THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1170354

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2016-11-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Office D1f Milburn house Dean Street Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1LF
Phone	07925167775
Email	thetwistingducks@gmail.com
Website	www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:1. TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF PERSONS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES ACROSS THE UNITED KINGDOM THROUGH THEIR PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE PERFORMING ARTS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES AND BY ASSISTING PERSONS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES TO OBTAIN THEIR RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS AS EQUAL CITIZENS.2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY RAISING AWARENESS IN ALL MATTERS RELATING TO PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES.

Activities: Our aim is to enable people with learning disabilites and autism to take part in the arts and to produce theatre and film that helps them to explore the issues that are most important to them, increase their skills and independence, improve their helath and wellbeing, reduce social isolation and and become more visible and active in their communities.

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1170354

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Gateshead
- Newcastle Upon Tyne City
- North Tyneside
- Northumberland
- South Tyneside
- Sunderland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£383,048	£337,547	-	-
2024-03-31	£242,644	£273,613	-	-
2023-03-31	£286,137	£245,240	-	-
2022-03-31	£205,514	£184,385	-	-
2021-03-31	£179,853	£134,064	-	-

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1170354

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Miles John Henderson	Chair	2025-02-12
Dean Barnes		2025-10-29
Lisa Jacqueline Kelly		2022-06-13
Una Mcnicholl		2016-06-15
VERONICA MAY DOUGHERTY		2016-04-01
Victoria Eleanor Mary Smith		2022-06-13
Zoe Jennifer Hull		2025-06-04

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1170354

THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1170354

Accounts

The Twisting Ducks
Theatre Company CIO

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Contents

Welcome from Miles Henderson, Chair	3
Welcome from Jay Hare, CEO	3
Objectives and Activities	4
Key Achievements:	5
• Theatre and music performances	5
• Workshops	8
• Commissions	9
Impact	10
Fundraising	11
Financial review	11
Plans for future periods	12
Structure, governance, and management	13
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	15
Financial Statements	16

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019).

Welcome from Miles Henderson, Chair

It is now five very short and enjoyable years since I was first invited to become a trustee of the Twisting Ducks, and I was truly honoured to be elected to the position of Chair this year. I remain hugely proud of the work that Jay and his team do in sustainably growing the charity, and indeed of everything we do.

The increasing geographical spread of our activities continues and enables increasing numbers of people to participate. We have also seen some truly innovative performances that bring great joy to both participants and the audience.

I would also like to take this chance to formally thank all of our supporters, sponsors, funders, trustees and staff for their work this year. I must also thank Chris Shrubb who retired as Chair mid way through the year.

She was an inspiration to all at the charity and was instrumental in moving the charity from its much smaller roots. Most of all, however, I must express both pride and thanks to our members who drive the Ducks to ever greater heights.

Onwards and upwards to a great 2025.

Miles Henderson,
Chair

Welcome from Jay Hare, CEO

It's been a privilege to see so many original performances emerging this year, and to receive such positive feedback from participants and audiences. None of this would have been possible without the creativity and dedication of our group members, staff and volunteers, who are an incredible asset to The Twisting Ducks.

Building on the strength of our Academy programme, and supporting our aim to involve more people in the arts, we have expanded our offer over the last 12 months, including delivering new sessions in North Tyneside and growing numbers for our recently established South Tyneside Performing Arts Academy. Funding from Newcastle Culture Investment Fund has enabled us to deliver our outreach programme, helping our community to explore social issues through the arts, and to represent these issues through our groups' performance work.

Raising the visibility of performers with learning disabilities and autistic artists within mainstream cultural arenas is one of our core objectives. Continued support from our partners Northern Stage, Theatre Royal, Arts Centre Washington, and Customs House has enabled us to do this. By providing meeting, rehearsal and performance space, tech support, awareness raising, and much, much more, these cultural institutions have played a key role in helping over 80 people this year realise their ambition of performing on the stage of a public theatre. It was rewarding to hear our partners sharing the value that our inclusive approach brings to them, via our 'Spotlight' film and we look forward to continued joint working to increase opportunities for our artists and audiences.

Jay Hare,
CEO

Objectives and Activities

The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO aims to tackle inequalities and improve wellbeing by increasing opportunities for people with a learning disability and autistic people to have their voices heard and to contribute to their community through leading on the production of theatre, film and music that reflects their lived experience.

We achieve our aims by creating accessible opportunities for people to come together and create, to develop their artistic skills and talent, and to collaborate with communities and cultural partners. We support beneficiaries to share their work on a public platform, ensuring the uniqueness and relevance of their art reaches more people. We use issue–based art forms to educate and inform, to help people explore social issues, and to raise awareness. We create opportunities for people to lead as artists and practitioners, and to work and volunteer with us.

This year, we have delivered against our objectives by providing a 6-day programme of participatory arts sessions across Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland, resulting in 5 original live theatre productions. Funding from the Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at Community Foundation has enabled our artists with learning disabilities and autism to deliver outreach workshops and to devise and perfrom a new piece of theatre at Northern Stage.

Public Benefit Statement

In deciding our annual objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have duly considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. This report describes the main activities undertaken by our charity to carry out its charitable purpose for the benefit of people with a learning disability and autistic people.

Key Achievements and project highlights

Theatre performances

It has been a bumper year for live theatre productions, with 5 original shows devised and performed by our drama groups.

My Washington, My Sunderland – Platform Sunderland

Our Platform Sunderland group, based at Arts Centre Washington, wanted to devise a piece of theatre that celebrates their local area and their connections to it. Incorporating song, dance, drama, and film, My Washington, My Sunderland shared stories of local people, history, and culture, and was performed at Arts Centre Washington on 26th April.

The group also performed an excerpt of the play at Washington's 60th Celebration event on 20th July – a day of music, performances and family activities to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Washington New Town.

The project was funded by the Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, a grant giving charity funded entirely by players of People's Postcode Lottery, as well as support from Washington Heritage Partnership and Sunderland Culture.

"Brilliant and joyous celebration of Sunderland, Washington and the company"

(audience member).

"I would watch it all over again. An important message delivered with fun, joy, humour and sincerity"

(audience member).

Employment Roulette - Newcastle Saturday Performing Arts Academy

The group shared their lived experience and their employment aspiraitons to produce a new performance that uses a game show concept to convey the highs and lows of pathways to work.

"Employment Roulette is about people with learning disabilities finding it hard to get a job, because of all the barriers out there. Some employers might not want to take people on, a lot of people need support and don't always know where to get it. I do paid work delivering training for The Twisting Ducks and it makes me feel confident. I think more people should have the opportunity to work" (Marc, performer).

The group gave a matinee and evening performance at Newcastle's Live Theatre on 4th May.

Dolly's Boots - South Tyneside Performing Arts Academy

Set against a backdrop of Dolly Parton's timeless classics, Dolly's Boots follows the heartwarming tale of a woman with a learning disability called 'Dolly', and her triumph over adversity to follow her dreams to perform on stage.

"We are a cast of people with learning disabilities and just like Dolly, we have got each other and have overcome challenges to perform this amazing show" (Lisa, performer).

Audience members at the Customs House, including Andrea Pattison (Dolly Parton tribute performer) and the Mayor of South Tyneside Cllr Fay Cunningham, attended the performance on 18th June, in celebration of National Learning Disability Week.

"Made me laugh and cry. Fab performance!"

(audience member).

What Am I Like?! - Newcastle Wednesday Performing Arts Academy

Performed on 20th November at St James United Reform Church in Newcastle, What Am I like?! follows a group of strangers who discover new things about themselves and find a greater sense of belonging through sharing their stories and exploring their identities.

"I thought it was fabulous, pure joy. Bold, creative, imaginative, relevant. Well done to all the performers"

(audience member).

Tick Tock Whenever – Spectrum Theatre

Our autistic artists from Spectrum Theatre devised Tick Tock Whenever and staged three back-to-back live performances at Northern Stage on 27th March, with tickets for the final evening performance selling out.

"We wanted to do a play about all our different needs, and how this connects us. Pat and Jessie really like Steampunk, so we decided to do a steampunk theme…. My character creates a time machine because there's times when he feels like he doesn't belong, so he escapes through traveling through time" (Kieran, performer)

Tick Tock Whenever was funded through the Newcastle Culture Investment Fund – the eighth original theatre production made possible by this grant since 2015.

"Original, funny. Raises awareness of autism. I'm autistic so enjoyed seeing autistic people perform"

(audience member).

Outreach Workshops

Feeling Free project

Made possible by a grant from **The Newcastle Fund**, 8 Peer Facilitators with a learning disability met weekly to devise workshops exploring mental health. The group utilised film stimulus, role play, music and issue-based drama techniques such as Rainbow of Desire.

Peer Facilitators delivered workshops to 62 people with a learning disability. Key issues that emerged were:

- **Emotions** – is it ok to feel sad and tell people that you are sad?
- **Self-help** (identifying what makes you feel sad, anxious, and offering peer advice with this)

"I've got to speak up about things in my life and listen to other people's issues. It's really helped me". (Lisa)

The group will be delivering more workshops next year, and producing a film that focuses on peer advice around emotional resilience and positive mental health and wellbeing.

Issue-based Newcastle workshops

With funding from **Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at Community Foundation North East** our core artists with a learning disability and members of our autism theatre group 'Spectrum' devised and delivered 6 outreach drama workshops in Newcastle that enabled their peers to express themselves creatively and to explore social issues such as housing, independence, and relationships. Workshops incorporated excerpts from the group's past theatre performances.

87 people from groups including Skills for People and Westgate College took part in the workshops, and gave feedback that demonstrates the valuable peer support that our creative approach enables.

"The house scene was good. I'm going through the same things at home and it was good to hear everyone's advice, like from my classmates who've already moved out of home. It's been really helpful for me"

"All my life since I was a child I wanted to do some acting, and I'm good at speaking in front of people. I've been living independently for three years, it was nice to share my experience of that and share in the scenes".

Percy Hedley project

Funding from the Riverbank fund at Community Foundation enabled us to deliver a series of creative sessions with 19 young people who have profound and multiple learning disabilities at Percy Hedley College, North Tyneside. Approaches included film and green screen technology to virtually transport individuals to different environments, sound buttons to aid communication, music, and singing. We produced a film and composed and recorded a piece of music that incorporated participants' creative contributions.

Along with a live music performance staged at Percy Hedley on 25th October, the film was showcased at Percy Hedley's Awards event at the Civic Centre, attended by 180 people, including family, carers, and local community groups.

"I liked the use of technology - I thought this was a really effective way of engaging people, and something that I haven't seen before" (Percy Hedley staff member).

Music and Dj'ing events

The Twist

Our North Tyneside based band 'The Twist' recorded a new original song and music video - YouTube Killer.

The song celebrates self-expression and the joy of making music together.

The band said: "It's about rocking out, having fun and having a laugh. The video is inspired by lots of 70s glam rock bands"

The Twist performed YouTube killer at our Customs House (South Shields) performance event in June.

FRESH club night

176 people attended our Newcastle club night FRESH to socialise with friends whilst enjoying eclectic music from our DJ's with a learning disability.

Commissioned work

Our Accessible Health Resource team and our artists with a learning disability and our autistic artists applied their skills and lived experience to deliver creative involvement work, and to produce several innovative health information resources:

- Our Mental Capacity Act film was co-produced with South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust as a training resource for health professionals.
- A collaboration with our partners Olovus used creative workshops to involve people and their families in South Tyneside in shaping respite services.
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust commissioned a film and original songs about reasonable adjustments in therapy services. Our musicians with a learning disability performed the songs live at Therapies Reasonable Adjustments conference in Stockton on 12th March.
- Working with members of Your Voice Counts' Cooking with Confidence group in South Tyneside, we co-produced an accessible 'top tips for healthy eating' film, featuring a learning disability-led cooking tutorial.
- 'Beat Asthma' commissioned our Accessible Health Resource team to create an accessible asthma awareness film, targeted at children.
- We supported North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum CIC to produce a local signposting 'top tips' film for carers.

Impact

1,078
Live audience numbers

Participant outcomes:

97% increased their social connections

85% gained increased skills

96% feel more confident

100% reported positive wellbeing

535
Total number of people who took part in our activities

11
Number of people with a learning disability and autistic people carrying out paid work with us

"It gives me so much confidence when we make a show and people really like it. It makes me feel really emotional and proud. I'm proud to raise awareness to others about people with learning disabilities like me" (Alex).

"I get sad, get upset and miserable. But when I come here I feel happy" (Gary).

"I've been dreaming about coming to the Twisting Ducks Theatre Company. When I first met the band they said 'welcome to the band academy'. People support me when I play different instruments. I like making songs together" (James).

"I feel involved and included. I've been to other groups and not felt that before. This group keeps me going. Family life can be tricky - coming here gives me focus and allows me a break. I feel like I can work through difficulties now if I have an issue with someone" (Neil).

"Everyone accepts who I am and I can just be me" (Victoria).

"I love it because I love performing and I get to speak up about things I'm passionate about" (Lisa).

Caitlan's story

When Caitlan first joined our Morpeth Performing Arts Academy she was extremely anxious and withdrawn and frequently needed to take time out of the group. We spent time getting to know Caitlin, and we made a plan with her to help her self-manage her anxiety. Gradually, Caitlan became more and more confident, her anxiety reduced, and she began to interact and socialise with other group members. Caitlin has a very caring quality and began to encourage and support other group members. As her confidence and skills grew, Caitlan asked to lead on some of the group's drama activities – and this is something she excels at; she gives instructions clearly, confidently and calmly to the group and gives an example to help people gain a better understanding of the activity.

