



Chapel Arts Annual Report 2023-2024

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

from 1 May 2023 to 30 April 2024

Charity name: Chapel-en-le-Frith Arts (known as Chapel Arts)

Charity registration number: 1178080

Charity Address: 29 Market Street, Chapel-En-Le-Frith, HIGH PEAK, Derbyshire, SK23 0HP

Objectives and Activities:

The objectives for which the charity was established are:

To promote and encourage public participation in, and appreciation of, the arts in CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH and its surrounding communities, in particular, but not exclusively, by the organisation and production of community arts festivals, workshops, events and performances.

Chapel Arts meets these objects by running a writing group; spoken word evenings; musical and dramatic performances; and a regular film night. We seek to conform to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit by ensuring all activities are available to the people living in and around Chapel-en-le-Frith and are widely advertised. Any charges are kept to the minimum needed to defray costs or are offered free of charge, although donations are welcomed.

Governance and Management:

Trustee Name	Position Held (if any)	Date appointed or resigned if during current year
Anne Cawthorn		
Mark Henderson		
Carol Jones	Treasurer	
Charles Pickering	Chair	
Simone Pottage		
Christopher Sizeland		

Volunteers:

Chapel Arts is run entirely by volunteers, including its trustees, and has no paid employees. The trustees are extremely grateful for the help and support provided by our loyal band of volunteers. They devote many hours to our activities and without their contribution Chapel Arts would not be able to function. We are especially grateful to Julie Harratt for taking on the role of Honorary Secretary after Sue Stringer stood down from the committee. Her expertise is proving valuable in improving our organisation.

Achievements and Performance:

Chapel Arts had a successful year in 2023-24, except for the Creative Arts and Crafts area, as the problems caused by the Covid-19 pandemic eased and people regained confidence in attending events and activities. Despite the increase in inflation and the cost of living we held our prices at the same level for further year. The bounce-back in attendance, largely for Film Night and the Writing Group, has resulted in a small surplus for the year. The accounts can be found at the end of this report.

Performing Arts:

Performing Arts held only one concert in the period covered by this report. Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances prevented us from holding an Autumn 2023 concert. Our Spring 2024 concert, *Buzz Hawkins Backyard*, featuring his famous characters *the Bradshaw Family* was followed by songs and music with his band. It proved extremely popular drawing our largest ever audience bolstered by attendees from outside our normal catchment.

Film Group:

Film nights have been consistently well attended throughout the year. Monthly films nights continue to be held at the REMs venue. All films are reviewed prior to showing, to ensure appropriate content. Films are advertised both at REMs and emails sent out on a mailing list, to ensure compliance with film licensing laws. A new amplifier was purchased last year to improve sound quality.

The link with Chapel Players has not continued throughout this year, as the Players informed the committee, that they would have to reduce their input to any film nights, as they didn't have the capacity to provide either technical support or bar staff for these events. Plans to host family friendly 'sing along' film nights at Chapel Playhouse have also not progressed.

As a result of this information, the film group advised the Chapel Players that they would be unable to continue showing films at the Playhouse. The logistics of the film group not receiving any technical support for future events, would be difficult to overcome.

The Players returned the DVD player, which was purchased via a council grant, so we now have two functioning DVD players.

Creative Writing:

The topics we'd pursued during the ten two-hour sessions of this season included extensions of our 2022-3 themes Writing Monologues and Writing for the Stage. During the autumn we performed our completed and well-rehearsed monologues (set in a GPs' waiting room) at the Partington Theatre, Glossop. The response from the Partington Players was strongly positive. We now plan a new set of monologues to be performed at the Partington in November 2024.

Our attempt to construct a stage play based on the monologues was less successful. However, Chapel Players provided an invaluable critique of the attempt in March 2024, noting that the script was too obviously derived from a set of monologues. On the basis of their advice, several of our group are planning to write 30 minute one-act stage plays, working either individually or in groups of 2-3, during the autumn of 2024.

Throughout the period under review we have, as always, pursued a variety of writing exercises, including poetry, and works-in-progress by several members of the group have advanced. One highlight was the release of the ten-author compilation Tales from the Medicine Cabinet by Stairwell Books during March; four of the authors are members of the Chapel Arts Writing Group. The publishers held a book launch in Rems Café. It was well attended and a number of copies were sold.

As in previous years, we devoted the spring of 2024 to preparing presentations for the Buxton Festival Fringe in July. Our theme for 2024 was Murder Foretold, and some of the pieces were derived from the "Someone Here Will Soon Commit A Murder" exercise that we ran the previous year. For the performances we hope to have musical introductions by

two members of the group. A booklet containing all the poems, stories and play sketches to be performed will be printed locally, cover design by a member of the group who is a gifted visual artist. We hope that proceeds from ticket and booklet sales will once again enable us to make a significant contribution to the local children's charity Little Cherubs.

