



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date  
From 07 04 2021 To 06 04 2022  
Period end date

## Section A

### Reference and administration details

Charity name

Company of Friends

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1172644

Charity's principal address

The Black-E

1 Great George Street

Liverpool

Postcode

L1 5EW

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Alan Wardle			
2	Paul Lafferty			
3	Sheila Rand			
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

## Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by the existing Trustees

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

--

## Section C Objectives and activities



**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by working with people in Merseyside who have learning difficulties, who are socially excluded as a result of their learning difficulties and to relieve the needs of such people and assist them to integrate into society.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

Main activities include

The practise and performance of theatre, art, music and movement therapy,

Providing educational opportunities including visits to art institutions,

Raising public awareness of the issues affecting people with learning difficulties, both generally and in relation to their social exclusion,

Providing workshops, forums and general support, and providing recreational facilities and opportunities for people with learning difficulties.

What we do

Drama is an established method for promoting self-confidence and a sense of belonging and sharing experiences. It breaks the cycle of isolation, brings people together and presents them with challenges they can solve collaboratively. Company of Friends supports its members through the practise and performance of theatre, art, music and movement therapy.

Since 2016, Company of Friends Theatre has staged many productions (at the Black-E), including 'Dr Who and the Unknown Dimension', 'Macbeth', 'Our Will', 'Hamlet', 'Sherlock Holmes and the Wolfman' and 'Nothing to be Done', based on Samuel Beckett's work. Also, we have collaborated with LIPA to stage 'The Red and Black', a factual production, involving the Spanish Civil War and some Liverpool Sailors, performed at LIPA and the Anglican Cathedral, and more recently, 'The Tam O'Shanter Project, performed at Bidston, The Wirral. And Victoria Victorious, on the streets of New Brighton.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

#### Accountability

Our members direct the work our Charity undertakes. The volunteers support the members in achieving this. Initially, discussions with the entire group take place. Members will give suggestions as to what they would like to do next. This can range from 'Hamlet' to 'Sherlock Holmes and the Wolfman'. Scripts are written, amended and then rehearsed. Before, finally 'Company of Friends' presents a production to a paying public.

#### Equal Opportunities

Company of Friends recognises that it is essential to provide to all persons without discrimination. Though we support members predominantly with Downs Syndrome, all our members are treated equally without discrimination. Our members have a range of capacities, which does necessitate achieving a 'good fit' with the individual's ability and the requirements of their involvement.

Company of Friends promotes engagement with other local communities for the development of shared projects. Current projects being undertaken include collaboration with LIPA, Mencap and Liverpool Adult Social Services

## Section D

## Achievements and performance



**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year****Productions**

This current period (2021-2022), began to see a return to normal working, after the COVID lockdown ended in July 2021.

Following on from the successful 'Sherlock Holmes and the Wolfman' production. A return to Shakespeare was envisaged with a 'Company of Friends', take on 'The Tempest'.

After much development, and many rehearsals, the Tempest was ready for a public performance, which took place at the 'Chamber Theatre', The Black-E, in December 2021, to a well attended (around 100), and well-received audience.

In March 2022, Company of Friends (CoF) began its annual collaboration with LIPA. And for this year, was set in, and about New Brighton. In total, 8 other groups were involved in the production 'Victoria Victorious'. Total performers, around 100, performed to many hundreds, on the streets of New Brighton.

With regard the development and skills of Company of Friends Members, through the participation of drama. An expert fundraiser, suggested the families of CoF, should evaluate their members improvements in confidence, communication and focus, over the last 12 months.

The Family feedback was excellent, with all Members skills increasing, in all areas. This evidence-based information is invaluable for promoting our Charity, to Grant Funders, as one that works, and achieves results.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Company of Friends does not have a Reserves Policy

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The main expenditures for 'Company of Friends', are 3 fold. Payments to project facilitators, administration and payment for office and rehearsal space.

Over recent years, we have secured grants from 'The Arts Council', 'The Lottery', the 'Community Impact Fund', Jack's supermarket and 'Elizabeth Rathbone Trust'

When no funding has been secured, we rely on the minimal subscription we charge our members, £4 a session (4 hours), to keep operational.

At times, we have been fortunate that facilitators, administration and hire space has been donated, either for free, or for a token charge.

## Section F


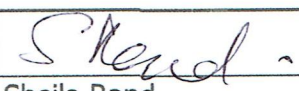
## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

### Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alan Wardle	Sheila Rand
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee/Secretary	Trustee

Date 31/01/2023





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Company of Friends

1172644

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

07/04/2021

To

06/04/2022

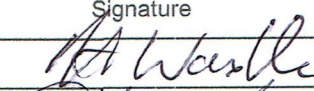
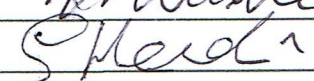
### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Subscriptions	1,404	-	-	1,404	312
Donations	360	-	-	360	480
Community Impact Fund Grant	-	-	-	-	1,500
Jacks Grant	-	-	-	-	500
Elizabeth Rathbone Grant	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,764</b>	<b>2,792</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,764</b>	<b>2,792</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Administration	570	2,520	-	3,090	1,280
Web Site	524	-	-	524	363
Training LCVS	-	-	-	-	180
Rental Hire	-	-	-	-	179
Stationary and Ink	3	-	-	3	49
Productions	100	-	-	100	10
Training Materials	134	-	-	134	-
Hospitality	142	-	-	142	-
Sets/Props	482	-	-	482	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>2,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,475</b>	<b>2,061</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>2,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,475</b>	<b>2,061</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 191</b>	<b>- 1,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 1,711</b>	<b>731</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,025</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>731</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Bank	261		-
	Cash	53	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alan Wardle	31/01/2023
	Sheila Rand	31/01/2023