"I used to be a bit nervous coming here at the start and very anxious. I used to feel sad and would run away outside and slam the door and then I would calm down afterwards. I made a plan with the staff. Sometimes I need to calm down. I have water or colouring, it helps me to relax and I play with my hair or dangles. In the group I feel happy or smiley, cheerful and a bit silly with fun people like Jamie or Mark. Sometimes I share with staff or others that I feel nervous at the start but feel alright afterwards. When I improve myself with everyone it's when I do some drama, making a script, doing activities and shows. I like bringing in my brownies for everyone".

Ian's story

This year, Ian graduated from NHS England Choices College following a 5-month internship with The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company. Ian joined us on a supported work placement as it was his goal to act on stage and to develop his peer support skills. Ian had lost his confidence and was feeling isolated since leaving college. Ian quicky grew in confidence, and flourished in his Peer Support role – helping group members to devise parts of the script, learn lines and rehearse. He shared his own experience of recently being diagnosed with autism, along with his love of dance music, to inform the narrative and music for the group's theatre piece. In March 2025, Ian realised his acting ambition by performing with the group in front of a live audience for the first time at Northern Stage.

"I've learnt to support people in shows and it feels good helping others. I have made friends here and it's a lovely environment to be in" (Ian).

Community Fundraising

Thank you to all our supporters, including **Steve Shrubb** for his generous donation and **Nigel Mothersole** for his generous donation via Trek Logistics.

Karen Robinson (former Mayor of Newcastle) has been a long-standing supporter of The Twisting Ducks and made a very kind donation of £1,000 from her Mayor's Charity fund.

We would like to say congratulations and thank you to our 6 dedicated runners for taking part in this year's Great North Run; and thank you to all who sponsored them – resulting in a total £3,500 raised.

Investments

We have £57,000 in a 35 day notice account with Redwood Bank.

Financial review

Review of the year

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

During the year the Charity had income of £383,048 (2024: £242,644) of which £183,672 was restricted (2024: £94,878) and expenditure of £337,547 (2024: £273,613) of which £169,466 was restricted (2024: £111,541). There was an operating surplus of £45,501 (2024: deficit of £30,969). At 31st March 2025 the Charity had net assets of £134,296 (2024: £88,795) of which £33,985 was restricted (2024: £19,779).

Reserves policy

The Trustees regularly review levels of reserves and have agreed that reserves equivalent to between three and six months running costs are appropriate for the organisation. Three months running costs equate to around £84,000 and six months £168,000, based on the accounts for the 12 months to 31 March 2025.

The reserves should not fall below this level in order to support good governance of the organisation.

As at 31 March 2025 the unrestricted reserves were £100,311. The Trustees plan to grow unrestricted reserves over the next 2 years to further strengthen the Charity.

Risk Management

The key controls used by the charity to mitigate risks include:

- Strategic planning, budgeting and regular financial management reports
- Established organisational and governance structure and lines of reporting
- Procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and visitors; and policies and procedures to safeguard children and vulnerable adults
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults and Safeguarding Children training (reviewed annually)
- Safer Recruitment Policy
- Formal written policies, which are reviewed regularly
- Annual review of reserves
- Formal agenda for Board activity and minutes of decisions.

Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated.

Plans for future Periods

We have identified the following Key priorities to help us achieve against our vision and strategic objectives going forward:

Diversify our offer

We want to grow our offer to support beneficiaries in new geographic areas, and establish more flexible, after-school evening provision that will enable younger people to take part. We aim to do this through our fee-based Academy model to ensure financial sustainability and continuity of provision.

Helping us to meet our objective of providing accessible arts opportunities for those with diverse needs, we want to explore different models for providing ongoing activity for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities.

Grow our Accessible Health Resource service

We want to grow our trading income through this service, so that we can increase our financial resilience. A recently secured grant from the Fore will enable us to increase our capacity to secure commissioned work. Alongside this, we will continue to invest in developing our Comms and Marketing to raise awareness of our Accessible Health Resource service and to share the impact that our innovative resources have.

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Registered charity name	The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO
Charity number	1170354
Registered office	Room D1f Milburn House 19 Dean Street Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1LF
Trustees during 2024/2025	Chris Shrubb (Chair) Miles Henderson (Treasurer and Chair) Una McNicholl (Treasurer) Veronica Dougherty Victoria Smith Lisa Kelly
Chief Executive and Senior staff members	Jay Hare, CEO Jan van den Bosch, Project Manager & Lead Drama Facilitator Christine Jewers, Finance Officer Alex Tate, Business Development Officer
Independent Examiner	Doug Maltman FMAAT Connected Voice Business Services One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX
Main Bankers	Unity Trust Bank PO Box 7193 Planetary Road Willenhall WV1 9DG

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO Constitution. CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 24 Nov 2016.

Board Induction and Training

New Board Members are introduced to the work of the organisation and informed of their legal roles and responsibilities at an induction meeting. The induction and training programme for new Board Members includes:

- A briefing by the Chair or Chief Executive
- An explanation of roles and responsibilities as a Board Member
- Copies of the main charity documents including the Constitution and the Financial Statements
- Copies of key policies, including our Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
- Copy of the business plan
- Copies of recent board papers including budgets and management accounts
- A copy of the Charity Commission publication "How to be an Effective Trustee" (and NCVO's "The Good Trustee Guide" for our Trustees who have learning disabilities).
- A copy of the governance structure

Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity SORP requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of incoming resources and application of resources, including the receipts and payments of the charity for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on: 31.10.2025

and signed on their behalf by:

Chair:

Miles Henderson

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the financial statements of Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2022 ("the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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.

Doug Maltman FMAAT
Fellow Member of the Association of Accountancy Technicians
Connected Voice Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 31.10.2025

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	5	14,920	-	**14,920**	12,122
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	6	5,000	183,156	**188,156**	99,756
Other trading activities	7	178,673	516	**179,189**	130,178
Investments	8	783	-	**783**	588
Total income		199,376	183,672	**383,048**	242,644
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	9	168,081	169,466	**337,547**	273,613
Total expenditure		168,081	169,466	**337,547**	273,613
Net movement of funds		31,295	14,206	**45,501**	(30,969)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		69,016	19,779	**88,795**	119,764
Total funds carried forward		100,311	33,985	**134,296**	88,795

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	£	Total 2024 £
Current assets					
Debtors	16	34,727		27,776	
Cash at bank and in hand	17	112,324		98,407	
Total current assets		**147,051**		**126,183**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(12,755)**		**(37,388)**	
Net current assets			**134,296**		**88,795**
Total net assets or liabilities			**134,296**		**88,795**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			100,311		69,016
Restricted income funds			33,985		19,779
Total funds			**134,296**		**88,795**

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 31.10.2025

and are signed on its behalf by: U McNicholl
Treasurer

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022.

Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £100,311 . The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of income

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
5	**Donations and legacies**				
	Donations and gifts	14,619	-	**14,619**	12,028
	Gift Aid	301	-	**301**	94
		14,920	-	**14,920**	12,122
6	**Charitable activities**				
	Income from grants				
	Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	20,000	**20,000**	20,000
	Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	-	**-**	250
	Sunderland City Council	-	505	**505**	-
	Community Foundation/Riverbank Fund	-	-	**-**	4,960
	Didymus	-	10,000	**10,000**	6,500
	Hadrian Trust	-	1,000	**1,000**	1,000
	North East Bic	-	-	**-**	532
	Shears Foundation	-	-	**-**	5,500
	Sir James Knott Trust	-	-	**-**	8,000
	DWP	-	36,573	**36,573**	17,332
	NHS England	-	13,069	**13,069**	4,206
	Postcode Neighbourhood	-	22,000	**22,000**	-
	Spectrum Enterprises CIC	-	-	**-**	11,500
	Victoria Wood Foundation	-	-	**-**	4,976
	Other Grant - HMRC	5,000	-	**5,000**	5,000
	Arts Council	-	7,987	**7,987**	-
	Hospital of God	-	1,000	**1,000**	-
	Grocers	-	4,493	**4,493**	-
	Greggs Foundation	-	-	**-**	10,000
	Foyle Foundation	-	10,000	**10,000**	-
	Joicey Trust	-	400	**400**	-
	The Newcastle Fund	-	16,442	**16,442**	-
	Barbour Foundation	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
	Arnold Clark	-	200	**200**	-
	The Fore	-	15,000	**15,000**	-
	National Lottery awards for all	-	19,487	**19,487**	-
		5,000	183,156	**188,156**	99,756
7	**Other trading activities**				
	Academies fees	110,667	-	**110,667**	89,672
	Ticket sales	1,841	416	**2,257**	1,457
	Commissioned work	66,165	-	**66,165**	37,950
	Services	-	100	**100**	1,099
		178,673	516	**179,189**	130,178

8 **Income from investments**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
Bank interest	783	-	**783**	588
	783	-	**783**	588

Income was £383,048 (2024: £242,644) of which £199,376 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £147,766) and £183,672 was restricted (2024: £94,878)

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
9 ***Charitable activities***				
Direct costs				
Wages	95,911	154,464	**250,375**	206,899
National insurance	15,930	-	**15,930**	11,928
Pension	4,769	-	**4,769**	3,501
Sessional staff	10,744	2,287	**13,031**	10,055
Other staff costs	430	-	**430**	1,114
Transport	2,024	227	**2,251**	3,059
Room hire	17,406	7,709	**25,115**	16,038
Promotion	1,862	644	**2,506**	1,721
Filming and Music costs	1,534	754	**2,288**	65
Support costs				
Hospitality and Volunteer expenses	2,513	-	**2,513**	2,470
Subscription	3,256	18	**3,274**	3,219
Office expenses	1,678	45	**1,723**	3,060
Equipment	1,411	1,468	**2,879**	4,013
Mobile phones	1,362	-	**1,362**	-
Bank charges	314	-	**314**	293
Insurance	1,040	-	**1,040**	932
Fundraising costs	894	-	**894**	754
Training	668	1,850	**2,518**	200
Professional fees	3,111	-	**3,111**	3,128
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,224	-	**1,224**	1,164
	168,081	169,466	**337,547**	273,613

Expenditure on charitable activities was £337,547 (2024: £273,613) of which £168,081 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £162,072) and £169,466 was restricted (2024: £111,541)

10 **Fees for examination of the accounts**

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	**1,224**	1,164
	1,224	1,164

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil)

11 **Analysis of staff costs and the**

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	**250,375**	206,899
Social security costs	**15,930**	11,928
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	**4,769**	3,501
	271,074	222,328

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £0.

12 **Staff numbers**

The average monthly head count was 17 staff (2024: 17 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employees work	2025 Number	2024 Number
Charitable activities	**8.0**	7.0
	8.0	7.0

13 **Transactions with trustees**

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

14 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £4,769 (2024: £3,501). There was £0 outstanding as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £0)

15 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

16 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	**30,730**	27,766
Prepayments	**1,955**	-
Other debtors	**2,042**	10
	34,727	27,776

17 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account	**57,000**	20,000
Cash at bank	**55,324**	78,407
	112,324	98,407

18 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	**1,224**	1,164
Deferred income		
National lottery - Awards for All	**-**	19,487
YVC - Cookery Film Commission	**-**	2,430
NHS Mental Capacity Film Commission	**-**	6,300
Other creditors	**11,531**	8,007
	12,755	37,388

19 **Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**28,217**	**5,500**
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	**(28,217)**	**(5,500)**
Amount deferred in year	**-**	**28,217**
Balance carried forward	**-**	**28,217**

20 **Events after the end of the reporting period**

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

21 **Analysis of charitable funds**

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds
As at 31 March 2025

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** **£**
General unrestricted fund	69,016	199,376	(168,081)	**-**	**100,311**
Totals	69,016	199,376	(168,081)	**-**	**100,311**

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' of the charity

21 **Analysis of movement in restricted funds** (continued)
As at 31 March 2025

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Sunderland Platform Project	3,522	14,585	(18,107)	-	**-**
DWP	**-**	49,642	(49,642)	-	**-**
Various funding grants	1,922	67,487	(48,566)	**-**	**20,843**
Spectrum Enterprises	9,375	**-**	(9,375)	-	**-**
NCIF Ducks	**-**	20,516	(20,516)	-	**-**
Community Foundation/Riverbank	4,960	**-**	(4,960)	-	**-**
The Newcastle Fund	**-**	16,442	(14,928)	**-**	**1,514**
The Fore	**-**	15,000	(3,372)	**-**	**11,628**
Totals	19,779	183,672	(169,466)	**-**	**33,985**

Purpose of restricted funds
Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Sunderland Platform Project	A drama project funded by Postcode Neighbourhood Trust and D'oyly Carte.
DWP	Access to work, employee support grants.
Various funding grants:	
- Barbour Foundation	A grant towards core costs.
- Didymus	A grant towards core costs.
- Foyle Foundation	A grant towards core costs.
- Hospital of God	A grant towards core costs.
- Postcode Neighbourhood	A grant towards core costs.
- National Lottery Awards for All	A grant towards core costs.
Spectrum Enterprises	A grant to fund the employment of a supported employee.
NCIF Ducks	Deliver outreach drama and creative writing workshops in Newcastle and to Devise and perform theatre and spoken word pieces.
Community Foundation/Riverbank	Deliver participatory creative workshops for young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities at Percy Hedley college.
The Newcastle Fund	Funding to deliver outreach drama workshops and a film resource exploring mental health.
The Fore	Funding to deliver our commissioned services.