Spoken Word:

The Spoken Word group meets on an ad hoc basis on a Wednesday or Thursday evening at Rems bar in Chapel-en-le-Frith. After the success of meeting on a Saturday afternoon in the winter months at the Mustard Seed cafe for the last 2 years this will more than likely be repeated in 2025.

Spoken Word allows people to read any literature, usually short stories or poems. There is a mixture of work they've written themselves and work by other authors. The evening or afternoon is split into two sessions, which usually allows people to read twice, with a time limit of five minutes per person in the first session and then again in the second. Some people also like to come along to listen rather than perform.

Spoken Word is a free event as Rems don't charge for the venue and donations are always made by the participants. The Mustard Seed do charge for heating, but donations given by the participants cover the cost. Donations from participants are given to Chapel Arts to cover any advertising costs. The advertising comprises posters, which are displayed around Chapel and in other local places. I also print flyers to leave at various places in the town and in Rems where the Film Group can hand out at their film nights. I also use the Chapel Arts Facebook page to advertise.

The Spoken Word group had three meetings between 1/5/23-30/4/24 The numbers attending ranged from 9 to 12. In July the Chapel Arts Creative Writing Group performed twice at Rems as part of the Buxton Festival Fringe, so I skipped the Spoken Word meeting that would have been due at the same time.

Visual Arts and Crafts:

The search for a volunteer coordinator for Visual Arts and Crafts continued throughout 2023-24 without success. In the absence of someone to organise and run a programme of events including the Art Show, activities have been in abeyance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Brief Statement of the Charity's Policy on Reserves:

The Charity employs no staff, nor does it rent permanent offices. Therefore, the Charity does not need to hold significant reserves.

Cash reserves are regularly reviewed. The Charity holds sufficient cash to cover six months of central costs, such as public liability insurance and web-hosting, plus amounts to cover any outlay committed to planned events, to replace equipment, or to meet any unforeseen expenditure.

Further Financial Review Details:

At the end of the of the financial year 2022-2023 we had cash funds of £6013, while at the year end 2023-2024 this had risen to £6556, an increase of £543.

The finances of the Charitable Trust remain healthy with ample funds in reserve. A business savings account with the NatWest has been opened with the modest interest helping to defray central administration costs. Administration costs increased by 12.5% from 2022-23 to 2023-24 but would have been higher if the quote for this year's Public Liability Insurance hadn't been the same as last year's which came as a pleasant surprise.

Given the healthy reserves we took the decision in the 2023-24 financial year to commission a new website. Our current one is now eight years old, looking dated and is increasingly difficult to maintain. The process is on-going and the capital expenditure will be shown in next year's accounts.

CHARITY ACCOUNTS (1 May 2022 – 30 April 2023)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Chapel-en-le-Frith Arts

1178080

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/05/23

To

30/04/24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Performance Arts	1,514	-	-	1,514	1,052
Film Night	904	-	-	904	873
EasyFund-Raising	-	-	-	-	15
Literary Arts	872	-	-	872	927
Art & Craft	-	-	-	-	10
Spoken Word	44	-	-	44	-
Donations	100	-	-	100	100
Interest	26	-	-	26	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,460	-	-	3,460	2,977
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,460	-	-	3,460	2,977
A3 Payments					
Performance Arts	1,041	-	-	1,041	1,157
Film Night	160	-	-	160	472
EasyFund-Raising	-	-	-	-	-
Literary Arts	803	-	-	803	102
Art & Craft	-	-	-	-	-
Central Administration	454	-	-	454	403
Spoken Word	10	-	-	10	-
Short Story Competition	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,468	-	-	2,468	2,134
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	449	-	-	449	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	449	-	-	449	-
Total payments	2,917	-	-	2,917	2,134
Net of receipts/(payments)	543	-	-	543	843
A5 Transfers between funds					
	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,013	-	-	6,013	5,170
Cash funds this year end	6,556	-	-	6,556	6,013

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	NatWest Current Acc	2,509	-	-
	Petty Cash	21	-	-
	NatWest Savings Account	4,026	-	-
	Total cash funds	6,556	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Film Projection & Sound	Unrestricted	2,128	-
	Blu Ray DVD Player	Unrestricted	89	35
	Amplifier	Unrestricted	459	400
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	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	

DECLARATION

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

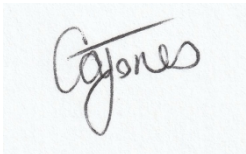
Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. F. Pickering', written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper background.

Charles Frederick Pickering

Chair

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Jones', written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper background.

Carol Ann Jones

Treasurer

Date: 11 November 2024