



Cheltenham Christian Arts

Trustee's Report and Accounts

For the period 1st November 2022–31st October 2023

Charity no. 1164117

Cheltenham Christian Arts

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Information

Charity no. 1164117

Address

2 Grovelands Close, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 8BS

Bankers

Reliance Bank Ltd, Faith House, 23–24 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

Cheltenham Christian Arts (The Charity) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a Constitution dated 26th October 2015.

Apart from the first Trustees, whose initial term of office was two years from incorporation, Trustees are appointed for a term of three years and are eligible for reappointment. In selecting individuals for appointment, the Trustees have regard to the balance of skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

Trustees

Rupert Kaye

Rebecca Donaldson (term of office expired 20/10/2023)

Deborah Harrison

Meryon Cotterill

Andrew Baker

Nichola Kent

Charles Campbell

Simon Howell (stood down 20/10/2023)

Nikki Seville (appointed 20/10/2023)

Objectives and Activities

Objects

The objects of the Charity are, principally in the borough of Cheltenham, to promote the arts generally and to advance education, the Christian faith, religious harmony, citizenship and community development by means of a Festival of the arts and entertainments, both through in-person and online events, to the benefit of the general public, children and young people and marginalised groups.

Mission

‘Creative Arts for Everyone to Inspire Communities for the Glory of God.’

Our Festivals encompass a range of artistic expression which encourage participants to explore the theme of creativity and the Christian faith. Whilst the Festivals have a Christian impulse, participation is open to all regardless of religion, race, gender, age or background, supporting interfaith and interdenominational understanding.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that, in running Festivals and associated activities, they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

Cheltenham and Gloucestershire are not numbered among the more deprived towns or regions of the United Kingdom. Nevertheless, they contain sub-districts that fall within the 10% most deprived nationally and the Charity has continued its objective of offering specific events and activities in these areas of the town, in order to enable wider access.

The Festival encourages and works with churches, schools and other community groups to collaborate, and its volunteers and participants to be uplifted, by engaging in shared activities and meeting new people. For example, art courses and art clubs, which are a constituent part of the Cheltenham Christian Arts Trail, are enjoyed by many and inspire people of all ages to join in. Whilst conventional church attendance continues to decline, there is growing interest in non-traditional expressions of faith.

In the light of current debates about religious radicalisation, Cheltenham Christian Arts aims to promote interaction and understanding between faiths. The motto of the Christian Arts Festival is to challenge and engage as well as to celebrate and entertain. The aim of our interfaith events is to encourage Christians and people of other faiths to interact and build social cohesion through greater understanding.

Also benefiting from the Festival and its related activities are organisations supporting deprived communities, those with physical and mental health issues, disadvantaged young people and the socially isolated.

Overview

Cheltenham Christian Arts Festival is continually exploring ways to be more imaginative through innovative and fresh expressions of faith through events and workshops.

GOSPEL 2023

GOSPEL 2023 explored the Christian Faith through a diverse mixed arts festival with competitions, workshops and performances. An invitation to everyone, of all ages, including those of different faiths and no faith, to explore fresh perspectives in vibrant ways. We fulfilled our aim to spark curiosity and introduce or reacquaint people with our Gospel (good news) of truth and hope. One highlight event which launched this year's offerings was an art exhibition in the Gardens Gallery situated in the centre of Cheltenham over the Easter period. An opportunity through Art inspired by the Gospels to discuss the Easter Story with visitors, many of whom had no intention of attending an Easter service in a church. Many challenging conversations ensued and a number of misconceptions were erased. Events continued to

promote deeper understanding of the Gospel story, unity amongst churches, relationships built across faith divides, people learning to express themselves through art, skills acquisition/development, public performance networks to church-based support, people having and enjoyable and engaging time.

Further highlights included a Gospel song-writing competition inspired by the unique cultural roots of Gospel music with a recording prize and performed by the headline act EAGA Gospel Choir (winners of the BBC Gospel Choir 2023) at the finale of Gospel23 at Cheltenham Town Hall.