22 **Capital commitments**

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024 -£nil)

23 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	78,339	33,985	**112,324**	**98,407**
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	21,972	-	**21,972**	**(9,612)**
	100,311	33,985	**134,296**	**88,795**

TWISTING
DUCKS

Thank you to all our funders and partners who supported our work during 2024/25:

Arnold Clark
Arts Centre Washington
Arts Council England
Barbour Foundation
Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland
Customs House
Didymus
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
Foyle Foundation
Grocers
Hadrian Trust
Hospital of God
Joicey Trust
National Lottery Awards for All
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at Community Foundation
North East & North Cumbria ICB
Northern Stage
Olovus
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust
Riverbank Fund at Community Foundation
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Sunderland Culture
Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust
Theatre Royal
The Newcastle Fund
Your Voice Counts
Washington Heritage Partnership

Twisting Ducks Studio
Room D1f
Milburn House
19 Dean Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1LF

www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Registered charity name: The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO. Charity number 1170354.

THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1170354

Accounts

The Twisting Ducks
Theatre Company CIO

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st March 2024

www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Contents

Welcome from Chris Shrubb, Chair	3
Welcome from Jay Hare, CEO	3
Objectives and Activities	4
Key Achievements and project highlights	5
Children and young people's projects	8
Impact	10
Fundraising	11
Financial review	11
Plans for future Periods	12
Structure, governance and management	13
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	15
Financial statements	16

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Trustees' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period 1/4/2023 – 31/3/2024.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019).

Welcome from Chris Shrubb, Chair

This has been an extremely positive year for The Twisting Ducks in terms of service expansion and beneficiary reach. With the launch of a new South Tyneside Performing Arts Academy and multiple outreach workshops and performances, we have seen an increase in the number of people taking part and achieving their aspirations.

The charity has provided accessible platforms for people to explore social issues and to create high-impact performance work that raises awareness about these issues. By working with younger people, carers groups, and other cultural partners, some fantastic creative work and resources have emerged, including a series of awareness raising films about Education Health and Care plans; these resources will have a lasting impact on our learning disability and autism community.

All of our work has been made possible by the generous support of our funders, stakeholders, donors and volunteers; and through the creativity, commitment, hard work and expertise of our staff team. Thank you to all who have supported us to make this year such a success.

Chris Shrubb,
Chair

Welcome from Jay Hare, CEO

This year has been a strong one for outreach working. Continued funding from Newcastle Culture Investment fund (NCIF) at Community Foundation has enabled us to deliver drama and creative writing workshops that help our community to have a voice about social issues. This has directly informed our groups' performances, such as 'Back by 8' - raising awareness about independence, and the right to stay out late. Continued support from Northern Stage, Washington Arts Centre, and Theatre Royal has provided us with wonderful opportunities to showcase our work at these prominent cultural venues.

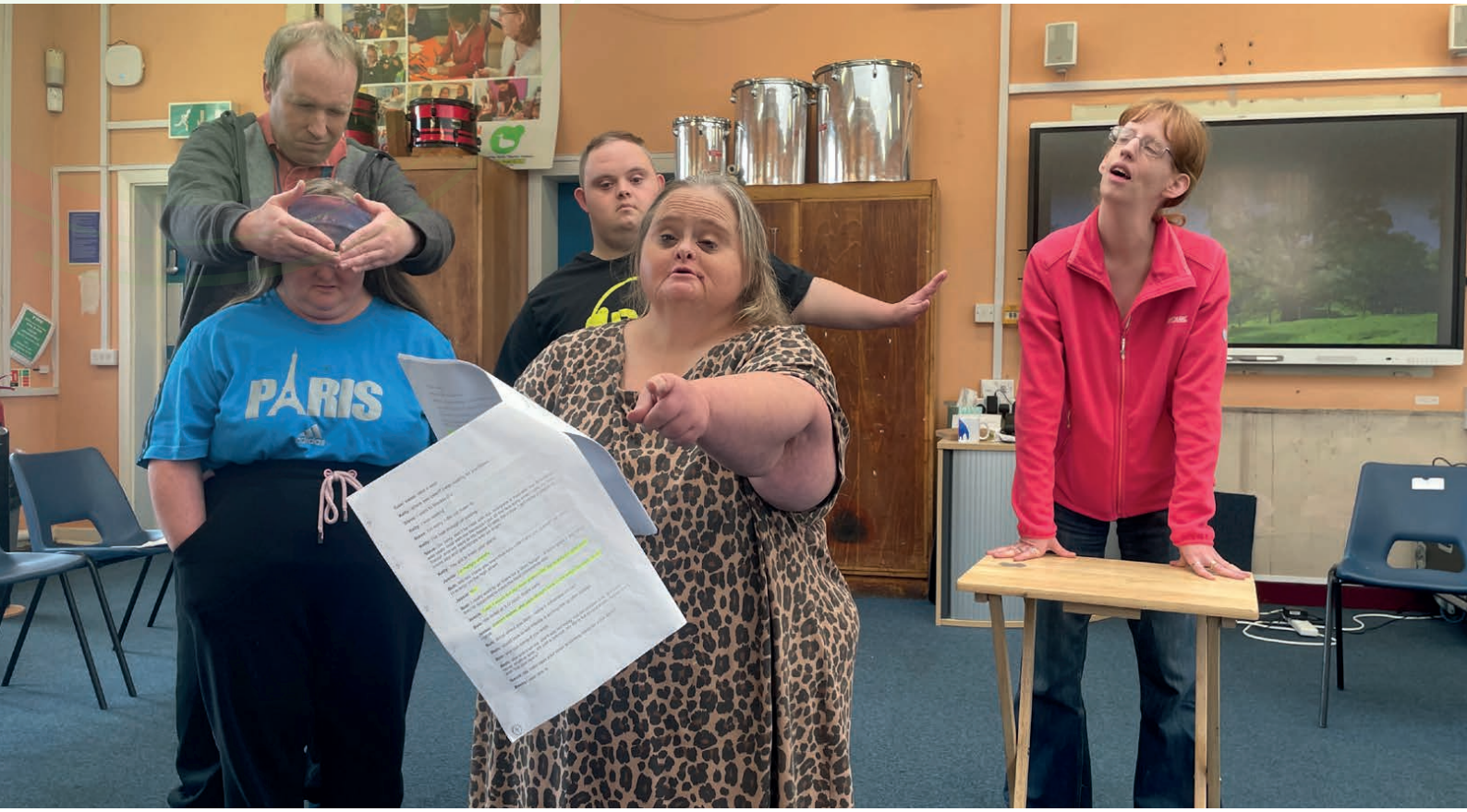
We have built on our strong track record of partnership working to raise awareness about the issues faced by our community and to work together to develop creative resources. This included our performance about the Mental Capacity Act and our 'Top Tips' films created with North Tyneside Parents and Carers forum.

Our core funders Barbour, Community Foundation, Didymus, Hadrian, Greggs, Sir James Knott, Shears, and Victoria Wood have supported us to strengthen our operations and expand our offer, including establishing a South Tyneside Performing Arts Academy in response to local need.

We are grateful to our Stakeholders, including Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust, for commissioning us to produce innovative films and performances that promote greater understanding of learning disabilities and autism. We would like to thank the Cranfield Trust for providing a comms and marketing consultant to work with us on our comms strategy, and Spectrum Enterprises CIC for their generous grant that enabled us to increase hours for one of our supported Employees.

Jay Hare,
CEO

Objectives and Activities



The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO aims to tackle inequalities and improve wellbeing by increasing opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autistic people to have their voices heard and to contribute to their community through participation in the creative arts.

We achieve our aims by creating accessible opportunities for people to come together and create, to develop their artistic skills and talent, and to collaborate with communities and cultural partners. We support beneficiaries to share their work on a public platform, ensuring the uniqueness and relevance of their art reaches more people. We use issue–based art forms to educate and inform, to help people explore social issues, and to raise awareness. We create opportunities for people to lead as artists and practitioners, and to work and volunteer with us.

This year, we have delivered against our objectives by providing a 6-day programme of participatory arts sessions across Newcastle, Northumberland and Sunderland, resulting in 3 original live theatre productions. Funding from the Newcastle Culture Investment Fund (NCIF) at Community Foundation has enabled us to deliver outreach workshops and to stage original work at Newcastle Cultural venues including Northern Stage and Magic Hat. We have worked with 4 different organisations to involve children and young people with special education needs in drama activities; helping them to explore social issues and to plan for the future. Our partnership working with VCSE and statutory partners has tackled some of the health and social inequalities that our community faces by raising awareness of issues, and promoting best practice approaches.

Public Benefit Statement

In deciding our annual objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have duly considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. This report describes the main activities undertaken by our charity to carry out its charitable purpose for the benefit of people with learning disabilities and autistic people.

Key Achievements and project highlights

Outreach Workshops

Our NCIF funded Newcastle groups devised and delivered a year-long programme of creative workshops that enabled local people with learning disabilities and autistic people to express themselves creatively and to explore social issues.

Workshops were themed around 5 key issues – employment and education, independence and support, friendships and relationships, housing, health and wellbeing.

We used film stimulus, storytelling, physical theatre, mime, roleplay and creative writing to support people to identify which of these issues are important to them, and to explore barriers and aspirations in relation to each theme. 245 people took part in the workshops, including learners from Westgate Community College and Skills for People's community groups.

245

people took part in the workshops

Performance Highlights

Morpeth Performing Arts Academy showcased *Legend of the Morpeth Dragon* in October - a play that merged dragon myth and present day lived experience to explore one woman's triumph over workplace discrimination.

Our autistic artists from Spectrum Theatre staged 2 performances of their multimedia piece *A Glitch in Time*, consisting of original monologues, music and film elements. Performances were held at the Magic Hat in November and Westgate College in March.

The Twist (musicians in our Band Academy) recorded their original song "Keys to Citizenship' and performed live at Inclusion North's regional Citizenship event at the Stadium of light.

Our core Twisting Ducks artists devised and showcased their original play *Back by 8* at Northern Stage in March. The piece was informed by the themes and issues emerging from the group's outreach workshops: having the right support to do what people want, help with housing and planning for the future, and support with social connections.

Audience feedback:

"Brilliant moments throughout. Powerful and poignant messages that need to be heard and discussed in society. Thankyou"

"I thought the performers really got the message across - to plan, think ahead, positive risk taking, let people live!"

"Emotional, relevant, funny. Issues that are current and relatable"

A Glitch in Time

Legend of the Morpeth Dragon

Back by 8

The Twist

RSC Community Champions collaboration

From 8th -12th May, Lisa - one of our core group members and Trustees - performed in The RSC and Newcastle Theatre Royal's inclusive production of Julius Caesar. Lisa was part of the play's Community Chorus, featuring other local 'Community Champions' that RSC and Theatre Royal reached out to with the aim of building long term partnerships. As well as trading the boards on the main stage, Lisa attended an RSC workshop in Stratford Upon Avon.

"It has been a magical moment for me to do something like this with Newcastle Theatre Royal and the RSC. When I found out I was going to be in the cast, I thought – wow! All the cast they were lovely people to get to know and to work with. They made me feel really welcome. I couldn't believe it being on the big stage at Theatre Royal. I felt overwhelmed" (Lisa)

Accessible Health Resources

Applying our expertise in making health information accessible, we produced a film for Seeability that raises awareness about the importance of eye care and the reasonable adjustments people with learning disabilities can request when accessing optician services.

Our film team worked with North Tyneside Parents and Carers forum, North Tyneside Local Authority, and North East and Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust to produce a short film that will increase signposting to information, local community activities, and support for families and their children who have complex needs.

Our artists with learning disabilities performed an awareness raising play about the Mental Capacity Act in Darlington this September, as part of a regional mental capacity event. Commissioned by Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust, the performance followed 3 people in hospital settings, highlighting principles and best practice approaches in relation to the mental capacity act.

Children and young people's projects

Hilltop school

We worked with 16 children and young people at Hilltop School, Gateshead, to co-produce a series of films that raise awareness about Education, Health and Care plans (EHCP's). Commissioned by Gateshead Local Authority and North East and North Cumbria NHS, the films highlight the benefits of EHCPs for children and young people with Special Education Needs.

GRACE House

We were pleased to work in partnership with Grace House (Sunderland) once again. This year's project provided drama workshops over 10 weeks, to 12 young people with learning disabilities, exploring what Grace House means to them. The young people worked as an ensemble to perform a short piece of theatre to their peers and families.

Bede College

Sunderland Platform, our drama group based at Washington Arts Centre, ran workshops with young people at Bede College, exploring their sense of local belonging. Stories gathered through the workshops are now informing the group's new play which will be staged next year.

The project is funded by the Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, a grant-giving charity funded entirely by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

"Everyone I was speaking to loved the content this year - you were for sure a hit!" Sarah-Jane Lowson, Operations Lead, Reach

Reach event

We partnered with Reach, a charity that supports children with upper limb differences, to support their annual AFW event at the Gateshead Marriott in October. We facilitated a 'Play in a Day' and DJ workshop with 77 young people, supporting them to perform to 326 event attendees.

