

Friends of the Arts Centre [Charity no. 1162818]

Trustees' Report for 2023-2024

2023 marked the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Arts Centre, so, despite the ongoing financial pressures, a festival of special events was held by the Arts Centre. All were free to the public, and FoAC had set aside £5,000 as a contribution to the cost, as promised the year before.

That was the largest donation FoAC has granted so far, and was made possible, ironically, by lockdown having previously stopped demand for our subsidies. The build-up of our funds, mentioned in last year's report, found worthy use in helping this celebration.

We were delighted to be able to help the Youth Theatre project, and to support an exchange project between the Arts Centre and a group of arts practitioners from southern India.

Support for the hugely valuable community engagement element of the Arts Centre's activity was postponed for a year to ensure adequate resources were available.

Maintaining an adequate income is now becoming a matter of rather more concern than hitherto, as founder members of FoAC grow older and pass away. Comparison of the accounts year on year will show the slow attrition of our income via Direct Debits and Standing Orders, while the signs are clear that the Arts Centre will come to need more help than ever before, every year going forward. We are therefore attempting to set up a more active recruitment system for members from the Arts Centre audiences. We cannot ask for increased contributions from our existing supporters.

As things currently stand, we are likely to experience increasing requests for our help year by year. These are already well in excess of our current reliable income, so the drive for renewal in our membership and our committee is extremely important.

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Accounts 1.4.2023 to 31.3.2024

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE:

INCOME

Individual payments from donors
160.00
(Stretch, Eldridge, Allen, Bainbridge)
Donations via LocalGiving
2726.00

TOTAL INCOME
2886.00

EXPENDITURE

<i>Cheque Issued Sum</i>	<i>Presented</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
08.06.2023 1500.00	26.06.2023	Youth Theatre
19.07.2023 5000.00	31.07.2023	Arts Centre festival
14.08.2023 1000.00	25.09.2023	Indian Artists
27.10.2023 180.00	DD	LocalGiving fee

TOTAL EXPENDITURE
7680.00

(Loss) for year
(4794.00)

BALANCE SHEET

Cash in Bank 31.03.2023	8325.55
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Movement of funds	(-4794.00)
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Balance at 01.04.2024	
3531.55	