There was a “New Life” themed art competition, open to younger age groups as well as adults. On 20th April the awards ceremony took place in the Queen’s Hotel, and the winner was given a £1,000 cash and representation in the Park Gallery, Montpellier for four months.

A Literature day including the Rt Rev Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester, Rev Sam Wells of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Rt Rev John Pritchard, theologians and popular authors. For children there was Gemma Hunt from CBeebies and gypsy author Richard O’Neill, National Centre of Children’s Books, in the new arts community space at St Philip and St James Church. In the months leading up to the Literature day a regular study group met at Pip and Jim’s to read and discuss Dante’s Divine Comedy.

At the Town Hall, a new drama by Saltmine Theatre, “The Liberator,” offered a passionate retelling of the life and teaching of Jesus to which over 90 young people were given free tickets thanks to a generous sponsor. Other events at the Town Hall included workshops on Christian meditation, bible art journalling, and singing before the Grand finale featuring spoken word performance, song competition winners and the EAGA Gospel Choir. The great success of the evening was reflected in the generosity in the bucket collections after the concert.

Reviews and comments on GOSPEL 2023:

“Thanks so much for an amazing time at the Liberator performance. Everyone enjoyed and was challenged by it. The young people were captivated!”

Andy Macaulay, Operations Director & Head of Education, Safeguarding Lead, The Rock

“Their singing, accompanied by Prophecy Gospel Band from the Church of God of Prophecy, Gloucester, was energetic and their voices soared and harmonised. Every individual was filled with overflowing happiness that spilled into the audience, who after a short while were up and dancing and clapping along....It was a different and a positive experience that was shared by a mixed crowd of those that worship and those that do not. Most importantly of all, it was a night of beautifully uplifting singing from people who have naturally exquisite voices.”

Julia Lock, Gloucester Info

“Phenomenal performance from the award winning choir. Such energy. Such talent. A privilege to be taught by choir director Jordan Anderson and huge generosity of spirit from the choir to welcome a collaborative performance. Unforgettable.”

Besaltbaked, via Instagram

“Thank you SO, SO much for the treasure trove of speakers and events last Saturday and Sunday. All so very life enhancing.” – *anonymous attendee*

“Chris Wittington, the leader [of the introduction to Christian Meditation workshop], has the simple yet profound ability to reconnect us with the God who lives in us. He demonstrates a true, compassionate understanding and a calm surety that helps you to see the truth hiding in plain sight in you, so that you feel your true worth as a child of God.” – *anonymous attendee*

Attendance figures

After 7 years of putting on festivals we have accrued 800 followers on our database, plus 2,000 on Facebook, 1,000 on X(formerly Twitter) and 800 on Instagram.

385 people took part in the art competition, both open and student categories.

33 people entered the gospel song-writing competition.

25 people attended the Dante Study Group.

Over 100 people attended the Literature Day.

55 people took part in the various workshops at the Town Hall

Over 1,000 people visited the Gardens Gallery during the Easter week

Almost 400 people attended the Grand Finale Gospel concert.

Free tickets were provided for 12-18 year olds for the gospel singing workshop and the Liberator drama. 92 young people attended.

Total attendance 2,050

Other highlights and partnerships

As well as the main GOSPEL 2023 events,

- Cheltenham Education Partnership: Nikki Seville has an advisory role on the Steering and Operations Group, representing both state and private schools along with the university.
- We are partners with Cheltenham Arts Council and Cheltenham Culture Board.
- Musica Romantica Valentine's Day celebration with the Cotswold Brass Quintet at Christ Church Cheltenham.
- Park Gallery, Montpelier: sponsored our art competition and represented our winning artist.
- Restoring Paradise Textile Banners: travelled around the UK to 14 separate exhibition spaces before returning to St Andrew's, Churchdown, for the closing party before the banners were returned to their creators.
- Heritage Open Days at Christ Church included workshops, music and talks.
- We actively encourage churches to provide us with information and display material to help promote their arts-based events through our marketing platforms e.g helping to

recruit volunteers for the Passion Play which Rev Janet Hamilton put on in West Cheltenham at Easter 2024.