Impact

1,018
Live audience numbers:

71
people per week took part in our regular groups

Through taking part:

94%
reported increased social connections

100%
experienced positive wellbeing

100%
gained increased skills and confidence

9
people with learning disabilities and autism benefitted from **paid work opportunities** within The Twisting Ducks

3
young people with learning disabilities and autism carried out work placements at our organisation

"I feel involved and included - I've been to other groups and not felt that before. It's something to look forward to in the week - the group keeps me going. Family life can be tricky - coming to this group gives me focus and allows me a break. - I feel like i can work through difficulties now if I have an issue with someone" (Neil).

356
people attended our monthly **club night FRESH**

808
Total number of people who took part in our activities

Jessie's story

Jessie is 24 and is autistic. She has been attending our Spectrum Theatre group for the past 2 years and has grown in confidence and skills during this time. Alongside the sessions, Jessie often brings in creative writing that she has completed at home, as she has found it to be a great tool to help her deal with her feelings and emotions. She has revelled in the opportunity to deliver the community sessions, and to demonstrate her leadership skills.

As part of the group's creative writing activities, they have shared their own Spectrum Stories to describe what life was like before joining Spectrum, how it felt starting the group, what they enjoy the most, and how it has helped them. This is an extract from Jessie's Spectrum Story:

"Before I came to Spectrum, I was really shy, and not very confident within myself. I wasn't very talkative to other people.

I am different and unique and as I grew up I discovered I had creative talents in drawing and writing. I was excited to develop these techniques to be able to express myself.

Jessie performed her spoken word piece live for the first time in A Glitch in Time at the Magic Hat, Newcastle, and her creative writing talents really shone through.

"Spectrum has helped me to feel a sense of belonging and has helped me as a person to build my confidence, talk more and build up my sense of self including meeting other people like me who are like-minded".

Fundraising

Thank you to all our supporters, including Steve Shrubb for his generous donation and Nigel Mothersole for his generous donation via Trek Logistics.

Thank you to our Drama Worker Sonia, and all her supporters, for raising £369 in this year's Great North Run.

Investments

We have £20,000 in a 35-day notice account with Redwood Bank.

Financial review

Review of the year

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. During the year the Charity had income of:

£242,644 (2023: £286,137) of which £94,878 was restricted (2023: £135,326) and expenditure of £273,613 (2023:£245,240) of which £111,541 was restricted (2023:£120,032). There was an operating deficit of £30,969.

At 31st March 2024 the Charity had net assets of £88,795 (2023: £119,764) of which £19,779 was restricted (2023: £36,442).

Reserves policy

The Trustees regularly review levels of reserves and have agreed that reserves equivalent to between three- and six-months running costs are appropriate for the organisation. Three months running costs equate to around £68,000 and six months £136,000, based on the accounts for the 12 months to 31st March 2024.

The reserves should not fall below this level in order to support good governance of the organisation. As at 31st March 2024 the unrestricted reserves were £69,016.

The Trustees plan to grow unrestricted reserves over the next 2 years to further strengthen the Charity.

Risk Management

The key controls used by the charity to mitigate risks include:

- Strategic planning, budgeting and regular financial management reports
- Established organisational and governance structure and lines of reporting
- Procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and visitors; and policies and procedures to safeguard children and vulnerable adults
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults and Safeguarding Children training (refreshed every 2 years as a minimum)
- Formal written policies, which are reviewed annually
- Annual review of reserves
- Formal agenda for Board activity and minutes of decisions.

Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated.

Plans for future Periods

We have identified the following key priorities to help us achieve against our vision and strategic objectives going forward:

Widening and diversifying participation

We want to enable more diverse groups to take part in the local areas they live. Next year, we plan to establish a Performing Arts Academy for children and young people in Northumberland, in response to identified need, and to involve more people from the global majority and those with profound and multiple learning disabilities in our work.

Reaching new audiences

Through collaborative working with local community partners, and building on the strong relationships we have forged with cultural organisations across the North East, we aim to broaden our audiences and to platform our work in new cultural spaces, including regional festivals.

Growing our trading income

Facing an increasingly challenging fundraising environment, we will invest resources in expanding and promoting our commissioned work and securing new custom for our Accessible Health Resource service. As well as increasing our financial sustainability, this will support us to achieve our aim of sustaining and increasing paid employment opportunities for our beneficiaries.

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Registered charity name	The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO
Charity number	1170354
Registered office	Room D1f Milburn House 19 Dean Street Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1LF
Trustees during 2023/2024	Christine Shrubb (Chair) Miles Henderson (Treasurer) Una McNichol Veronica Dougherty Victoria Smith, appointed 13/06/22 Lisa Kelly, appointed 13/06/22
Chief Executive and Senior staff members	Jay Hare, CEO Jan van den Bosch, Project Manager & Lead Drama Facilitator Christine Jewers, Finance Officer Alex Tate, Business Development Officer
Independent Examiner	Doug Maltman FMAAT Connected Voice Business Services Ltd One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX
Main Bankers	Unity Trust Bank PO Box 7193 Planetary Road Willenhall WV1 9DG

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO Constitution. CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 24 Nov 2016.

Board Induction and Training

New Board Members are introduced to the work of the organisation and informed of their legal roles and responsibilities at an induction meeting. The induction and training programme for new Board Members includes:

- A briefing by the Chair or Chief Executive
- An explanation of roles and responsibilities as a Board Member
- Copies of the main charity documents including the Constitution and the Financial Statements
- Copies of key policies, including our Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
- Copy of the business plan
- Copies of recent board papers including budgets and management accounts
- A copy of the Charity Commission publication "How to be an Effective Trustee" (and NCVO's "The Good Trustee Guide" for our Trustees who have learning disabilities)
- A copy of the governance structure

Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity SORP requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of incoming resources and application of resources, including the receipts and payments of the charity for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on: 23 September 2024

and signed on their behalf by:

Chair:

Chris Shrubb

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the financial statements of Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO for the year ended 31 March

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2022 ("the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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

I 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.

Doug Maltman FMAAT
Fellow member of the Association of Accountancy Technicians
Connected Voice Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 23 September 2024

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	Total 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	5	12,122	-	**12,122**	2,886
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	6	5,000	94,756	**99,756**	140,191
Other trading activities	7	130,056	122	**130,178**	142,799
Investments	8	588	-	**588**	261
Total income		147,766	94,878	**242,644**	286,137
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	9	162,072	111,541	**273,613**	245,240
Total expenditure		162,072	111,541	**273,613**	245,240
Net income/(expenditure)		(14,306)	(16,663)	**(30,969)**	40,897
Transfers between funds		-	-	**-**	-
Net movement of funds		(14,306)	(16,663)	**(30,969)**	40,897
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		83,322	36,442	**119,764**	78,867
Total funds carried forward		69,016	19,779	**88,795**	119,764

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	£	Total 2024 £	£	Total 2023 £
Current assets					
Debtors	16	27,776		28,794	
Cash at bank and in hand	17	98,407		110,260	
Total current assets		**126,183**		**139,054**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(37,388)**		**(19,290)**	
Net current assets			**88,795**		**119,764**
Total net assets or liabilities			**88,795**		**119,764**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			69,016		83,322
Restricted income funds			19,779		36,442
Total funds			**88,795**		**119,764**

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 23 September 2024

and are signed on its behalf by: M Henderson
Treasurer

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 **Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 **Basis of accounting**

2.1 **Basis of preparation**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022.

Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 **Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £69,016 . The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 **Income**

3.1 **Recognition of income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 **Offsetting**

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 **Grants and donations**

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 **Volunteer help**

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.5 **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Analysis of income

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	Total 2023 £
5	**Donations and legacies**				
	Donations and gifts	12,028	-	**12,028**	2,886
	Gift Aid	94	-	**94**	-
		12,122	-	**12,122**	2,886
6	**Charitable activities**				
	Income from grants				
	Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	20,000	**20,000**	20,000
	Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	250	**250**	-
	Recovery and Renewal Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	-	**-**	5,000
	Community Foundation/Riverbank Fund	-	4,960	**4,960**	-
	Didymus	-	6,500	**6,500**	-
	Hadrian Trust	-	1,000	**1,000**	-
	North East Bic	-	532	**532**	-
	Shears Foundation	-	5,500	**5,500**	-
	Sir James Knott Trust	-	8,000	**8,000**	-
	DWP	-	17,332	**17,332**	16,611
	NHS England	-	4,206	**4,206**	-
	Health Education England	-	-	**-**	9,381
	Spectrum Enterprises CIC	-	11,500	**11,500**	-
	Victoria Wood Foundation	-	4,976	**4,976**	-
	Other Grant - HMRC	5,000	-	**5,000**	5,000
	Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	-	-	**-**	19,839
	Social Enterprise Support Fund, Big Issue Invest.	-	-	**-**	19,610
	Connected Voice	-	-	**-**	4,000
	Greggs Foundation	-	10,000	**10,000**	20,000
	The Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	-	**-**	5,000
	Joicey Trust	-	-	**-**	350
	The Newcastle Fund	-	-	**-**	5,000
	RW Mann Trust	-	-	**-**	1,300
	The Clothworkers Foundation	-	-	**-**	9,100
		5,000	94,756	**99,756**	140,191
7	**Other trading activities**				
	Academies fees	89,672	-	**89,672**	68,625
	Ticket sales	1,335	122	**1,457**	1,012
	Commissioned work	37,950	-	**37,950**	73,053
	Services	1,099	-	**1,099**	109
		130,056	122	**130,178**	142,799

8 **Income from investments**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	Total 2023 £
Bank interest	588	-	**588**	261
	588	-	**588**	261

Income was £242,644 (2023: £286,137) of which £147,766 was unrestricted or designated (2023: £150,811) and £94,878 was restricted (2023: £135,326)

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	Total 2023 £
9 ***Charitable activities***				
Direct costs				
Wages	105,519	101,380	**206,899**	170,465
National insurance	11,928	-	**11,928**	11,075
Pension	3,501	-	**3,501**	1,854
Sessional staff	9,515	540	**10,055**	15,653
Other staff costs	516	598	**1,114**	633
Transport	2,565	494	**3,059**	3,841
Room hire	14,285	1,753	**16,038**	11,146
Promotion	1,721	-	**1,721**	1,594
Filming and Music costs	65	-	**65**	931
Support costs				
Hospitality and Volunteer expenses	2,053	417	**2,470**	1,326
Subscription	2,633	586	**3,219**	2,487
Office expenses	2,625	435	**3,060**	2,079
Equipment	1,472	2,541	**4,013**	13,079
Bank charges	293	-	**293**	251
Insurance	95	837	**932**	837
Fundraising costs	754	-	**754**	324
Training	100	100	**200**	2,917
Professional fees	1,268	1,860	**3,128**	3,584
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,164	-	**1,164**	1,164
	162,072	111,541	**273,613**	245,240

Expenditure on charitable activities was £273,613 (2023: £245,240) of which £162,072 was unrestricted or designated (2023: £125,208) and £111,541 was restricted (2023: £120,032)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

10 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	**1,164**	1,164
	1,164	1,164

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2023: £nil)

11 Analysis of staff costs and the

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	**206,899**	170,465
Social security costs	**11,928**	11,075
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	**3,501**	1,854
	222,328	183,394

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2023: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £0.

12 Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 17 staff (2023: 10 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employee's work	2024 Number	2023 Number
Charitable activities	**7.0**	5.0
	7.0	5.0

13 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

14 **Defined contribution pension scheme**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £3,501 (2023: £1,854). There was £0 outstanding as at 31 March 2024 (2023: £845)

15 **Corporation Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

16 **Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	**27,766**	28,649
Prepayments	**-**	145
Other debtors	**10**	-
	27,776	28,794

17 **Cash at bank and in hand** **Unrestricted Funds**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account	**20,000**	20,000
Cash at bank	**78,407**	90,260
	98,407	110,260

18 **Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	**1,164**	1,164
Other accruals	**-**	336
Deferred income		
National lottery - Awards for All	**19,487**	-
YVC - Cookery Film Commission	**2,430**	-
NHS Mental Capacity Film Commission	**6,300**	-
NHS North East	**-**	5,500
Other creditors	**8,007**	12,290
	37,388	19,290

19 **Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**5,500**	**16,500**
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	**(5,500)**	**(16,500)**
Amount deferred in year	**28,217**	**5,500**
Balance carried forward	**28,217**	**5,500**

20 **Events after the end of the reporting period**

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

21 **Analysis of charitable funds** **Unrestricted Funds**

Analysis of movements in unres Unrestricted Funds
As at 31 March 2024

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** **£**
General unrestricted fund	83,322	147,766	(162,072)	-	**69,016**
Totals	83,322	147,766	(162,072)	-	**69,016**

Analysis of movements in unres Unrestricted Funds
as at 31 March 2023

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** **£**
General unrestricted fund	55,002	150,811	(125,208)	2,717	**83,322**
Totals	55,002	150,811	(125,208)	2,717	**83,322**

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' of the charity

21 **Analysis of movement in restricted funds** (continued)
As at 31 March 2024

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Sunderland Platform Project	18,780	532	(15,790)	-	**3,522**
DWP	-	17,332	(17,332)	-	**-**
NHS England	-	4,206	(4,206)	-	**-**
Victoria Wood Foundation	-	4,976	(4,976)	-	**-**
Various funding grants	14,993	31,250	(44,321)	-	**1,922**
Social Enterprise	2,669	-	(2,669)	-	**-**
Spectrum Enterprises	-	11,500	(2,125)	-	**9,375**
NCIF Ducks	-	20,122	(20,122)	-	**-**
Communitty Foundation/Riverbank	-	4,960	-	-	**4,960**
Totals	36,442	94,878	(111,541)	-	**19,779**

