

# BISPHAM CASTAWAYS

England & Wales · Charity number 1182404

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2019-03-11

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 40 Cavendish Road  
Bispham  
Blackpool  
FY2 9JR

**Phone** 01253353224

**Email** [bispham.castaways@gmail.com](mailto:bispham.castaways@gmail.com)

**Website** <https://www.facebook.com/The-Bispham-Castaways-Community-Theatre-Group-288716581708432/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF THOSE PEOPLE LIVING IN BISPHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, ARE:A) THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE ART OF THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE, THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF THEATRE PERFORMANCES AND OTHER PERFORMANCE ARTS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO LEARN ABOUT, PARTICIPATE AND ENGAGE IN THEATRE.B) THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, ILL-HEALTH AND DISABILITY THROUGH, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, THE PROVISION OF THEATRE PERFORMANCES, OUTREACH AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR SUCH PEOPLE.

**Activities:** We use performance and theatre to promote arts, history and culture in the Bispham and Blackpool area. Our performances are varied and are checked for artistic merit. We also use performance arts to improve confidence and wellbeing of those in need in the area.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Blackpool

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£5,492	£4,202	-	-
2023-07-31	£3,642	£2,687	-	-
2022-07-31	£2,807	£2,342	-	-
2021-07-31	£100	£50	-	-
2020-07-31	£3,645	£3,284	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
<b>SUSAN LOUISE HOPE</b>	Chair	2018-08-30
ANGELA CLAIR CROSSLEY		2018-08-20
DEBRA ANN FLAVELL		2018-08-30
HAYLEY PRICE		2018-08-20
Ian Dodd		2023-01-15
Martin Thompson		2019-09-08
Suzanne McEachran		2019-09-14

**BISPHAM CASTAWAYS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182404

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# Accounts

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# **Bispham CastAways**

**Community Theatre Group**



CIO Registered Charity Number 1182404

**Annual Report of  
Bispham CastAways CIO  
RCN - 1182404**

**Address - 40 Cavendish Road, Bispham, Blackpool, FY2 9JR**

**FINANCIAL YEAR  
January 2024 - December 2024**

**TRUSTEE REPORTING PERIOD  
December 2023 - December 2024**

**TRUSTEES**

**Susan Hope**

**Angela Crossley**

**Hayley Price**

**Debbie Flavell**

**Martin Thompson**

**Suzanne McEachran**

**Ian Dodd**

**Henry "Harry" Chambers - Retired January 2024**

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Bispham CastAways CIO is governed by a Constitution together with a set of policies including Safeguarding, Social Media and Public Benefit policies. Each member has also been given a copy of (and on joining the group signed their agreement to) our Member Code of Conduct, Privacy Notice and Netiquette Policy. At the moment, we do not have any policies or procedures for induction or training of trustees. We believe that as we are such a small charity and have a stable group of trustees, this is not a priority at the present time. During this period we were just coming out of lockdown and have continued to deal with the effects of COVID on our practices and audiences.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The charitable purposes of Bispham CastAways CIO are:

- (a) the advancement of arts, culture and heritage, particularly relating to theatre and performance, through the presentation of theatre performances and other performance arts for the public benefit and by providing opportunities for people to learn about, participate and engage in theatre, in particular but not exclusively for those people living in Bispham and the surrounding areas.
- (b) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health and disability through, but not exclusively, the provision of theatre performances, outreach and awareness programs, for the public benefit, with a view to improving the conditions of life for such people living in Bispham and the surrounding areas.

What this actually means is as follows. Firstly, that we take anyone from the area who wants to become a member of Bispham CastAways and experience the benefit of participating in theatre, no matter age (as long as 16+), gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability, past experience or confidence in their own ability. Secondly, that we strive to perform as many different, high quality shows throughout the year for the public in the Bispham and Blackpool areas, so they can engage with good theatre at as low a cost as possible. We use our Artistic Merit policy to ensure we are not solely relying on “in-house” or unpublished scriptwriters, also maintaining NODA membership to ensure with included independent reviews of productions to make sure we are creating quality, varied theatre, within our means. Finally, that through “going on the road”, developing relationships and programmes with social

prescribers and other charitable organisations, that we can help those in need in the area, especially to help those with mental health issues.

