year 6 teacher Holbeach Primary

Digital Festival Trial

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/news/our-first-digital-performance>

In autumn 2020, with no possibility of a tour, we were keen to bring children that immediate connection, that joy of engaging with an artist. How could we do this in the midst of all the coronavirus restrictions?

On the 9th December we produced our first ever live, digital author event with Alexis Deacon. We wanted to try and capture some of the magic of a live performance even if it reached the audience via a screen. We worked with 5 London primary schools who have attended The Children's Bookshow over many years and who know our work well. It was a trial event for all of us in which we wanted to explore what was possible using the technology and how best to enable children to feel that they were part of an event that was live. How could we make this different to TV?

We used a platform called Crowdcast and after initial teething problems we found this to be really effective. Alexis Deacon was beamed from his studio onto the white board in classrooms at Bangabandhu, Globe, Halley, St Bernadette's and Blue Gate Fields Primary schools. Alexis read a brand new story that hasn't been published yet so children taking part

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

in this event were the first people in the world to hear it! He drew live, creating the most delightful and strangely moving creature for the children! Teachers responded to what was happening in the chat function at the edge of the screen and interacted with Alexis and the Bookshow team. One of the best moments was bringing children from each school up onto the virtual 'stage' to ask Alexis a question. It was wonderful to see children being able to connect and interact with Alexis and each other via this digital platform.

Each child who took part in this event received a free copy of Alexis Deacon's much loved book *Beegu* thanks to our funding from the Unwin Trust. Alexis signed over 300 bookplates that were sent to the schools so that children could stick his signature into their book before taking it home to share with all of the family.

'The class loved hearing a story before its release; they loved hearing Beegu performed by its author; they loved guessing animals in eggs; and they especially loved the drawing tutorial (they can't wait to practise the alien ones!). It goes without saying that they loved asking a question and receiving signed copies of the books.' Halley Primary

Digital Festival

<http://thechildrensbookshow.com/performances/world-book-day-festival>

Highlights <https://youtu.be/67bdDDhvnA4>

Delighted by the success of this event we were keen to try something on a larger scale that would reach more schools. We planned to deliver a series of 6 Digital author performances to celebrate World Book Day at the beginning of March.

Our aim was to reach 10 schools for each performance, charge a small fee per child and be able to provide all children participating with a copy of the author's book.

However, once again our plans had to change because of circumstances beyond our control. With the announcement of a new national lockdown after Christmas we realised that our model for the digital events was not going to work as not many children would be in school. We also felt that it was the wrong time to ask parents and schools to pay towards an event. So we adapted our plans and began to think of our digital series as a free festival, open to more schools as well as children working at home, a way of sharing and celebrating excellent literature with a larger audience.

We booked an outstanding programme of authors and illustrators including poets Michael Rosen and Kwame Alexander, storyteller Daniel Morden, novelist Catherine Johnson and author/illustrators Neal Layton and Jo Empson.

Children in school watched the performance on the classroom whiteboard via Crowdcast and were able to interact with the authors. Children working from home watched the livestream of the event to Youtube. It was a resounding success and something that we want to repeat next year to celebrate World Book Day.

The performances reached a known audience of 19,649 and an additional estimated audience of 114,846 who watched live on Crowdcast and YouTube and a further known audience of 35,220 and an estimated audience of 42,348 watched the recordings afterwards (compared to an average audience of 11,347 on the theatre tour).

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

1,486 schools registered for the shows (compared to an average of 149 schools attending the theatre tour). Through our varied programme of activities we engaged with 4,740 primary schools.

“Thank you @ChildrensBkShow @kwamealexander for the talk on Undeclared. You inspired 32 children. I wish you could have seen the laughter, joy and spontaneous clapping throughout the talk. The pure look of adoration from one particular boy was a sight to behold.”

Rosemary Burke

“Our year 5/6s have taken themselves on a Michael Rosen journey... They're in class chatting about his poetry in their lunch break and writing their own. It's a measurable impact on love of reading which is just lovely to see so a big thank you for putting it on.”

Lower Heath Primary

Conclusion

It has been a difficult year and we have had to adapt and change our plans at short notice but our small team has pulled together and delivered some wonderful, creative projects that have enabled us to connect with children and their teachers across the country.