Analysis of movement in restricted funds
As at 31 March 2023

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Health Champions	723	-	(723)	-	**-**
Sunderland Platform Project	12,975	19,840	(14,035)	-	**18,780**
DWP	2,717	16,611	(16,611)	(2,717)	**-**
Health Education England	-	9,381	(9,381)	-	**-**
Victoria Wood Foundation	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	**-**
Foyle Foundation	2,450	-	(2,450)	-	**-**
Various funding grants	-	44,750	(29,757)	-	**14,993**
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	20,135	(20,135)	-	**-**
Recovery Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	**-**
Social Enterprise	-	19,610	(16,941)	-	**2,669**
Totals	23,865	135,327	(120,033)	(2,717)	**36,442**

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Health Champions	A grant from Community Health Fund Newcastle City Council to support our Learning Disability Health Champions awareness raising and engagement work.
Sunderland Platform Project	A drama project funded by Postcode Neighbourhood Trust and D'oyly Carte.
DWP	Access to work, employee support grants.
NHS England	Grant to provide employment to support to work placements.
Health Education England	Grant to provide employment to support to work placements.
Victoria Wood Foundation	A grant was received towards our core costs.
Foyle Foundation	A grant towards our core costs.
The Greggs Foundation	A grant towards core costs.
Shears Foundation	A grant towards core costs.
The Hadrian Trust	A grant towards core costs.
Didymus	A grant towards core costs.
The Worshipful Company of Grocers	A grant towards core costs.
Social Enterprise	Social Enterprise Support Fund, Big Issue Invest - grant to support our organisational development and Covid recovery.
NCIF Ducks	Deliver outreach drama and creative writing workshops in Newcastle and to Devise and perform theatre and spoken word pieces.
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	Funding to deliver outreach drama and creative writing workshops in Newcastle and to devise and perform theatre and spoken word pieces.
Spectrum Enterprises	A grant to fund the employment of a supported employee.
Sir James Knott	A grant towards core costs.
Recovery Fund	Recovery and Renewal fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland - Funding to support our organisation's recovery from Covid, including phased return to in-person activity.
Community Foundation/Riverbank	Deliver participatory creative workshops for young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities at Percy Hedley college.
Various funding grants:	
- The Clothworkers' Foundation	A grant towards equipment costs.
- R W Mann Trust	A grant towards cost of equipment.
- The Newcastle Fund	A grant towards core costs.

Transfers between funds

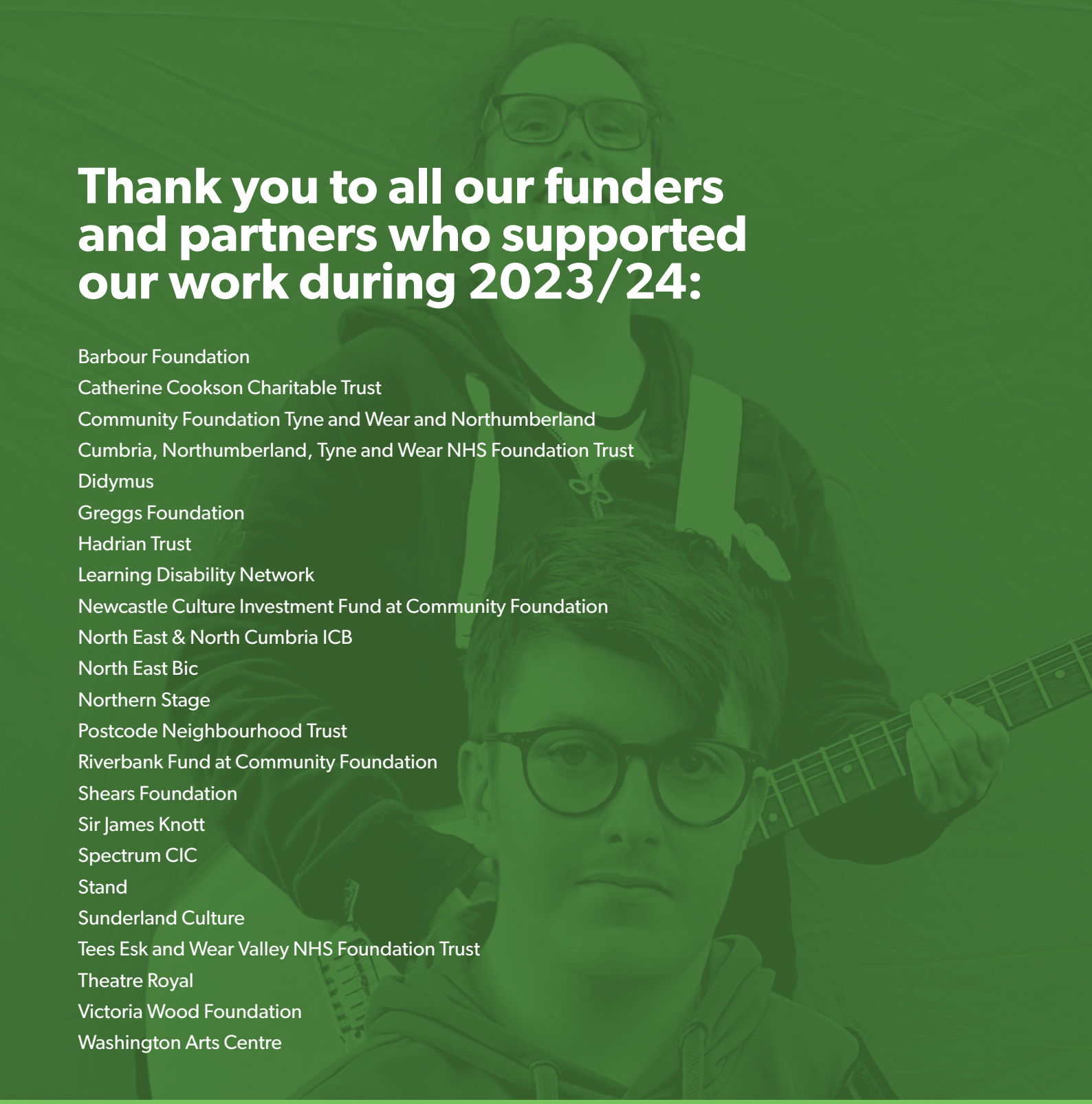
As at 31 March 2023	**Reason for transfer**	**Amount £**
Between unrestricted and restricted funds	Various funding grants contribution to core funding.	**2,717**

22 **Capital commitments**

As at 31 March 2024, the charity had no capital commitments (2023 -£nil)

23 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	Total 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	78,628	19,779	**98,407**	**110,260**
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(9,612)	-	**(9,612)**	**9,504**
	69,016	19,779	**88,795**	**119,764**



Thank you to all our funders and partners who supported our work during 2023/24:

Barbour Foundation
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust
Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Didymus
Greggs Foundation
Hadrian Trust
Learning Disability Network
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at Community Foundation
North East & North Cumbria ICB
North East Bic
Northern Stage
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust
Riverbank Fund at Community Foundation
Shears Foundation
Sir James Knott
Spectrum CIC
Stand
Sunderland Culture
Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust
Theatre Royal
Victoria Wood Foundation
Washington Arts Centre

Twisting Ducks Studio
Room D1f
Milburn House
19 Dean Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1LF

www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Registered charity name: The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO. Charity number 1170354.

THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1170354

Accounts

The Twisting Ducks
Theatre Company CIO

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st March 2023

www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Contents

Welcome from Chris Shrubb, Chair	3
Welcome from Jay Hare, CEO	3
Objectives and Activities	4
Key Achievements and project highlights	5
Fundraising	11
Financial review	11
Structure, governance and management	13
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	15
Financial statements	16

The trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period 1/4/22 – 31/3/23.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019).

Welcome from Chris Shrubb, Chair

This year has been another busy year for the Twisting Ducks as we have been building back from Covid and continuing our work to use the arts to tackle inequalities and improve wellbeing by increasing opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autistic people to have their voices heard and to contribute to their communities.

We are delighted that we have recruited two of our core artists who have lived experience of learning disability and autism to join our board. This means that now 50% of our trustees are representative of the communities we serve. We have adapted our approach to make Board meetings more accessible and in order to facilitate this we have recruited a worker to support our new trustees to prepare for Board meetings and to provide ongoing training and support to enable them to carry out their roles and responsibilities.

We are very proud of our achievements which include outreach and performance work which supports people to speak up about issues that are important to them, and delivery of creative writing workshops by our Spectrum Theatre Group. We also continue to have weekly Performing Arts Academies resulting in live performances in Morpeth and the Theatre Royal. We are delighted that we have been able to relaunch FRESH club night at World Headquarters following the Covid break. We have also worked with young people to explore Hate Crime, the heritage of Sunderland, and transitions.

This is just a few of our achievements this year, none of which would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the group members, staff and volunteers - and the Trustees are very grateful to them. This also could not have been achieved without the support from our donors and funders including Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, and Greggs Foundation, or without the continued support in kind from Newcastle City Learning (N'cle Council) and Northern Stage.

Chris Shrubb,
Chair

Welcome from Jay Hare, CEO

This year we were proud to celebrate The Twisting Ducks 15-year anniversary at a members and supporters event in December. This afforded us the opportunity to showcase new work and to reflect on how much we have achieved. From starting very small (our 8 founding members meeting only once per week) we have grown larger and stronger, with a 6-day per week programme of activity across Newcastle, Northumberland and Sunderland, along with outreach workshops and events in these communities, benefitting over 500 people this year.

As it becomes increasingly important for charities like ours to build financial resilience, we are very pleased to have generated just under half of our income this year through sales and commissions. Much of our commissioned work is produced in partnership with health and social care to tackle health inequalities; and we were proud this year to develop a series of films to support the STOMP campaign (Stop over medicating people) and LEDR initiative (stopping people with learning disabilities dying from preventable causes). We will continue to engage, challenge and raise awareness in creative ways like this, to help drive forward change.

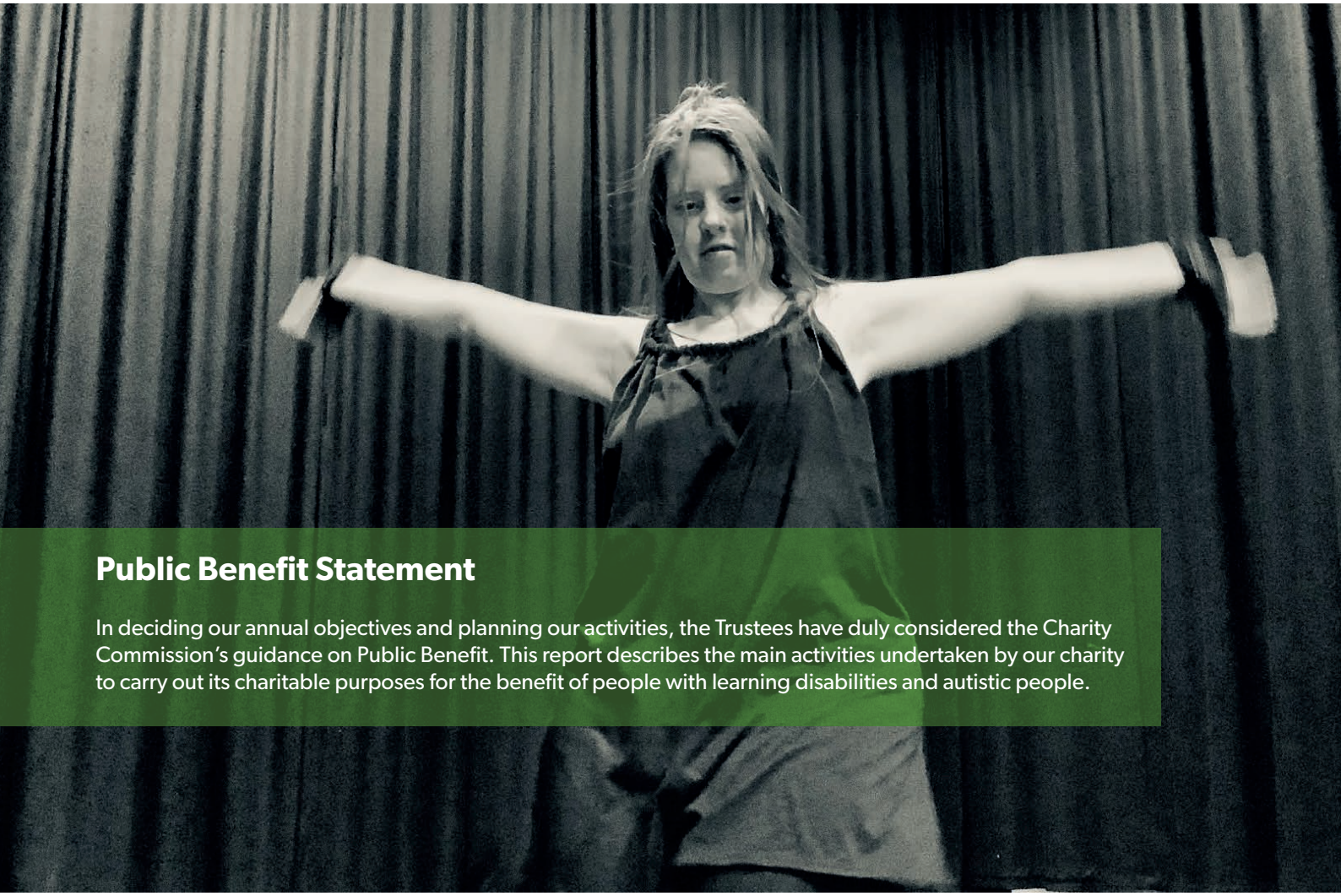
Jay Hare,
CEO

Objectives and Activities

The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO aims to tackle inequalities and improve wellbeing by increasing opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autistic people to have their voices heard and to contribute to their community through participation in the creative arts.