Our Public Benefit Policy is followed at all times and any monies made are funnelled back into the objectives of Bispham CastAways with all Trustees and members being volunteers, with zero employees.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

Our policies and dedicated board of trustees have allowed us to grow a diverse range of members of Bispham CastAways from the Bispham and Blackpool area. We have helped many of them to use theatre to grow in confidence. Participation in our group has supplied essential support to several members who have had a difficult time, providing support through bereavement, as well as medical issues. Through conversations with members, the Trustees feel that our productions and activities have improved the lives and mental health of our members. We have ensured that any vulnerable members are set up to succeed, utilising our safeguarding policies. Our group chats are regularly utilised to keep members in touch with each other and we are often quoted as being very supportive. We attended the NODA District 2 Awards evening in February 2024, organised a group trip to see Unfortunate at the Grand Theatre in May 2024, attended Claremont Gala as a group in July 2024, had an in-house Christmas party December 2024 including fun games, and have had several fun photo shoots with our photographer Abbie Dodd, all boosting the feeling of camaraderie in the group. We also altered our show timings this season to three productions a year; a play in April, murder mystery in August and pantomime in December. This has allowed more time to produce shows without undue stress on members and was agreed by all members at the AGM in January 2024.

During the reporting period, we have continued to work with Holy Family RC Church to ensure that we are adding value to the community where we have our theatre home, helping with maintenance and ensuring we use the facilities with care and consideration. The on-site garage that we rent has become invaluable but has added to our group costs. We gained a small grant from the local council to purchase a new laptop and virus protection in December 2023 which has helped in our production of sound effects.

In December 2023, we took a one act play and Christmas songs into two local care homes in our community; Glen Tanar and Autumn Leaves. Further increasing our profile in the community and entertaining residents and a visiting nursery.



In January 2024, just before our AGM, we received a massive total of 14 nominations in the NODA District 2 awards for our 2023 season, demonstrating our continued focus on maintaining a high standard of Artistic Merit while accepting all new members. This represented a new high for our group and we hope to continue to build on our successes at the awards ceremony.

Our first production of the reporting period was “Tabitha” in April 2024, the classic comedy mystery by Arnold Ridley and Mary Cathcart Borer. This was our first attempt at a classic and working with a script from Samuel French (now under the umbrella of Concorde Theatricals) which comes with its own additional expenses and special rules. Despite having to work to very strict rules, the rehearsals for this show were great fun and, even though costs are higher to produce a “classic show”, this experience has not put the group off trying to produce another. The performances were well received and brought in yet more new members to the group. The NODA review yet again mentioned our community feel:

“In true Bispham Castaways style, a full community feel was brought to the production through the cast, crew, and front of house team. It would be

fair to say that there were differing level of experience and expertise within the cast, but nevertheless, they all performed to their utmost strengths and helped one another to unravel the story and instil the element of curiosity as to ‘Who killed the cat!!’”

Nate Benson (NODA District 2 Rep)

We then moved onto our annual interactive murder mystery, “A Game Of Greed And Gore” by our own Belladonna Mysteries and based partly on a live game of Cluedo. We continue to keep ticket prices as low as we can to make sure that as many in the local community as possible can access live theatre performances, despite having to raise our prices for this production slightly due to rising catering costs, we still had full houses. This also brought even more new members into the fold, including one referred to us by a mental health professional! During the rehearsals for this, we also joined our local community by participating in Claremont Gala, adding to our community impact and further increasing our profile in our local area.



We completed 2024 with our annual family pantomime, this year was “Girl In The Hood” by James O’Sullivan, a modern take on the traditional Red Riding Hood fairytale. This represented our cheapest bought in script as we worked with Off The Wall Plays again. We continued our additional fundraising efforts during this production by running fun game stalls with prizes in the side room the hour before the Saturday performances as we still aim to eventually have enough funds to purchase a wireless microphone system and licence. We did attempt a Sunday matinee for the first time with this pantomime, due mainly to the reduced cost of the script, but this did not seem to bring in the crowds, so will not be continued into the 2025 season. Ticket prices overall were kept low and all attendees left with smiles on their faces.

Looking to the future, we are aiming to produce a repeat of our mini-pantomime, “The Princess And The Mouse” for free for children and their families in the community in the Summer of 2025. We will also continue to look at more ways to involve members in group activities and other ways to take live theatre into our local community.

