



RAGGED EDGE PRODUCTIONS CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2023

Trustees' Report

Name and Status

The name of the charity is Ragged Edge Productions and this is the name under which it operates. The charity was constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation on 4th November 2015 under registration number 1164255.

Address

The charity's registered and operational address is Chapel House, Bassenthwaite, Keswick, CUMBRIA CA12 4QH.

Trustees

Throughout the accounting year the trustees were: Elaine Wise, Ian Forrest (resigned at meeting of 25th March 2023) and Heather Askew. Anne Timpson became a Trustee on 8th October 2022. Chris Bridgman became a Trustee on 11th November 2023.

Objects

The purpose of the charity is the advancement of the education of the public in the appreciation and understanding of performing arts in all their forms, through the operation and management of Ragged Edge Productions.

Structure, governance, management

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity works within the objects. In this seventh year of the charity's activity the day to day work has been undertaken by Stefan Escreet, Artistic Director of Ragged Edge Productions. The trustees meet quarterly to receive reports and to review the work being undertaken.

Financial Matters

Income and expenditure accounts and an Independent Examiners report by Caroline Clarke of Counterculture Accountants accompany this report.

The income for Ragged Edge Productions for the financial period was £19,750 and its expenditure was £29,696

Income was derived from a combination of grants from Arts Council England, local authority and earned income from our charitable activities.

The main area of expenditure was carrying out the charitable objects of the company of which the largest part was spent on fees for professional creatives (£24,203.90). The Trustees have chosen not to claim any expenses in undertaking their duties in this year of charitable activity.

Benefits to Trustees

No Trustees received any financial or other benefit during this year.

Public Benefit

The trustees are aware of their public benefit obligations and are satisfied that they have complied throughout the year with the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Activity and Achievements

During this year Ragged Edge has continued to develop the *Audio Adventures* strand of work. This has included working with community groups on co-created and participatory projects. It has become clear that *Audio Adventures* have huge potential and the nature of the work is proving of great interest to partners and funders as it originates in an innovative response to people and place. *Audio Adventures* take place in public spaces, which makes them attractive to members of the public that may feel there are barriers to attending events in theatre venues. These projects are helping us deliver creative work in line with our charitable objects - *the advancement of the education of the public in the appreciation and understanding of performing arts in all their forms*.

We created an *Audio Adventure* to celebrate 70 years of life on the Ewanrigg Estate in Maryport, West Cumbria, as part of the national Jubilee celebrations. We created audio content through recorded conversations with a wide range of members of the community – including school children, elderly residents in housing association accommodation, local businesses and sports clubs and those working at the local cottage hospital. This was complemented by the participation of a dozen volunteer performers from the local community. The project established a fruitful working partnership with the Local Trust and Community Centre and developed our model for co-creating and participatory *Audio Adventure* projects. In a first for Ragged Edge, we were able to commission a poem for this project from an award-winning Cumbrian writer Katie Hale. We also commissioned a real-time filmed version of the *Audio Adventure* walk and this helped us to reach additional audiences in special screenings and online.

During the summer of 2022 and in partnership with Carlisle Youth Zone, we made an *Audio Adventure* with a diverse group of young people – including those from deprived backgrounds, from the LGBTQI community and those with disabilities. Our free performances were enthusiastically received by the audiences and impressed one local businessman so much that he made a substantial donation to support the work of CYZ .

As the year ended, our *Audio Adventure* strand attracted grant support from local authorities. Eden District Council offered funding for the creation of performances responding to Castle Park in Penrith with local young people. Allerdale Borough Council also offered funding for a co-created *Audio Adventure* with a community group in the centre of the coastal town of Maryport.

Further details about our *Audio Adventure* strand can be found on our website at: <https://raggededgeproductions.co.uk/audio-adventures>

Ragged Edge was able to return to the rural touring circuit again with our new theatre production *The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon*. This entertaining and innovative show allows the audience to participate. It is a sociable and comedic event which has proved popular during a challenging time for programming following the loss of audiences due to the pandemic. Ragged Edge received very positive feedback and reviews for the production and continues to tour the country with the production.

★★★★★ [Northern Arts Review](#)

"The fun is packed into every line, every exchange of hats, every press of a button on the sound equipment. It is slapstick at its best from well-seasoned performers. It is not often you can experience an audience ranging from eight-year-olds to octogenarians all crying with laughter at the same thing – but you can experience this down at the Blue Moon Saloon."