Ongoing Plans for 2023/2024

Beck Donaldson reached the end of her third term of office and stepped down in October 2023. We are looking to recruit two new trustees.

2024 will be a time of prayerfully refocussing our mission and vision. To this end we are planning an away day with the help of a spiritual director in 2024.

We will continue to support and facilitate churches and art organisations with extra marketing through our newsletters and social media networks.

From January to April Pip and Jim's are hosting lectures on Christian themes in Shakespeare, culminating in a whole day of events including a liturgy based on a Midsummer Night's Dream, inspired by the success of our Dante's Divine Comedy study group.

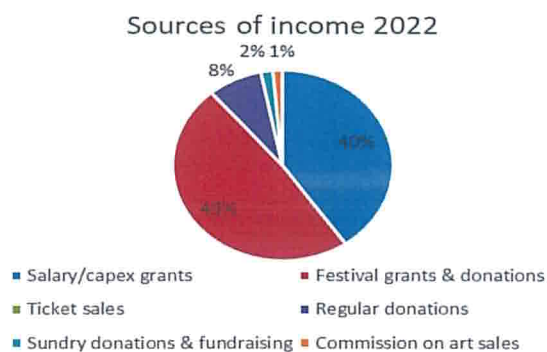
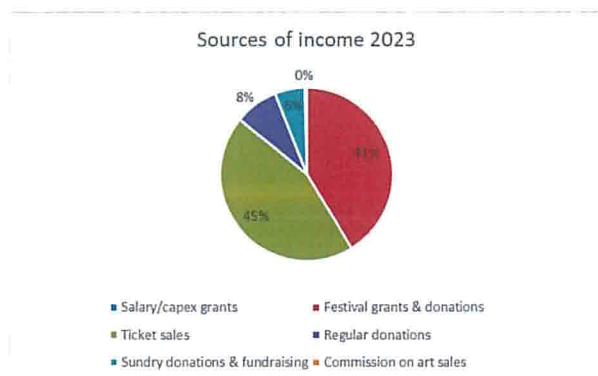
We are recruiting primary schools to host performances of 4front Theatre's tour of their new drama "The Parable Keeper"

Financial Review

This year the main activities were a Literature Day at Pip & Jim's in Leckhampton, followed by a day of workshops and events at the Town Hall, culminating in a Gospel concert with the EAGA choir..

Income was £12,659 (2022: £26,594). Expenditure was £18,499 (2022: £25,729), resulting in a deficit of £5,840 (2021: surplus £865). The main differences between 2023 and 2022 were that no further grants were received for salary, so the remaining balance from previous years was used to pay 2 months salary and redundancy for the project leader. As the events this year were ticketed, the balance between grant funding and ticket sales was different.

Reserves have therefore decreased to £3214, (2022: £9,053). The only restricted fund is now the final third of a grant for capital equipment which is awaiting next year's depreciation charge. Accrued gift aid, including some gift aid on donations towards the Town Hall event is around £535.



At the end of the period, cash in the bank and at hand amounted to £2,421, a decrease of almost the same as the accounting deficit. Ongoing monthly subs and bank charges amount to around £50, which is equal to the amount of regular giving (pre gift aid) receivable.

We are extremely grateful to Westhill Endowment Trust, as well as to all our individual donors.

During the year project leadership was provided on a voluntary basis. We are in the process of developing a job description for this role, to explore either finding another project leader willing to volunteer, or to include an allowance for project management fees in future grant applications.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review and monitor the risks associated with running the Charity.