## **PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

We have a current Public Benefit Statement that has not been changed within the reporting period. Please see attached.

## Public Benefit Statement for Charitable Purposes of Bispham CastAways

### The benefit that flows from the purposes:

Promoting the enjoyment and better understanding of the arts, culture, heritage and science, in particular those relating to theatre and performance, through exposure to and participation in (either as audience member or physical participant) the art and culture of theatre and performance. Independent research (although gaps have been identified in their data) has found that exposure to cultural experiences and participation in the arts, can have deep value to the individual and the wider community. *(See the table below taken from "Understanding the Value and Impacts of Cultural Experiences - A Literature Review" prepared for Arts Council England by John D. Carnwath and Alan S. Brown for the value which the arts, culture, heritage and science can have.)*

<b>CONCURRENT IMPACTS</b> <i>(Those that occur during the experience)</i>	<b>EXPERIENCED IMPACTS</b> <i>(Observed post-event, hours or days later)</i>	<b>EXTENDED AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS</b> <i>(Lifelong engagement/ memory, weeks or years later)</i>
Unconscious psycho-physical responses and states, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Physiological response (heart rate, skin conductance)</li> <li>- Pre-cognitive response (arousal)</li> <li>- Captivation (flow, awe, absorption, concentration)</li> <li>- Energy and tension</li> </ul>	Short-term experienced impacts, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emotional affect and meaning</li> <li>- Spiritual uplift</li> <li>- Learning and critical reflection</li> <li>- Social connectedness</li> <li>- Aesthetic enrichment and creative activation</li> </ul> <i>These impacts can occur before, during and after experiences, but are typically measured afterwards.</i>	Delayed impacts of individual events and impacts that accrue through repeated engagement in cultural activities over time, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Memory of event</li> <li>- Sense of social belonging</li> <li>- Increased cultural capacity</li> <li>- Increased capacity for empathy</li> <li>- Expanded worldview</li> <li>- Health benefits</li> <li>- Subjective well-being</li> </ul>

### These benefits will be evidenced through:

- Photo and video documentation.
- Regular internal and external qualitative assessment.
- Regular collation of quantitative data on charitable activities, audiences and participation.

- Regular collation of qualitative data on charitable activities using surveys (*some based on those used in independent research into the value of cultural experiences*) of the general public in Bispham and the surrounding areas, audience members and participants, some targeted to specific groups of the general public if the need arises.
- Regular reporting of charitable activities and financial performance in annual trustee reports, audited annual accounts and other reports where necessary.

### **The beneficiaries are:**

The beneficiaries are the general public, in particular but not exclusively those living in Bispham and the surrounding areas. However, some projects may address the needs of specific sections of society, for example access to a one act play festival targeting young people to increase their confidence, social connectedness, exposure to cultural experiences, health and wellbeing, etc.

### **The possibility of harm:**

The possibility of harm, for example by physical or emotional injury incurred through participation in or experiencing of theatre performances or workshops, are outweighed by the benefits. The risks are significantly reduced by the policies and procedures in place to address them, such as the health and safety policy, rules and safeguarding policies.

### **The possibility of private benefit:**

Any private benefit gained, for example through rental or improvement of rehearsal space, exposure of and payment for specific artists' works, advertisement of or increased use of goods and services from the local area, are ancillary to the charitable purposes and is greatly outweighed by the public benefit. No trustee or member of the CIO, nor any connected person to them, will make a financial gain from it's activities. (*See the Constitution for further detail on this.*)

### **Provision for the poor**

The CIO will charge for membership and performances, so to ensure we have made provision for people who are financially struggling to benefit from our services, we may:

- Regularly review the cost of our membership and tickets.
- Membership fees will be broken into four instalment payments.
- Offer concessionary ticket prices.
- Offer free or reduced price membership, where needed.
- Offer additional free or low cost performances of a play or event, for example a dress rehearsal performance.
- Offer family tickets.
- Perform in other venues like state schools and other community facilities.

## Accounts

Bispham Castaways Financial Statement 01/09/2023 to 31/08/2024

### Income

Productions. £4153.

Membership £ 490.

Storage IF. £400.

Noda. £449.

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£5492.00.

B/f. £1042.27

### Expenditure

Rent. £2500

Catering £867

Noda. £449

Printing. £188

Royalts. £198

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£4202.00

Income £5492.00

Expend. £4202.00

Balance on hand £ 2332.27.