Audience Reviews:

"Ye-ha! Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon. Absolutely brilliant. Amazing character actors, each playing many parts in many hats. It was bound to be fun. What made it exceptional was the way they engaged us. We were encouraged to be outrageous as members of the notorious Appleby Gang, wearing cowboy hats and firing our "guns". We laughed and clapped as the mystery unfolded. Fab evening. Everyone seemed to be leaving with a smile."
Kirkby Stephen Social Club, Cumbria

"The village hall was bustling on Sunday night for the performance of The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon by the talented team [Ragged Edge Productions](#) brought to Grasmere by [Highlights Rural Touring Scheme](#). The actors were brilliant at playing several characters at once in a very entertaining story line.

The performance involved audience participation, including recording some of the sound effects, which was great fun, and with guidance and prompts from the actors you actually felt like you were truly contributing and supporting the making of a live radio show. All in all a very entertaining evening, with plenty of laughter along the way!"
Grasmere Village Hall, Cumbria

"We are a small village library who, with the help and support of Spot On Lancashire have been hosting music and theatre performances for the last 4 years. Our latest performance was The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon, performed by Ragged Edge Productions. The company were great to work with from beginning to end. The technical information they provided in advance of us choosing them- the show description, amount of floor space required, set up times etc. were accurate and allowed me to make sure they would be a good fit for our both our building and audience.

We sold all 50 tickets in advance, which is not unusual for us because being able to access high quality entertainment so near to home is very important to our community, particularly those who are unable to travel far from home, due to cost implications or, travel / health restrictions.


As expected, the performance went down a storm. Everyone I spoke to thoroughly enjoyed the performance. They described it as joyful, entertaining, hilarious, clever, different, fun and inclusive. They all left in good humour and with smiles on their faces. I particularly liked how they invited the audience to participate in the performance by producing vocals and sound effects. It gave them a sense of inclusion and even the more reluctant audience members seemed happy to contribute towards the performance. Those who ended up with a small speaking part really relished their involvement as did their friends and family who were still laughing and joking about it as they left the library. If I ever see a Ragged Edge production on the menu in future, I will certainly be hoping they return to our library."

Sandra Klijn-Passant, Library Officer, Bolton-le-Sands Library

The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon has also attracted the interest of private donors for Ragged Edge. Their financial support has been enhanced by Gift Aid. Our positive relations with these donors continue and the organisation will be looking to engage with more donors to support our work in the future.

The organisation continues to receive support from larger Arts Council National Portfolio Organisations in the region – Theatre by the Lake, Rosehill Theatre and Kirkgate Arts and Heritage.

This Trustees' Annual Report approved by the Trustees on 16/12/2023:

Heather Askew  .

Chris Bridgman  .

Elaine Wise  .

Anne Timpson  .



Ragged Edge Productions

1164255
(Charitable
Incorporated
Organisation)

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grant funding: Trusts and Foundations	-	-	-	-	-
Grant funding: Public:	-	6,518	-	6,518	23,147
Donations from individuals and businesses	2,252	-	-	2,252	2,600
Earned income: Charitable activities	4,369	6,611	-	10,980	5,776
Costs refunded	-	-	-	-	192
Theatre tax relief	-	-	-	-	2,205
Investment income	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,621	13,129	-	19,750	33,920
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,621	13,129	-	19,750	33,920
A3 Payments					
General running costs:					
Advertising	360	900	-	1,260	3,554
Travelling	289	288	-	577	300
Insurance	-	497	-	497	482
Postage, printing, stationery and sundries	370	-	-	370	295
Other	146	-	-	146	50
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Direct programme costs:					
Artists fees	6,035	18,167	-	24,202	14,320
Production	987	1,201	-	2,188	2,966
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Development costs:					
	-	-	-	-	-
Governance:					
Independent examination	420	-	-	420	420
Interest and bank charges	36	-	-	36	36
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	8,643	21,053	-	29,696	22,423
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	8,643	21,053	-	29,696	22,423
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,022	- 7,924	-	- 9,946	11,497
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year and	7,699	12,414	-	20,113	15/12/2023 8,616

Cash funds this year end	5,677	4,490	-	10,167	20,113
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Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cumberland Building Society	5,677	4,490	-
				-
				-
				-
	Total cash funds	5,677	4,490	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Accountancy	Unrestricted	300	
	Total Liabilities		300	

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Heather Ashew	16/12/23
	Anne Timperley	16/12/23



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Ragged Edge Productions

On accounts for the year
ended

31/3/2023

Charity no
(if any)

1164255

Set out on pages

CC16a

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:**Date:** 10th January 2024**Name:**

Andrew M Wells

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FMAAT

Address:

66 High Street

Lewes, East Sussex

BN7 1XG

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.