The principal risks are financial, in the requirement to commit expenditure in the advance planning and marketing of activities and events, and in the risk that expenditures exceed projected income from ticket sales, donations and grant applications. Post pandemic audiences seem to book very late, and are reduced from what they used to be. Without a paid project leader role we also run the risk of not having enough resource to organise events. Other risks include health and safety, safeguarding and data protection, for which appropriate policies and procedures have been put in place.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are currently considering future strategy, which will dictate the reserves policy. For the moment, there are sufficient funds in the bank to cover sundry outgoings such as the costs of the away day.

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Cheltenham Christian Arts

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31st October 2023, which are set out in the attached Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA), Balance Sheet, and Notes to the Accounts.

The trustees of the Charity are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, but that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- i. Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- ii. To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- iii. To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- i. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Charities Act; or
- ii. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- iii. the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts & Reports) Regulations 2008.

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.



Michael Hurst

29th January 2024

Cheltenham Christian Arts – Statement of Financial Activities to 31 October 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources (Note 2)				
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	1,428	1,473	2,902	2,590
Charitable activities	1,778	7,872	9,650	23,298
Other trading activities	107	-	107	706
Total	3,314	9,345	12,659	26,594
Resources expended (Note 3)				
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	-	-	-	0
Charitable activities	2,635	13,084	15,719	23,042
Marketing	924	512	1,436	534
Other	1,095	250	1,345	2,153
Total	4,653	13,846	18,499	25,729
Net income/(expenditure)	(1,340)	(4,500)	(5,840)	865
Transfers between funds	(412)	412	-	-
Net movement in funds	(1,751)	(4,089)	(5,840)	865
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	4,715	4,339	9,053	8,188
Total funds carried forward	2,964	250	3,214	9,053

Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2023

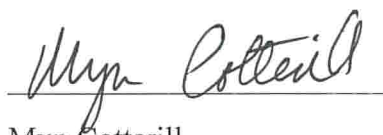
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	16	250	266	531
Total fixed assets	16	250	266	531
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 4)	382	155	537	784
Cash at bank and in hand	2,576	(155)	2,421	7,772
Total current assets	2,958	0	2,958	8,557
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 5)	10	0	10	35
Net current assets/(liabilities)	2,948	0	2,948	8,522
Total assets less current liabilities	2,964	250	3,214	9,053
Total net assets or liabilities	2,964	250	3,214	9,053
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted income funds (Note 6)	0	250	250	4,338
Unrestricted funds	2,964	0	2,964	4,715
Total funds	2,964	250	3,214	9,053

Signed by the Trustees on 22/05/2024



Rupert Kaye

Chair



Myn Cotterill

Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts:

1. Accounting policies

a) Accounting basis

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102, and with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. The applicable legal framework for non-company charities has not been updated to keep pace with the publication of Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP), and therefore the charity has chosen to use the aforementioned SORP in line with the Charity Commission guidance on the subject.

b) The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis, as although we have lost salary funding for a paid Project Leader, we have regular giving and no reason to expect that future festivals will not attract grant funding.

c) The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

d) The charities functional and presentation currency is the pound sterling.

e) Fixed assets and depreciation

Equipment which is expected to provide a benefit beyond one festival is classed as capital expenditure, and depreciated on a straight-line basis over its useful life. There is no capitalisation threshold as asset purchases are relatively rare. Depreciation on equipment purchased with restricted grants is classed as restricted spend.

f) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following sources of income are usual:

- Ticket Sales: ticket sales are recognised after the event for which the ticket was sold. Until the event takes place, the possibility of having to return ticket income on cancellation of the event is considered to remove the entitlement.
- Grant income: grant income is recognised when received, unless there are specific performance-related criteria that mean entitlement cannot be guaranteed until after the performance.
- Donations are recognised when received. Gift aid is accrued for and claimed after the year end.
- Commission on sales of artworks: recognised on receipt of the money, usually via PayPal.