We achieve our aims by creating accessible opportunities for people to come together and create, to develop their artistic skills and talent, and to collaborate with communities and cultural partners. We support beneficiaries to share their work on a public platform, ensuring the uniqueness and relevance of their art reaches more people. We use issue–based art forms to educate and inform, to help people speak up about social issues, and to raise awareness. We create opportunities for people to lead as artists and practitioners, and to work and volunteer with us.

This year, we have delivered against our objectives by providing a 6-day programme of participatory arts sessions across Newcastle, Northumberland and Sunderland, resulting in 4 original live theatre productions. Funding from the Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at Community Foundation has enabled us to deliver outreach drama and creative writing workshops and to hold spoken word performances in the local community. Our partnership working with health and social care has led to paid work for our actors and film-makers who are autistic and have learning disabilities; and has resulted in the production of creative awareness raising resources that tackle the health inequalities that our community of intertest face. We have delivered projects in Sunderland in partnership with local specialist education providers to help children and young people explore issues that are important to them through drama, and to produce their own original work.



Public Benefit Statement

In deciding our annual objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have duly considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. This report describes the main activities undertaken by our charity to carry out its charitable purposes for the benefit of people with learning disabilities and autistic people.

Key Achievements and project highlights

Outreach and performance work supported by the Newcastle Culture Investment fund

A third consecutive multi-year Newcastle Culture Investment Fund grant through Community Foundation has enabled our 21 core artists with learning disabilities and autistic artists to remove barriers to creative participation by leading on a programme of accessible drama and creative writing outreach workshops, with 156 people taking part.

Members of The Twisting Ducks worked with Skills For People at their Newcastle Learning Disability Partnership event at the Civic Centre on 31 October to facilitate creative workshops for 102 people with learning disabilities and their families/carers. The workshops supported people to speak up about issues that were important to them. The themes that emerged will inform a plan for the city, to make it the best place to live for people with a learning disability.

Autistic artists from our Spectrum Theatre group delivered a series of creative writing workshops to Newcastle groups including Arcadea and Ouseburn Farm. Spectrum were then supported to create their own pieces of poetry, prose and story-telling themed around their relationship to the environment around them, titled 'the 'Effects of change'. The group performed this work at The Twisting Ducks 15 year anniversary celebration event in December at the Cluny 2, and at the Magic Hat in March.

"I wouldn't have had the confidence to write or perform my own material before joining the group".

"I enjoyed running the workshops. I took charge, and I had never done that. It was a different experience. It made me think wow! Because I was supporting people, and helping people, and I love supporting people"

Spectrum have continued their strong partnership with Northern Stage who generously host the group each week, and are looking forward to showcasing their work here next year.

Original Theatre through our Performing Arts Academies

Members of our Performing Arts Academies met weekly to devise and rehearse their own original theatre pieces and to develop their performance skills.

Our **Morpeth** group produced and showcased their first live performance 'Welcome to Sweetpea' at the Methodist Church, Morpeth in August – 38 audience members came to hear the story of the fictional town and its interesting characters.

"I was nervous because there was so many people, but it felt amazing that we all worked as a team and did it together"

The **Saturday Academy** performed their drama 'When We Were Together' at Theatre Royal Stage 2 in January to an audience of 82 people. The play was inspired by people's experience of lockdown and the importance of social connections.

"We worked as a team; we could rely on each other. I loved the adrenaline and the feeling afterwards of having done it, and the audience really enjoyed it"

Members of the **Wednesday Performing Arts Academy** performed Twisted Tales of Tyneside at Theatre Royal's stage 2 space in March to an audience of 80 people.

FRESH club night relaunch

Total participant numbers: 200

Funding from the Social Enterprise Support Fund helped us to relaunch FRESH, following a series of online events during and post-lockdown. Our DJs with learning disabilities and our regular clubbers were very excited to return to World Headquarters, Newcastle, to run their inclusive monthly club night.

After the long period of social isolation that lockdown brought, it's been fantastic to see our community returning to enjoy music together, to socialize, and to stay up late.

Bede College Heritage arts project

When Bede College received funding from The Churches Conservation Trust, they asked us to work with their learners with learning disabilities and their autistic students to explore the heritage of Sunderland in a fun and creative way. Over 3 months, 16 young people participated in drama workshops to create their own interpretation of a local folk song. The group devised, starred in, and produced a film that brought the song to life, with one scene including flying black puddings! The final work was showcased at Bede College to over 100 students.

"The students have done something that they would never have had the opportunity to do. I saw how the learners grew in confidence, and how this flowed to other aspects of their development socially"

Sunderland Platform Theatre project

8 members of our Sunderland drama group delivered a series of workshops on the theme of transitions to 58 young people at Sunderland College and Bede College. The workshops used character development and role play to support participants to express their hopes and anxieties about life after college.

Contributions made by the young people in the workshops, combined with the personal experiences of our group members, informed the production of a feature length performance called Hopes, Hoedowns and Horizons.

"I liked Coming up with ideas for the characters and making decisions for them."

"This has been so incredibly helpful. It's brought it to life. That's why some of the learners are getting emotional, because we've done so much work on all this, but this has made it real."

The project was funded by the National Lottery Awards for All and D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust. The group performed Hopes, Hoedowns and Horizons at the Fire Station Sunderland in November to an audience of 80 people.

Film Festival screenings

In competition with hundreds of applications, our music video 'Standing Out From the Crowd' was selected for the Oska Bright National film festival. The film was screened at cinemas across the UK, including Newcastle's Tyneside Cinema. The music video showcases an original song produced by our Band Academy, that celebrates the diverse identities of people with learning disabilities.

From September to October, four of our films were showcased across 4 locations as part of the Whitely Bay film festival, reaching an audience of 510 viewers.

Grace House Hate Crime project

We worked with 16 children and young people aged 10 – 25 at Grace House, Sunderland to deliver a programme of drama workshops exploring hate crime. Over 12 months, the group produced their own film about this issue, developing their skills, confidence and team work through the process. The group were proud to see their achievements on the big screen at a public screening of the film at the Grand Hotel, Sunderland.

"I think it's had a profound impact on our young people. One of the group was very quiet, didn't make eye contact and struggled talking in a group. By the end of the project, he had taken on the lead role in our project, contributed so much to ideas and had developed so much confidence" (Grace House worker)

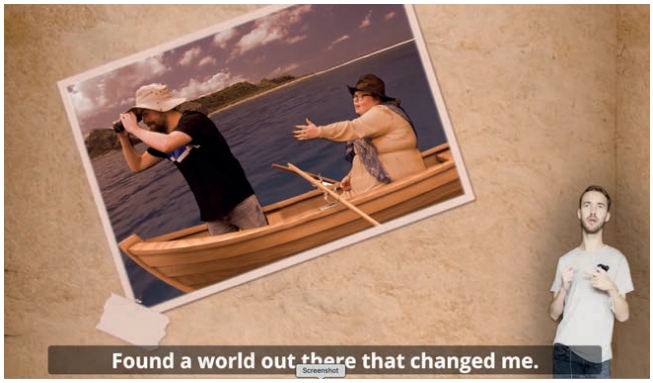
"I never want the drama to end, I've enjoyed it so much" (project participant)

"I've seen a massive boost in my son's confidence and he's so much more comfortable being himself, couldn't be prouder. Thanks for everything you've done for him" (carer)

Accessible Health Resources

We produced 4 films commissioned by Positive Behavioural Support, North East & North Cumbria ICB, and NHS Health Education England. The films support the STOMP (Stop over-medicating people) campaign - raising awareness nationally amongst the health and social care workforce about stopping the over-Medication of people with learning disabilities and autistic people. As well as speaking to families, carers and health professionals, we traveled across the North East and Cumbria to film people's lived experience of alternative approaches to medication, and included examples of choice and control over treatment leading to better outcomes for these people.

People with learning disabilities face gross health inequalities and die, on average, 24 years earlier than the rest of the population. North East and Cumbria Learning Disability Network and NHS North East and North Cumbria commissioned us to produce a film that raises awareness about this. '24- Years Worth Living' uses a music video format to highlight the dreams, opportunities and achievements of one woman with a learning disability over the space of 24 years. The film



was showcased at North East and Cumbria Learning Disability Network, the LEDR conference in Durham, in November, regional North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board event in Sunderland. 190 Health professionals attended, including lead commissioners.

"The Twisting Ducks embody co-production into all they do and produce innovative, impactful and outstanding work". (Emma Cheetham, Network Project Manager North East and Cumbria Learning Disability Network)

Employability

We supported 13 of our group members to take on paid acting roles in a learning disability awareness film produced by Open Futures Learning. The film will be used nationally and internationally as a workforce training resource. For many people, this was their first experience of paid acting work.

We worked with our partners Project Choice to support 2 young people with learning disabilities on 12-week work placements

When Thomas joined us, he was keen to help and support his peers but lacked confidence doing this in larger group. During his placement, Thomas developed his skills as a group support worker, his confidence grew, and our members really valued having Thomas there to help them.

"I feel that I can tell Thomas stuff and he really understands because he is autistic like me. I know he will just get it"

Whilst Thomas was on his placement, we supported him to take up a paid acting opportunity on a film shoot. This has boosted his self-belief and raised his aspirations.

"The twisting ducks is just the best place I have ever been to. I learned things to become an actor and get my confidence and understand how to support people.

"It felt good being a professional actor. It was my first paid work and it was a professional actor job too. It's been exciting working with the groups at Theatre royal and Northern stage. Now I volunteer at Spectrum and it feels like one big community that I belong to"

Service Engagement project

We worked in partnership with STAND to deliver an engagement project to find out people's views on a Regional service and to feed findings back to the local authority. The Twisting Ducks facilitated a series of creative workshops with 7 people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, many of whom do not use words to communicate. We used audio-visual stimulus (e.g., sound buttons to create sound-scapes, green screen filming) to help people engage and make choices.

"The support from The Twisting Ducks was invaluable to us. The expert guidance and advice from the whole team ensured that people and families had a voice and were able to fully express their thoughts and feelings. It was a real pleasure working alongside them to deliver this project"
(Caroline Latta, Director of STAND)

Impact

This year, we co-designed an accessible self-evaluation form with our core group members, called 'What are you getting out of your group?" to measure the difference taking part in our activity makes

Through taking part in our activities:

100%
reported increased wellbeing

92%
said they have developed their skills and/or confidence

92%
have built stronger social connections

524
number of people who participated in our activities this year

1,152
audience numbers for our live performances and film screenings

Brooke's story

Brooke is 22, has a learning disability, and lives with her Mum. When Brooke first joined the group, she was very shy and nervous, and would not communicate verbally. For the first 3 sessions, she did not join in with group activities, and her Mum would sit in the room with her. After the first 3 sessions, her Mum started to leave Brooke for the morning, and returned at lunch time.

Over the next few months, we observed Brooke gradually growing in confidence and developing her communication skills. She started to show things on her mobile phone as a way of communicating, and then began talking quietly in one-to-one conversations. With encouragement and support from staff and peers, Brooke began to sit as part of the whole group, join in with drama games, and then, eventually, lead on her own warm up activity, which she continued to do each week.

Initially Brooke said that she would not be able to perform in front of an audience of strangers, as she would feel too scared. We continued to practice and rehearse, asking Brooke each week how she felt about performing live. 3 weeks before the final performance, Brooke decided that she felt 'brave' enough to give it a go.

"Being in the show was scary and nerve wrecking because there was so many people watching me. But when I got on the stage, with all the lights, it felt brilliant. Afterwards I felt 100% proud of myself for doing it. When I first came here I was shaking, but now I don't. I would like to be on the stage again with an audience. I would like to do more acting. I feel like I have really got my confidence back"
(Brooke)

"The show was absolutely brilliant. I'm still emotional thinking of her getting up and doing her dance with everyone watching her - it was just amazing. And hearing her little voice at the beginning crushed my heart; she hardly ever speaks. Thank you so much, she needed that first show to get her confidence up, she was so proud of herself" (Brooke's Mum)

Fundraising

We raised £1,505 in donations through our community fundraising challenge '15 k Your Way', in celebration of our 15 year anniversary.

Donation received from charity Making Space in lieu of work done by Steve Shrubb £1,000.

Other donations £381.

Investments

We have £20k in a 35 day notice account with Redwood bank.

15K YOUR WAY

THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1170354

£1,505

in donations

Financial review

Review of the year

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

During the year the Charity had income of £286,137 (2022: £205,514) of which £135,326 was restricted (2022: £104,397) and expenditure of £245,240 (2022: £184,385) of which £120,032 was restricted (2022: £97,237). There was an operating surplus of £40,897 (2022: £21,129) of which £12,577 was restricted (2022: £7,159).