Bank £350.27

Cash £2082.00

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# Accounts

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September 2022 - August 2023**

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August 2022 - July 2023**

**TRUSTEES**

**Susan Hope**

**Angela Crossley**

**Hayley Price**

**Debbie Flavell**

**Martin Thompson**

**Suzanne McEachran**

**Henry "Harry" Chambers**

**Ian Dodd - Took post January 2023**

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## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

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During the reporting period, we have continued to work with Holy Family RC Church to ensure that we are adding value to the community where we have our theatre home, helping with maintenance and ensuring we use the facilities with care and consideration. The on-site garage that we rent has become invaluable but has added to our group costs. Luckily we have had some donations from the

Freemasons and members to help cover this cost. We will be looking at getting a grant from the local council for a laptop and virus protection, as we have been using a member's own laptop to run the sound desk which is starting to break and show it's age.

Our first production of the reporting period was 'Missing The Mark' a comedy by Michael Maxwell. This was one of our most affordable bought-in scripts to date and led to NODA District 2 award nominations for the 2022 season, showing that we are hitting the mark when it comes to Artistic Merit. It also brought in another new member and many favourable comments.

We then moved onto our family pantomime, "The Wicked Witches Of Oz" by Peter Nuttall and directed by Harry Chambers. We continue to keep ticket prices as low as we can to make sure that as many in the local community as possible can access live theatre performances. Following our outdoor mini-pantomime in June 2022 at Glen Tanar care home, we decided as trustees that our major long term funding aim would be to collect money for a wireless mic system and license to make our outdoor community performances accessible to those who are hard of hearing. We started working on this during the pantomime performances by approaching our local

amusement arcade, Hart's Amusements on Red Bank Road, for help. We decided to make the performances a true community event by using the amazing prizes donated by Hart's Amusements and having cast and crew run some carnival like stalls in our side room. This worked a great apart from the first evening performance being a bit of a rush setting up, so we will be



continuing this at the next family pantomime.

We completed 2022 with an in house Christmas Party with games arranged by the trustees. January brought our AGM, a new trustee and focus on the following year, plus celebration of the multiple NODA District 2 award nominations we received - a staggering 11 nominations. Attending the awards dinner, members had a great time

and we celebrated our first district winner, Hayley Price for her leading performance in a pantomime as Toto.



Back to producing affordable theatre, we gave local writer and member, Linda McKenzie, her debut as a playwright when her play “Memories Are Made Of This” became Bispham CastAways first production of 2023. The play kept audiences guessing and received a very good review.

We rounded off this reporting period with the production of the interactive murder mystery, “Camp Cutthroat” by Belldonna Mysteries and directed by Debbie Flavell. A true community feel built up around this with a great photoshoot from our brilliant photographer, Abbie Dodd of Abbie’s photography, in the Jubilee Gardens near Gynn Square.



The hotpot supper and apple pie that was sourced from the local business, The Carousel Cafe, was raved about by all. We were particularly pleased with the review from our NODA district rep which celebrated our inclusivity and ensured we are continuing to produce top quality, affordable live theatre events.

“The cast were of differing acting experience and abilities, which made the night ever so more charming; everyone was unpretentiously committed to each moment of the show. I was particularly impressed with the commitment to characterisation through the interrogations, each actor remained to their character and narrative through the improvisation. After the show, I was delighted to learn that this cast was fully inclusive, including members who were partially deaf, and members who have Aspergers and Cerebral Palsy. The society made accommodations to support any accessibility requirements (for example, the prompt was asked to speak louder when needed.) Diversity and Inclusion is a subject matter close to my heart and I believe it should be celebrated and noted, so my heartfelt thanks for being such a welcoming and inclusive society, theatre has many purposes, but it is well and truly for all!’

Nathan Benson - District 2 NODA Rep

Looking to the future, we are aiming to produce a Christmas community event at two local care homes in December 2023 and looking at participating in our local community gala, Claremont Gala, in Summer 2024, as well as investigating other ways to get live theatre out into the community. We also plan to continue to look at things to do socially as a group and continue to support vulnerable members.