g) Outgoing resources

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT as the charity is not VAT registered, so VAT

cannot be reclaimed and therefore is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Charitable activities comprise the costs of putting on the Festival, including insurance. It also includes the cost of the Project Leader's employment.
- Marketing consists of all marketing, advertising and brochure production and distribution costs.
- Other expenses consist of office expenses and professional fees.
- Sales of art were handled as pass-through monies collected by the Festival via cash or the Festival's card payment machine, and passed on to artists net of a commission. Only the commission appears as income in the accounts, and there are no costs.
- No Governance costs have been incurred this year, again due to the kindness of volunteers.
- One reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses was made to a Trustee. The same Trustee also participated in the art exhibition as an artist, and made gross sales of £37.50 which was paid over net of a 20% commission.

2. Analysis of income:

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year
		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	1,051	1,318	2,370	2,410
	Gift Aid	377	155	532	180
	Total	1,428	1,473	2,902	2,590
Charitable activities:	Ticket sales	1,778	3,872	5,650	0
	Grants towards Project Leader Salary	0	0	0	10,000
	Festival event grants & sponsorship	0	4,000	4,000	13,298
	Other	0	0	0	0
	Total	1,778	7,872	9,650	23,298
Other trading activities:	Commission on sale of artworks	48	0	48	368
	Cheltenham Lottery	39	0	39	68
	Pitch fees at Literature Day	20	0	20	270
	Total	107	0	107	706
TOTAL INCOME		3,314	9,345	12,659	26,594

	Total funds £	Prior year £
Benefact Trust for equipment		750
Westhill Endowment re Gospel	4,000	
Anchor Foundation re salary		0
Diocese of Glos LDF grant for salary		10,000
Total	4,000	10,750
Festival event grants and sponsorship	Total funds £	Prior year £
County of Glos grant for Art in the Park		1,823
Awards for All grant for Festival of Stars		9,525
Gloucester Diocese grant for school theatre		700
Cheltenham Arts Council grant - Fest. of Stars		500
Total	-	12,548
Total grants towards charitable activities	4,000	23,298
Ticket sales	5,650	-
Total charitable activities	9,650	23,298

3. Analysis of expenditure:

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £	Prior year £
Expenditure on raising funds:	Analysis				
	Other trading activities	0	0	0	0
	Total expenditure on raising funds	0	0	0	0
Expenditure on charitable activities:	Art Exhibitions & competition	38	0	38	240
	Gospel 2023	0	10,232	10,232	0
	Literature Day	2,023	0	2,023	0
	In the Park events	0	0	0	1,305
	Dante book group	189	0	189	0
	Textile banner touring exhibition	0	223	223	0
	School Theatre workshops	0	0	0	375
	Main Festival event costs	0	0	0	10,383
	Insurance	385	0	385	364
	Project Leader salary	0	2,630	2,630	10,376
	Total expenditure on charitable activities	2,635	13,084	15,719	23,042
Separate material item of expense:	Advertising and Marketing	924	512	1,436	534
	Total	924	512	1,436	534
Other:					
	Depreciation	16	250	266	595
	Bank charges	310	0	310	162
	IT & Telephony, Subs & Office costs	647	0	647	950
	Travel, hospitality & venue hire	121	0	121	446
	Total other expenditure	1,095	250	1,345	2,153
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		4,653	13,846	18,499	25,729

Activity or programme	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities £	Total this year £	Total prior year £
Physical events	Literature Day & Book Group		2,212	0
Physical events	Jubilee Art in the Park		0	1,305
Art exhibitions	Gardens Gallery		38	240
Main festival	GOSPEL (2022:Festival of Stars)		10,232	10,382
Other	Project Leader salary		2,630	10,376
Other	Textile banner exhibition (2022:School Theatre worksh		223	375
Other	Insurance		385	364
Total			15,719	23,042

4. Debtors and prepayments

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	537	784
Total	537	784

5. Donated services

We are very grateful to all those volunteers who donate their time and expertise for free. No valuation has been placed on these donated goods and services in these accounts, due to the difficulty in quantifying a figure.