At 31st March 2023 the Charity had net assets of £119,764 (2022: £78,867) of which £36,442 was restricted (2022: £23,865).

Reserves policy

The Trustees regularly review levels of reserves and have agreed that reserves equivalent to between three and six months running costs are appropriate for the organisation.

Three months running costs equate to around £60,000 and six months £120,000, based on the accounts for the 12 months to 31 March 2023. The reserves should not fall below this level in order to support good governance of the organisation. As at 31 March 2023 the unrestricted reserves were £83,322.

The Trustees plan to grow unrestricted reserves over the next 2 years to further strengthen the Charity.

Risk Management

The key controls used by the charity to mitigate risks include:

- Strategic planning, budgeting and regular financial management reports;
- Established organisational and governance structure and lines of reporting
- Procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and visitors; and procedures to safeguard children and vulnerable adults
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults and Safeguarding Children training (refreshed every 2 years as a minimum)
- Formal written policies, which are reviewed regularly
- Annual review of reserves
- Formal agenda for Board activity and minutes of decisions.

Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated.

Plans for future Periods

We have identified the following Key priorities to help us achieve against our vision and strategic objectives going forward:

Widening participation.

We piloted a participatory drama programme at Customs House, South Shields during the summer and will be launching a Performing Arts Academy here in September, providing an opportunity for local people with learning disabilities currently not engaged in the arts to take part and develop their skills, confidence and wellbeing.

We want to create new opportunities for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities to take part in our work. Alongside training for our Arts workers to enable them to develop their skills in this area, we will work with local providers to deliver outreach workshops, and to build a longer-term offer for participants.

Raising our profile

With support from the Cranfield Trust, we are working with a specialist consultant to help us produce a Marketing and Communications plan. Implementing this plan will enable us to reach more people who can benefit from our work, to grow our audience, build our supporters and attract investment.

Building creative solutions to tackle inequalities

We will be launching a new Accessible Health Resource service that will support our health and social care partners to engage with the learning disability community in more creative and accessible ways. As well as reducing health inequalities that our beneficiaries face, this will also enable us to achieve our target of increasing employment opportunities (e.g., voiceover work, acting, film-work) for our members who are aspiring to gain paid work in the creative industries and who face barriers to employment.

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Registered charity name	The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO
Charity number	1170354
Registered office	Twisting Ducks Studio Heaton Centre Trewhitt Road Newcastle Upon Tyne NE6 5DY
Trustees during 2022/2023	Christine Shrubb (Chair) Miles Henderson (Treasurer) Una McNichol Veronica Dougherty
Newly appointed Trustees	Victoria Smith, appointed 13/06/22 Lisa Kelly, appointed 13/06/22
Chief Executive and Senior staff members	Jay Hare, CEO Elena Miller, Project Manager & Lead Drama Facilitator Christine Jewers, Finance Officer Alex Tate, Business Development Officer
Independent Examiner	Doug Maltman FMAAT Connected Voice Business Services Ltd One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX
Main Bankers	Unity Trust Bank PO Box 7193 Planetary Road Willenhall WV1 9DG

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO Constitution. CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 24 Nov 2016

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board

In April, we held an accessible recruitment event to recruit 2 new Trustees with lived experience to our Board. We wanted to improve the inclusivity of our Board and ensure it is representative of the people we support, by increasing the number of trustees who are 'experts by experience' - people with lived experience of learning disabilities and/or autism. The selection process involved an interactive workshop facilitated by staff and Board members, providing an opportunity for people to demonstrate their skills and values, and scoring their performance against key criteria.

Meet our new Trustees

Lisa has been a core group member of The Twisting Ducks for 7 years and was keen to join the Board to share her expertise as a long-serving Trustee and former Co-Chair of another charity, and to take a more active role in networking for our organisation.

Victoria is one of our Spectrum Theatre group artists, and a member of our Morpeth Performing Arts Academy. Victoria brings a wealth of experience and connections through her active Learning Disability Voice and interview panel roles for Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust.

Board Induction and Training

New Board Members are introduced to the work of the organisation and informed of their legal roles and responsibilities at an induction meeting. The induction and training programme for new Board Members includes:

- A briefing by the Chair or Chief Executive
- An explanation of roles and responsibilities as a Board Member
- Copies of the main charity documents including the Constitution and the Financial Statements
- Copies of key policies, including our Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
- Copy of the business plan
- Copies of recent board papers including budgets and management accounts
- A copy of the Charity Commission publication "How to be an Effective Trustee" (and NCVO's "The Good Trustee Guide" for our Trustees who have learning disabilities).
- A copy of the governance structure

Related parties

A trustee was a Board member of another charitable organisation during this period. We have transactions with this organisation to the value of £100 for our contributions to their autism research project.

Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity SORP requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of incoming resources and application of resources, including the receipts and payments of the charity for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on: 26.10.2023

and signed on their behalf by:

Chair:

Chris Shrubb

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2023

I report on the financial statements of Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Association of Accountancy Technicians.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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

I 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.

Doug Maltman FMAAT
Connected Voice Charity Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 01.11.2023

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2023 £**	Total 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	5	2,886	-	**2,886**	6,798
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	6	5,000	135,191	**140,191**	108,950
Other trading activities	7	142,664	135	**142,799**	89,766
Investments	8	261	-	**261**	-
Total income		150,811	135,326	**286,137**	205,514
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	9	125,208	120,032	**245,240**	184,385
Total expenditure		125,208	120,032	**245,240**	184,385
Net income/(expenditure)		25,603	15,294	**40,897**	21,129
Transfers between funds		2,717	(2,717)	**-**	-
Net movement of funds		28,320	12,577	**40,897**	21,129
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		55,002	23,865	**78,867**	57,738
Total funds carried forward		83,322	36,442	**119,764**	78,867

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

Charity Number 1170354

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	£	Total 2023 £	£	Total 2022 £
Current assets					
Debtors	16	28,794		29,224	
Cash at bank and in hand	17	110,260		72,062	
Total current assets		**139,054**		**101,286**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(19,290)**		**(22,419)**	
Net current assets			**119,764**		**78,867**
Total net assets or liabilities			**119,764**		**78,867**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			83,322		55,002
Restricted income funds			36,442		23,865
Total funds			**119,764**		**78,867**

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 01.11.2023

and are signed on its behalf by: M Henderson
Treasurer

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 **Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 **Basis of accounting**

2.1 **Basis of preparation**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 **Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £83,322 . The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 **Income**

3.1 **Recognition of income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 **Offsetting**

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 **Grants and donations**

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 **Donated goods and services**

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 **Volunteer help**

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.7 **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects

4 **Expenditure and liabilities**

4.1 **Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 **Charitable activities**

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 **Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 **Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 **Creditors**

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 **Provisions for liabilities**

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Analysis of income

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2023 £**	Total 2022 £
5	**Donations and legacies**				
	Donations and gifts	2,886	-	**2,886**	5,750
	Other	-	-	**-**	1,048
		2,886	-	**2,886**	6,798
6	**Charitable activities**				
	Income from grants				
	Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	20,000	**20,000**	35,000
	Arts Council	-	-	**-**	837
	Recovery and Renewal Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	5,000	**5,000**	15,000
	Foyle Foundation	-	-	**-**	5,000
	Lottery	-	-	**-**	9,961
	D'oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	-	**-**	5,898
	Newcastle City Learning	-	-	**-**	1,500
	Rothley Trust	-	-	**-**	800
	Community Led Local Development	-	-	**-**	10,418
	Health Education England	-	9,381	**9,381**	3,168
	Access to Work	-	16,611	**16,611**	10,815
	Victoria Wood Foundation	-	-	**-**	1,000
	Barbour Foundation	-	-	**-**	5,000
	Other Grant - HMRC	5,000	-	**5,000**	4,553
	Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	-	19,839	**19,839**	-
	Social Enterprise Support Fund, Big Issue Invest.	-	19,610	**19,610**	-
	Connected Voice	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
	Greggs Foundation	-	20,000	**20,000**	-
	The Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
	Joicey Trust	-	350	**350**	-
	The Newcastle Fund	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
	RW Mann Trust	-	1,300	**1,300**	-
	The Clothworkers Foundation	-	9,100	**9,100**	-
		5,000	135,191	**140,191**	108,950
7	**Other trading activities**				
	Academies fees	68,625	-	**68,625**	59,153
	Ticket sales	877	135	**1,012**	-
	Commissioned work	73,053	-	**73,053**	30,613
	Services	109	-	**109**	-
		142,664	135	**142,799**	89,766

8 **Income from investments**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2023 £**	Total 2022 £
Bank interest	261	-	**261**	-
	261	-	**261**	-

Income was £286,137 (2022: £205,514) of which £150,811 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £101,117) and £135,326 was restricted (2022: £104,397)

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2023 £**	Total 2022 £
9 ***Charitable activities***				
Direct costs				
Wages	68,096	102,369	**170,465**	128,662
National insurance	11,075	-	**11,075**	9,057
Pension	1,854	-	**1,854**	2,254
Sessional staff	13,715	1,938	**15,653**	19,582
Other staff costs	633	-	**633**	-
Transport	3,612	229	**3,841**	1,163
Room hire	9,978	1,168	**11,146**	6,868
Promotion	1,495	99	**1,594**	1,122
Filming and Music costs	931	-	**931**	1,111
Support costs				
Hospitality and Volunteer expenses	1,269	57	**1,326**	480
Subscription	2,487	-	**2,487**	2,815
Office expenses	1,680	399	**2,079**	5,115
Equipment	3,870	9,209	**13,079**	4,376
Bank charges	251	-	**251**	392
Insurance	37	800	**837**	-
Fundraising costs	324	-	**324**	-
Training	104	2,813	**2,917**	-
Professional fees	2,633	951	**3,584**	-
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,164	-	**1,164**	1,388
	125,208	120,032	**245,240**	184,385

Expenditure on charitable activities was £245,240 (2022: £184,384) of which £125,208 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £87,147) and £120,032 was restricted (2022: £97,237)

10 **Fees for examination of the accounts**

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	**1,164**	1,388
	1,164	1,388

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2022: £nil)

11 **Analysis of staff costs and the**

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	**170,465**	128,662
Social security costs	**11,075**	9,057
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	**1,854**	2,254
	183,394	139,973

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2022: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the charity manager . The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £0.

12 **Staff numbers**

The average monthly head count was 13 staff (2022: 8 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employee's work	2023 Number	2022 Number
Charitable activities	**5.0**	4.0
	5.0	4.0

13 **Transactions with trustees**

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

The following detail the related party transactions in the reporting period.

14 **Defined contribution pension scheme**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £1,854 (2022: £2,254). There was £845 outstanding as at 31 March 2023 (2022: £0)

15 **Corporation Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

16 **Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	**28,649**	28,366
Prepayments	**145**	18
Other debtors	**-**	840
	28,794	29,224

17 **Cash at bank and in hand** **Unrestricted Funds**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account	**20,000**	20,000
Cash at bank	**90,260**	52,062
	110,260	72,062

18 **Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	**1,164**	1,388
Other accruals	**336**	4,531
Deferred income		
Filming	**-**	16,500
NHS North East	**5,500**	-
Other creditors	**12,290**	-
	19,290	22,419

19 **Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2023	2022
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**16,500**	**24,000**
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	**(16,500)**	**(24,000)**
Amount deferred in year	**5,500**	**16,500**
Balance carried forward	**5,500**	**16,500**

20 **Events after the end of the reporting period**

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

21 **Analysis of charitable funds** **Unrestricted Funds**

Analysis of movements in unres Unrestricted Funds
As at 31 March 2023

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** **£**
General unrestricted fund	55,002	150,811	(125,208)	2,717	**83,322**
Totals	55,002	150,811	(125,208)	2,717	**83,322**

Analysis of movements in unres Unrestricted Funds
as at 31 March 2022

Unrestricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** **£**
General unrestricted fund	41,032	101,117	(87,147)	-	**55,002**
Totals	41,032	101,117	(87,147)	-	**55,002**

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' of the charity

21 **Analysis of movement in restricted funds** (continued)
As at 31 March 2023

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Health Champions	723	-	(723)	-	**-**
Sunderland Platform Project	12,975	19,840	(14,035)	-	**18,780**
DWP	2,717	25,992	(25,992)	-	**2,717**
Victoria Wood Foundation	5,000	-	-	-	**5,000**
Foyle Foundation	2,450	-	-	-	**2,450**
Various funding grants	-	44,750	(37,207)	(2,717)	**4,826**
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	-	20,135	(20,135)	-	**-**
Recovery Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	**-**
Social Enterprise	-	19,610	(16,941)	-	**2,669**
Totals	23,865	135,327	(120,033)	(2,717)	**36,442**

Analysis of movement in restricted funds
As at 31 March 2022

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Health Champions	-	3,168	(2,445)	-	**723**
Sunderland Platform Project	14,058	66,216	(67,299)	-	**12,975**
DWP	769	10,815	(8,867)	-	**2,717**
Victoria Wood Foundation	-	5,000	-	-	**5,000**
Foyle Foundation	-	5,000	(2,550)	-	**2,450**
Various funding grants	1,879	14,198	(16,077)	-	**-**
Totals	16,706	104,397	(97,238)	-	**23,865**

Purpose of restricted funds
Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Health Champions	A grant from Community Health Fund Newcastle City Council to support our Learning Disability Health Champions awareness raising
Sunderland Platform Project	A drama project funded by Postcode Neighbourhood Trust and D'oyly Carte.
DWP	Access to work, employee support grants.
Victoria Wood Foundation	A grant was received towards our core costs.
Foyle Foundation	A grant towards our core costs.
Various funding grants:	

Purpose of restricted funds (continued)

- The Worshipful Company of Grocers	A grant towards core costs.
- The Greggs Foundation	A grant towards core costs.
- The Clothworkers' Foundation	A grant towards equipment costs.
- R W Mann Trust	A grant towards cost of equipment.
- The Joicey Trust	A grant towards cost of equipment.
- The Newcastle Fund	A grant towards core costs.
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	Funding to deliver outreach drama and creative writing workshops in Newcastle and to devise and perform theatre and spoken word pieces.
Recovery Fund	Recovery and Renewal fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland - Funding to support our organisation's recovery from Covid, including phased return to in-person activity.
Social Enterprise	Social Enterprise Support Fund, Big Issue Invest - grant to support our organisational development and Covid recovery.