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## Accounts

### BISPHAM CASTAWAYS FINANCIAL STATEMENT 01/09/2022 – 31/08/2023

<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
3072.00 – productions.	1650.00 – rent
570.00 – memberships.	83.23 – set
	650.00 – <u>catering</u>
	150.00 – printing
	154.00 – royalties
	2687.23
b/f. 87.50	
3642.00	
= 3729.50	
Less 2687.23	
Total c/f 1042.27	

**BISPHAM CASTAWAYS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182404

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# Accounts

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**Community Theatre Group**



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RCN - 1182404**

**Address - 40 Cavendish Road, Bispham, Blackpool, FY2 9JR**

**FINANCIAL YEAR  
September 2021 - August 2022**

**TRUSTEE REPORTING PERIOD  
August 2021 - July 2022**

**TRUSTEES  
Susan Hope  
Angela Crossley  
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What this actually means is as follows. Firstly, that we take anyone from the area who wants to become a member of Bispham CastAways and experience the benefit of participating in theatre, no matter age (as long as 16+), gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability, past experience or confidence in their own ability. Secondly, that we strive to perform as many different, high quality shows throughout the year for the public in the Bispham and Blackpool areas, so they can engage with good theatre at as low a cost as possible. We use our Artistic Merit policy to ensure we are not solely relying on “in-house” or unpublished scriptwriters, also maintaining NODA membership to ensure with included independent reviews of productions to make sure we are creating quality, varied theatre, within our means. Finally, that through “going on the road”, developing relationships and programmes with social

prescribers and other charitable organisations, that we can help those in need in the area, especially to help those with mental health issues.

Our Public Benefit Policy is followed at all times and any monies made are funnelled back into the objectives of Bispham CastAways with all Trustees and members being volunteers, with zero employees.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

Our policies and dedicated board of trustees have allowed us to grow a diverse range of members of Bispham CastAways from the Bispham and Blackpool area. We have helped many of them to use theatre to grow in confidence. Participation in our group has supplied essential support to several members who have had a difficult time, especially coming out of COVID. Through conversations with members, the Trustees feel that our productions and activities have improved the lives and mental health of our members. Our group chat is regularly utilised to keep members in touch with each other and we are often quoted as being very supportive. We are hoping to setup an annual member survey, using Survey Monkey starting in December 2023, to check that our activities are still appropriate and having the effect on members that the trustees envisage.

During the reporting period, we started without a theatre home (demonstrating again the issues with renting spaces and storage) and met outside in public gardens during COVID lockdown, then at two different hotels and First Bispham Scout Hut under COVID precautions to create an outdoor show, “The Clamourings At Giggly Halt” by Richard Coleman, for local care homes. We planned to perform this in an outside space for two different care homes that had been so affected by COVID. In the end, one home was locked down the morning of the performance, so we only performed for Glen Tanar Care Home on Saturday the 28th of August 2021. They were very impressed with the transportable set, sound effects, performance, extra bingo and raffle. We did not ask for payment, choosing to give back to the community. However, the care home staff did a quick whip around to say thank you and made a donation of £60 to Bispham CastAways. We are planning to continue and develop this method of performing for care homes starting in late Summer 2023.



When COVID restrictions on amateur dramatics groups meeting and performing to audiences relaxed a bit in September 2021, we set out to find a new theatre home and found Holy Family RC Church Hall that we started to rent weekly at the beginning of September along with a garage for storage (the first year of rental for which was donated by a group member). We performed *The Clamourings At Giggly Halt* there on the 18th of September as our first show.



We went on to produce the first post-COVID, live theatre, affordable family pantomime in the area in December 2021, following all governmental procedures to make it as safe as possible for our audiences, including COVID check-in posters. This was “The Beauty Sleeping” by Peter Nuttall and was really well received by everyone who saw it, gaining us some new members as well. It was our pleasure to see kids and adults enjoying

participating in live theatre again, clearly showing public benefit. Some of our members also featured on the Our Lancashire radio programme on BBC Radio Lancashire and BBC Sounds to promote both this and the group with the keyword that the host picked up on throughout the interviews being “supportive”, so we were very proud as a group of trustees.

After this we also produced an interactive murder mystery, “Cruise Of Carnage” by Belldonna Mysteries (in-house scriptwriter), in April 2022 which got a brilliant NODA review and later led to nominations for Best Drama and Best Director in the District 2 NODA awards, clearly showing our work on Artistic Merit.