6. Fees for the examination of the accounts

We have not incurred any charge for the independent examination of the accounts, due to the kindness and generosity of our examiner.

7. Employee costs

The charity had one paid employee at the start of the year, working the equivalent of 0.5 full-time posts. Employment commenced on 1 November 2019.

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Salaries and wages	2,590	10,000
Social security costs	0	0
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	40	376
Total staff costs	2,630	10,376

No employees received remuneration of more than £60,000 per year. The employee was working as a Project Leader. Governance is provided by unpaid trustees.

The charity is eligible for the Employment Allowance and consequently has no social security costs.

Included in the figures above is a redundancy payment made during the period of £1,153.86, equivalent to six weeks salary.

8. Fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
8.1 Cost	£	£
At the start of the year	2,877	2,877
Additions		-
At end of the year	2,877	2,877
8.2 Depreciation and impairments		
At the start of the year	2,346	2,346
Depreciation	266	266
At end of the year	2,612	2,612
8.3 Net book value (NBV)		
NBV at the start of the year	532	532
NBV at the end of the year	266	266

Assets are depreciated over three years for capital equipment, or two years if essentially advertising or marketing materials. For example, the pull-up banner system is depreciated over three years, while replacement banners are depreciated over two. Depreciation is split evenly over the two or three years of the asset life, with a full year in the year of purchase.

9. Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
	£	£	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	10	35	0	0
Taxation and social security	0	-	0	0
Total	10	35	0	0

10. Analysis of Funds

An analysis of fund movement for the current reporting period is shown below:

Fund names	Type	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General funds	U		4,715	3,314	(4,653)	(412)	2,963.60
Arts Trail	R	Cheltenham Arts Council (CAC)	0				0
Eden 2021	R	Grant re banner project	223		(223)		0
Festival of Stars	R	Awards for all grant/CAC grant	0				0
Park events	R	Art & Music in the Park	275			(275)	0
Schools theatre	R	Theatre project	525			(525)	0
GOSPEL 2023	R	Donations & grants for Gospel 2023	150	9,345	(10,743)	1,248	0
Equipment	R	Benefact grant for equipment	500		(250)		250
Salary	R	LIFE Development fund grants	2,666		(2,630)	(36)	(0)
Total Funds			9,053	12,659	(18,499)	0	3,214

Analysis of funds for prior year:

Fund names	Type	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General funds	U		4,531	2,946	(2,460)	(302)	4,715
Arts Trail	R	Cheltenham Arts Council (CAC)	119		(240)	121	0
Eden 2021	R	Grant re banner project	223				223
Festival of Stars	R	Awards for all grant/CAC grant	0	10,025	(10,324)	299	0
Park events	R	Art & Music in the Park	275	1,823	(1,704)	(119)	275
Schools theatre	R	Theatre project		900	(375)		525
GOSPEL 2023	R	Donations for Gospel 2023	0	150			150
Equipment	R	Benefact grant for equipment	0	750	(250)		500
Salary	R	LIFE Development fund grants	3,042	10,000	(10,376)		2,666
Total Funds			8,188	26,594	(25,729)	(0)	9,053

Transfers between funds:

There was an unspent balance of £36 on previous salary grants which has been transferred to general funds as too small to be significant. The gift aid on the Music in the Park donation has been transferred to music events at Gospel at the request of the donor, and the remaining theatre project funding was spent against the Saltmine drama performance of the Liberator at Gospel 2023. After these transfers, the Gospel event was overspent by £447, which was covered by unrestricted funds.

11. Related party transactions

One Trustee exhibited as an artist at the Easter art event. Gross sales of £37.50 were paid over to her net of 20% commission.

12. Trustee expenses

During the year, £147 (2022: £70) of expenses incurred by Trustees were reimbursed. No remuneration was received by any Trustee in payment for their services.