Transfers between funds

As at 31 March 2023	**Reason for transfer**	**Amount £**
Between unrestricted and restricted funds	Various funding grants contribution to core funding.	**2,717**

22 **Capital commitments**

As at 31 March 2023, the charity had no capital commitments (2022 -£nil)

23 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2023 £**	Total 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	73,818	36,442	**110,260**	**72,062**
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	9,504	-	**9,504**	**6,805**
	83,322	36,442	**119,764**	**78,867**

Thank you to all our funders and partners who supported our work during 2022/2023

Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland
Connected Voice
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
Foyle Foundation
Greggs Foundation
Health Education England
Joicey Trust
National Lottery Awards for All
Newcastle City Council and City Learning
Newcastle Community Health Fund
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund at Community Foundation Tyne and Wear
Newcastle Fund
NHS Health Education England
North East and Cumbria Learning Disability Network
Northern Stage
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust
R W Mann Trust
Social Enterprise Support Fund, Big Issue Invest
The Clothworkers Foundation
The Worshipful Company of Grocers
Victoria Wood Foundation

Twisting Ducks Studio
Heaton Centre
Trewhitt Road
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE6 5DY

www.thetwistingducks.co.uk

Registered charity name: The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company CIO. Charity number 1170354.

THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1170354

Accounts

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

Registered Charity - 1170354

ACCOUNTS

for the year ended

31 MARCH 2022

Essell
ACCOUNTANTS LTD

29 Howard Street
North Shields NE30 1AR
Tel : 0191 259 2743 : Fax 0191 257 2249
E-mail : info@essell.co.uk
Ref : ACR/2541

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2022

CONTENTS

Report of the Trustees	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 2
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 3
Balance Sheet	Page 4
Notes to the Financial Statements	Page 5 to 6
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	Page 7

Prepared by
Essell Accountants Limited
29 Howard Street
North Shields NE30 1AR
Tel: 0191 259 2743 : Fax 0191 257 2249
E-mail: info@essell.co.uk
Ref : ACR/2541

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2020.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number: 1170354

Principal Address
TD Studio
The Heaton Centre
Trewhitt Road
Heaton
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE6 5DY

Trustees
Ms Una McNicholl
Mrs Veronica Dougherty - Secretary
Ms Chris Shrubb - Chairperson
Mrs Karen Signey (resigned 23rd June 2021)
Miles Henderson - Treasurer

Independent Examiner
Essell Accountants Limited
29 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document
The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Risk management
The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Trustee

Date: 8/9/22

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

I report on the accounts of Twisting Ducks Threatre Company CIO for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 3 to 7.

This report is made solely to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the regulations made under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees, as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible or independent examination it is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts and 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 to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 seeks explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would by 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 set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1.) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements;

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of section 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;

have not been met; or

2.) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understand of the accounts to be reached.

Alex C. Robinson FCCA
ESSELL ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED, North Shields

Date: 29/09/2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Income and Endowments					
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds :					
Donations and Legacies		5,750	104,397	110,147	127,111
Income from Charitable Activities		95,367	0	95,367	52,742
Total Income and Endowments		101,117	104,397	205,514	179,853
Expenditure on :					
Expenditure on Charitable Activities		71,292	0	71,292	14,331
Other Expenditure		15,855	97,237	113,093	119,733
Total Expenditure on :		87,147	97,237	184,385	134,064
Net Income / (Expenditure)		13,970	7,159	21,129	45,789
Balance as at 31st March 2021		41,032	16,706	57,738	11,950
Balance as at 31st March 2022		55,002	23,865	78,867	57,738

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	31 MARCH 2022		31 MARCH 2021	
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors (Note 5)	29,224		30,270	
Cash at Bank	72,063		58,941	
	101,286		89,211	
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors (Note 6)	5,919		7,472	
Deferred Income	16,500		24,000	
	22,419		31,472	
NET ASSETS		78,867		57,739
Represented by:				
FUNDS				
Unrestricted Funds (Note 7)		55,002		41,033
Restricted Funds (Note 7)		23,865		16,706
TOTAL FUNDS		78,867		57,739

Signed by two of the trustees on behalf of all the trustees :

Date : 8/9/22

V M Donaghey

Date : 8 Sept 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming Resources

Incoming Resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

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 financial statements.

2. ACTIVITES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
Donations	5,750	86

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' Expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 March 2022.

4. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	130,916	84,122
Employers National Insurance	9,057	4,744
	139,974	88,866

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Amount falling due within one year		
Prepayments	18	0
Trade Debtors	28,366	30,270
Other Debtors	840	0
	29,224	30,270

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals and Payroll	5,919	2,633
Trade Creditors	0	4,839
	5,919	7,472

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31/03/2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31/03/2022 £
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	41,032	101,117	(87,147)	55,002
Restricted Funds				
Restricted Funds	16,706	104,397	(97,237)	23,865
Total Restricted Funds	16,706	104,397	(97,237)	23,865
TOTAL FUNDS	57,738	205,514	(184,385)	78,867

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO
PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended
31 MARCH 2022

	31 MARCH 2022 (Unrestricted)		31 MARCH 2022 (Restricted)		31 MARCH 2022 (TOTAL)	
INCOME						
Sales*	59,153		0		59,153	
Newcastle Culture Investment Fund	0		35,000		35,000	
Arts Council	0		837		837	
Community Foundation	0		15,000		15,000	
Foyle Foundation	0		5,000		5,000	
Lottery	0		9,961		9,961	
D'Oyly Carte Charitable	0		5,898		5,898	
Newcastle City Learning	0		1,500		1,500	
Rothley Trust	0		800		800	
Community Led Local Development	0		10,418		10,418	
Health Education England	0		3,168		3,168	
Access to Work	0		10,815		10,815	
Victoria Wood Foundation	0		1,000		1,000	
Barbour Foundation	0		5,000		5,000	
Other Grant - HMRC	4,552		0		4,552	
Other Income	1,048		0		1,048	
Donations**	5,750		0		5,750	
		70,504		104,397		174,901
Commissioned Work	30,613		0		30,613	
		30,613		0		30,613
TOTAL INCOME		101,117		104,397		205,514
OVERHEADS						
Wages	74,455		85,100		159,555	
Transport	924		239		1,163	
Office Expenses	1,655		3,460		5,115	
Room Hire	6,860		8		6,868	
Promotion	1,092		30		1,122	
Hospitality and Volunteer Expenses	447		33		480	
Equipment	2,744		1,632		4,376	
Filming and Music Costs	582		528		1,111	
Subscription	2,815		0		2,815	
Bank Charges	392		0		392	
Overhead Recovery	(6,206)		6,206		0	
Accountancy	1,388		0		1,388	
		87,147		97,237		184,385
NET TRADING SURPLUS		13,970		7,159		21,129

* The Sales of £59,153 are made up as follows :

	£
Academies	59,153
Ticket Sales	0

** The Donations were received from the following sources :

	£
Steve Shrubb and Tavistock and Portman NHS	4,000
Northumbria University Student Union	642
Miscellaneous	1,108
	5,750

THE TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1170354

Accounts

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

Registered Charity - 1170354

ACCOUNTS

for the year ended

31 MARCH 2021

Essell
ACCOUNTANTS LTD

29 Howard Street
North Shields NE30 1AR
Tel : 0191 259 2743 : Fax 0191 257 2249
E-mail : info@essell.co.uk
Ref : ACR/2541

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2021

CONTENTS

Report of the Trustees	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 2
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 3
Balance Sheet	Page 4
Notes to the Financial Statements	Page 5 to 6
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	Page 7

Prepared by
Essell Accountants Limited
29 Howard Street
North Shields NE30 1AR
Tel: 0191 259 2743 : Fax 0191 257 2249
E-mail: info@essell.co.uk
Ref : ACR/2541

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2020.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number: 1170354

Principal Address
TD Studio
The Heaton Centre
Trewhitt Road
Heaton
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE6 5DY

Trustees
Ms Una McNicholl
Mrs Veronica Dougherty - Secretary
Ms Chris Shrubb - Chairperson
Mrs Karen Signey
Miles Henderson - Treasurer

Independent Examiner
Essell Accountants Ltd
29 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document
The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Risk management
The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Trustee

Date: 29.9.21

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO

I report on the accounts of Twisting Ducks Threatre Company CIO for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 3 to 7.

This report is made solely to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the regulations made under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees, as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible or independent examination it is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts and 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 to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 seeks explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would by 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 set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1.) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements;

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of section 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;

have not been met; or

2.) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understand of the accounts to be reached.

Alex C. Robinson FCCA
ESSELL ACCOUNTANTS, North Shields

Date: 30/09/2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020
Income and Endowments					
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds :					
Donations and Legacies		86	127,025	127,111	78,052
Income from Charitable Activities		52,742	0	52,742	52,158
Total Income and Endowments		52,828	127,025	179,853	130,210
Expenditure on :					
Expenditure on Charitable Activities		14,331	0	14,331	42,740
Other Expenditure		419	119,314	119,733	88,634
Total Expenditure on :		14,750	119,314	134,064	131,374
Net Income / (Expenditure)		38,078	7,711	45,789	(1,164)
Balance as at 31st March 2020		2,955	8,995	11,950	13,114
Balance as at 31st March 2021		41,033	16,706	57,739	11,950

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	31 MARCH 2021		31 MARCH 2020	
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors (Note 5)	30,270		5,570	
Cash at Bank	58,941		6,723	
Cash in Hand	0		0	
	89,211		12,293	
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors (Note 6)	7,472		342	
Deferred Income	24,000		0	
	31,472		342	
NET ASSETS		57,739		11,951
Represented by:				
FUNDS				
Unrestricted Funds (Note 7)		41,033		2,955
Restricted Funds (Note 7)		16,706		8,995
TOTAL FUNDS		57,739		11,950

Signed by two of the trustees on behalf of all the trustees :

Date : 29.9.21

Date : 29-9-21.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming Resources

Incoming Resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

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 financial statements.

2. ACTIVITES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
Fundraising events	86	1,758

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' Expenses
There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 March 2021..

4. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	84,122	80,220
Social Security	4,744	4,815
	88,866	85,035

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5. DEBTORS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amount falling due within one year		
Prepayments	0	113
Debtors	30,270	5,457
	30,270	5,570

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and Payroll	2,633	166
Trade Creditors	4,839	176
	7,472	342

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31/03/2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	2,955	52,828	(14,750)	41,033
Restricted Funds				
Restricted Funds	8,995	127,025	(119,314)	16,706
Total Restricted Funds	8,995	127,025	(119,314)	16,706
TOTAL FUNDS	11,950	179,853	(134,064)	57,739

TWISTING DUCKS THEATRE COMPANY CIO
PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended
31 MARCH 2021

	31 MARCH 2021 (Unrestricted)		31 MARCH 2021 (Restricted)		31 MARCH 2021 (TOTAL)	
INCOME						
Sales*	28,433		0		28,433	
NCIF	0		25,000		25,000	
Postcode	0		18,967		18,967	
Arts Council	0		16,366		16,366	
Community Foundation	0		3,308		3,308	
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	0		21,391		21,391	
Lottery	0		9,635		9,635	
Blue Stone	0		8,533		8,533	
Northumberland Freemasons	0		3,738		3,738	
Sir James Knott	0		3,000		3,000	
Access to Work	0		7,846		7,846	
CLLD	0		9,241		9,241	
Other Grant - HMRC	3,260		0		3,260	
Other Income	60		0		60	
Donations	86		0		86	
		31,838		127,025		158,863
Commissioned Work	20,990		0		20,990	
		20,990		0		20,990
TOTAL INCOME		52,828		127,025		179,853
OVERHEADS						
Wages	13,444		102,664		116,108	
Transport	36		82		118	
Insurance	0		0		0	
Office Expenses	2,965		2,064		5,029	
Refreshment	3		0		3	
Post and Stationery	0		0		0	
Room Hire	0		0		0	
Promotion	199		1,564		1,763	
Hospitality and Volunteer Expenses	0		0		0	
Equipment	91		10,750		10,841	
Filming and Music Costs	91		112		203	
Subscription	0		0		0	
Professional Fees	0		0		0	
Bank Charges	0		0		0	
Overhead Recovery	(2,078)		2,078		0	
Accountancy	0		0		0	
		14,750		119,314		134,064
NET TRADING SURPLUS		38,078		7,711		45,789

* The Sales of £28,433 are made up as follows :

Academies	28,433
Ticket Sales	0