Following this, we became very busy towards the end of the reporting period! It started with a request for help from Glen Tanar care home to help their residents, supporters and staff celebrate not only the Queen's Platinum Jubilee but also a resident's 101st birthday in June 2022. This got us back out into the community, performing outside in their garden with singing and then a short pantomime called The Princess And The Mouse which was written in-house. Everyone had a



great time. The one thing this did show us however, is that we want to look into getting a grant to invest in wireless headset theatre microphones and receivers to make it possible for the residents of care homes to hear us throughout performances.

Our final production of the reporting period was at the beginning of July 2022, it was "Old Boilers" by Adrian Cale and was well received by audiences and the NODA reviewer. A comedy set in a Blackpool guesthouse, made it a very apt production for our group and led to a great photoshoot on the promenade.



We then finished the reporting period by taking part in the first Bispham and Norbreck Gala for a couple of years following COVID in July 2022, joining the

parade and performing after the crowning ceremony. This was to raise our profile within the community.



We are now planning to produce more affordable, quality theatre for the community at our theatre home and look at increasing our work out in the community and with care homes.

## **PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

We have a current Public Benefit Statement that has not been changed within the reporting period. Please see attached.

## Public Benefit Statement for Charitable Purposes of Bispham CastAways

### The benefit that flows from the purposes:

Promoting the enjoyment and better understanding of the arts, culture, heritage and science, in particular those relating to theatre and performance, through exposure to and participation in (either as audience member or physical participant) the art and culture of theatre and performance. Independent research (although gaps have been identified in their data) has found that exposure to cultural experiences and participation in the arts, can have deep value to the individual and the wider community. *(See the table below taken from "Understanding the Value and Impacts of Cultural Experiences - A Literature Review" prepared for Arts Council England by John D. Carnwath and Alan S. Brown for the value which the arts, culture, heritage and science can have.)*

<b>CONCURRENT IMPACTS</b> <i>(Those that occur during the experience)</i>	<b>EXPERIENCED IMPACTS</b> <i>(Observed post-event, hours or days later)</i>	<b>EXTENDED AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS</b> <i>(Lifelong engagement/ memory, weeks or years later)</i>
Unconscious psycho-physical responses and states, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Physiological response (heart rate, skin conductance)</li> <li>- Pre-cognitive response (arousal)</li> <li>- Captivation (flow, awe, absorption, concentration)</li> <li>- Energy and tension</li> </ul>	Short-term experienced impacts, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emotional affect and meaning</li> <li>- Spiritual uplift</li> <li>- Learning and critical reflection</li> <li>- Social connectedness</li> <li>- Aesthetic enrichment and creative activation</li> </ul> <i>These impacts can occur before, during and after experiences, but are typically measured afterwards.</i>	Delayed impacts of individual events and impacts that accrue through repeated engagement in cultural activities over time, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Memory of event</li> <li>- Sense of social belonging</li> <li>- Increased cultural capacity</li> <li>- Increased capacity for empathy</li> <li>- Expanded worldview</li> <li>- Health benefits</li> <li>- Subjective well-being</li> </ul>

### These benefits will be evidenced through:

- Photo and video documentation.
- Regular internal and external qualitative assessment.
- Regular collation of quantitative data on charitable activities, audiences and participation.
- Regular collation of qualitative data on charitable activities using surveys *(some based on those used in independent research into the value of cultural experiences)* of the general public in Bispham and the surrounding areas,

audience members and participants, some targeted to specific groups of the general public if the need arises.

- Regular reporting of charitable activities and financial performance in annual trustee reports, audited annual accounts and other reports where necessary.

### **The beneficiaries are:**

The beneficiaries are the general public, in particular but not exclusively those living in Bispham and the surrounding areas. However, some projects may address the needs of specific sections of society, for example access to a one act play festival targeting young people to increase their confidence, social connectedness, exposure to cultural experiences, health and wellbeing, etc.

### **The possibility of harm:**

The possibility of harm, for example by physical or emotional injury incurred through participation in or experiencing of theatre performances or workshops, are outweighed by the benefits. The risks are significantly reduced by the policies and procedures in place to address them, such as the health and safety policy, rules and safeguarding policies.