Adapting to an online culture has brought unexpected benefits: location is not a problem, there's an intriguing, personal connection in being virtually invited into the artist's home/studio, and our relationship with teachers and librarians at school has flourished. As a team we are keen to explore the potential of live streaming as an additional way for schools to join future theatre tours.

As an organisation we can't wait to get back into theatres and to deliver our national tour. However, all the restrictions of the last year have made us change and adapt and we have found new joys and ways of working which have been good for our development as an organisation.

Financial Review

Incoming resources were £146,195 (2019 - £130,303) and resources expended were £151,958 (2019 - £138,388). The deficit for the year of £5,763 (2019 – deficit £8,085) was expected as income in this extraordinary year was severely limited and our new programme was ambitious.

Principal funding sources are voluntary income from the Arts Council England and contributions from publishers, cultural institutions and trusts, along with fund-raising income from donations. We received a special grant from the Arts Council England this year as part of the Cultural Recovery Fund from the government.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain at least a minimum level of reserves as recommended by the Charity Commission, and to keep sufficient restricted funds in order to see these funded projects to their conclusion.

	2021	2019
	-----	-----
Unrestricted funds	£ 6,750	£ 19,663
Restricted funds	7,150	-
	-----	-----
	£ 13,900	£ 19,663
	-----	-----

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, making due allowance for a period of shutdown due to the coronavirus. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Future plans

During the preparation of this report, the impact of coronavirus on the activities of the Charity has become clearer. The 2021 theatre tour is going ahead and depending on changes to Covid restrictions income for the current year could be severely impacted, although costs are being constrained where possible. Funding for a Digital Festival in March 2022 is being sought.

The Charity has adequate financial reserves and can withstand a moderate period of shutdown. Meanwhile, the administrators worked hard for a solution to provide access to books and to reading during 2020.

Structure, governance and management

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated and constituted under Articles of Association, registered number 8,120,254. It is an English registered charity, number 1,162,410.

The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. Additional trustees may be co-opted by the existing trustees as they deem advisable from time to time, and then stand for election as required by the Articles of Association.

Reference and administrative details can be found on page 1 of the accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in the Charities Act 2011.

Approved by the Trustees on 14th July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Children's Bookshow Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the 15 months ended 31st March 2021 which are set out on pages 11 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS102).

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.

Mutfords
Hare Street
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0ED

John D Kilby & Co
Chartered Accountants

14th July 2021

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
incorporating the
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
15 MONTH PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Note	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	15 mths to 31 Mar 21	year to 31 Dec 19
		-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	£ 139,035	£ 7,150	£ 146,185	£ 97,032
Activities for generating funds	3	-	-	-	33,258
Investment Income		10	-	10	13
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		£ 139,045	£ 7,150	£ 146,195	£ 130,303
		-----	-----	-----	-----
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities	4	148,088	-	148,088	134,952
Governance Costs	5	3,870	-	3,870	3,436
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Expended		£ 151,958	£ -	£ 151,958	£ 138,388
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources for the period/year		(12,913)	7,150	(5,763)	(8,085)
Funds Brought Forward		19,663	-	19,663	27,748
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds Carried Forward		£ 6,750	£ 7,150	£ 13,900	£ 19,663
		-----	-----	-----	-----

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2021

	note	31 Mar 21	31 Dec 19
	-----	-----	-----
FIXED ASSETS		£ nil	£ nil
CURRENT ASSETS			
debtors	6	£ 2,218	£ 17,887
bank balance		36,982	18,879
		-----	-----
		39,200	36,766
CREDITORS - amounts			
falling due within one year	7	25,300	17,103
		-----	-----
Net current assets		13,900	19,663
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS		£ 13,900	£ 19,663
		-----	-----
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	8	6,750	19,663
Restricted funds	9	7,150	-
		-----	-----
		£ 13,900	£ 19,663
		-----	-----

For the 15 months ended 31st March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' Responsibilities:

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 14th July 2021 and signed on its behalf:

Ms M Siân Williams
Trustee

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts
for the 15 months ended 31st March 2021

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015), UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

b. Income

Incoming resources are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy except for donations and investment income which are credited as income when received.

c. Resources expended

All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis. The irrecoverable element of Value Added Tax is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Depreciation is allocated to expenditure headings on the basis of the use of the assets concerned.

d. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company did not own any fixed assets during the year.

e. Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

f. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2. Voluntary Income

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	15 mths to 31 Mar 21	year to 31 Dec 19
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Arts Council Grant	£ 68,313	£ -	£ 68,313	£ 67,079
Arts Council Cultural Recovery Fund	46,206	-	46,206	-
Publishers Contributions	325	650	975	5,350
Unwin Trust	17,580	-	17,580	14,650
Cultural Institutes	-	-	-	378
Charitable Grants	-	6,500	6,500	1,650
Marsh Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,100
Catalyst	-	-	-	1,876
Donations	5,411	-	5,411	4,949
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 139,035	£ 7,150	£ 146,185	£ 97,032
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the 15 months ended 31st March 2021

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	15 mths to 31 Mar 21	year to 31 Dec 19
	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Activities for Generating Funds				
Venues	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 26,443
Auction	-	-	-	6,815
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33,258
	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. Cost of Charitable Activities				
<u>Artistic Expenditure</u>				
Writers fees - theatres	£ -	-	£ -	£ 9,550
Writers fees - schools	7,180	-	7,180	18,060
Writers accommodation - theatre	-	-	-	1,143
Writers travel - theatre	-	-	-	3,122
Writers accommodation - schools	-	-	-	1,737
Writers travel - schools	-	-	-	964
Writers insurance	-	-	-	530
Artists - special project	2,535	-	2,535	-
Organisers travel and subsistence	-	-	-	2,355
Organisers accommodation	-	-	-	719
<u>Administrative Expenditure</u>				
Co-organisers fees	90,577	-	90,577	72,505
Publicist fees	1,880	-	1,880	3,980
Admin and production fees	14,771	-	14,771	6,081
Evaluators fees	-	-	-	1,750
Training courses	-	-	-	1,465
<u>Marketing</u>				
Printing and distribution	279	-	279	778
Electronic mailing	485	-	485	-
Stationery	416	-	416	676
Website maintenance	5,620	-	5,620	189
Fundraising costs	8,979	-	8,979	706
Acquisition texts for schools	15,728	-	15,728	9,195
Less school books for resale	(362)	-	(362)	(553)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 148,088	£ -	£ 148,088	£ 134,952
	-----	-----	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the 15 months ended 31st March 2021

5. Governance Costs

	unrestricted funds	restricted funds	15 mths to 31 Mar 21	year to 31 Dec 19
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Accountancy	£ 1,683	-	£ 1,683	£ 1,887
Travel	84	-	84	273
Telephone	420	-	420	96
Postage	763	-	763	358
Video conferencing	409	-	409	-
Meetings and subsistence	14	-	14	334
Bank charges	47	-	47	33
General/contingency	450	-	450	455
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ 3,870	£ -	£ 3,870	£ 3,436
	-----	-----	-----	-----

6. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

Grants outstanding	£ 2,218	£ 8,384
Other debtors	-	9,503
	-----	-----
	£ 2,218	£ 17,887
	-----	-----

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Creditors and accruals	£ 7,427	£ 17,103
Deferred income	17,873	-
	-----	-----
	£ 25,300	£ 17,103
	-----	-----

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW LIMITED

Notes forming part of the accounts (continued)
for the 15 months ended 31st March 2021

8. Unrestricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity, not including restricted funds, comprise of the following unexpended balances of donations and grants:

	Balance 1 Jan 20	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 21
	-----	-----	-----	-----
General Fund	£ 19,663	£ 139,045	£ 151,958	£ 6,750
	-----	-----	-----	-----

9. Restricted Income Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held in trust to be applied for specific purposes:

	Balance 1 Jan 20	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance 31 Mar 21
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Margate performance	£ -	£ 4,000	£ -	£ 4,000
Stafford performance	-	2,500	-	2,500
Various performances	-	650	-	650
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£ -	£ 7,150	£ -	£ 7,150
	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. Post Balance Sheet Events

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown of theatres, schools and public places has forced the Charity to cancel the 2020 book tour. The management are working hard to ensure funding to enable the 2021 tour to go ahead as planned. The government has announced grants to help theatres and the arts, which along with the reserves will help sustain the Charity over the next 12 months.