### **The possibility of private benefit:**

Any private benefit gained, for example through rental or improvement of rehearsal space, exposure of and payment for specific artists' works, advertisement of or increased use of goods and services from the local area, are ancillary to the charitable purposes and is greatly outweighed by the public benefit. No trustee or member of the CIO, nor any connected person to them, will make a financial gain from it's activities. (*See the Constitution for further detail on this.*)

### **Provision for the poor**

The CIO will charge for membership and performances, so to ensure we have made provision for people who are financially struggling to benefit from our services, we may:

- Regularly review the cost of our membership and tickets.
- Membership fees will be broken into four instalment payments.
- Offer concessionary ticket prices.
- Offer free or reduced price membership, where needed.
- Offer additional free or low cost performances of a play or event, for example a dress rehearsal performance.
- Offer family tickets.
- Perform in other venues like state schools and other community facilities.

## Accounts

### Bispham Castaways Balance Sheet 01/09/2021 to 31/08/2022

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Production	2076.5	Rent	1480
Memberships	730	Set & Props	101.38
other		Costume	0
		Catering	595
		Royalties	104
Total	2806.5	Printing	61.96
			2342.34
B/F	410.7		
Income	2806.5		
Expenditure	-2342.34		
Total on hand			
	874.86		
Bank	£87.50		
Cash	£787.36		
	874.86		

Angela Crossley  
Financial Manager  
Bispham Castaways Community Theatre Group CIO

**BISPHAM CASTAWAYS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182404

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# Accounts

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**Bispham CastAways**  
*Community Theatre Group*



**Annual Report of  
Bispham CastAways CIO  
RCN - 1182404**

**Address - 40 Cavendish Road, Bispham, Blackpool, FY2 9JR**

**FINANCIAL YEAR  
September 2020 - August 2021**

**TRUSTEE REPORTING PERIOD  
September 2020 - August 2021**

**TRUSTEES**

**Susan Hope**

**Angela Crossley**

**Hayley Price**

**Debbie Flavell**

**Martin Thompson**

**Colin Maycock**

**Suzanne McEachran**

**Siân Conroy (voted in but unable to take up position)**

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Bispham CastAways CIO is governed by a Constitution together with a set of policies including Safeguarding, Social Media and Public Benefit policies. Each member has also been given a copy of (and on joining the group signed their agreement to) our Member Code of Conduct, Privacy Notice and Netiquette Policy. At the moment, we do not have any policies or procedures for induction or training of trustees. We believe that as we are such a small charity and have a stable group of trustees, this is not a priority at the present time. Currently we have had to deal with adding extra precautions and policies in place to tackle COVID.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The charitable purposes of Bispham CastAways CIO are:

- (a) the advancement of arts, culture and heritage, particularly relating to theatre and performance, through the presentation of theatre performances and other performance arts for the public benefit and by providing opportunities for people to learn about, participate and engage in theatre, in particular but not exclusively for those people living in Bispham and the surrounding areas.
- (b) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health and disability through, but not exclusively, the provision of theatre performances, outreach and awareness programs, for the public benefit, with a view to improving the conditions of life for such people living in Bispham and the surrounding areas.

What this actually means is as follows. Firstly, that we take anyone from the area who wants to become a member of Bispham CastAways and experience the benefit of participating in theatre, no matter age (as long as 16+), gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability, past experience or confidence in their own ability. Secondly, that we strive to perform as many different, high quality shows throughout the year for the public in the Bispham and Blackpool areas, so they can engage with good theatre at as low a cost as possible. Finally, that through “going on the road”, developing relationships and programmes with social prescribers and other charitable organisations that we can help those in need in the area, especially to help those with mental health issues.

Our Public Benefit Policy is followed at all times and any monies made are funnelled back into the objectives of Bispham CastAways with all Trustees and members being volunteers, with zero employees.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **(Including future plans)**

Our policies and dedicated board of trustees have allowed us to grow a diverse range of members of Bispham CastAways from the Bispham and Blackpool area. We have helped many of them to use theatre to grow in confidence. Participation in our group has supplied essential support to several members who have had a difficult time and the Trustees have received reports that simply ensuring a Christmas card got to each member during lockdown and an organised group card and flowers to a bereaved member has meant a lot for their mental health. Through a recent member survey, we found from the responses to a question about how missing Bispham CastAways meetings during lockdown had affected them, 100% missed the social aspect, 32% said it affected their mental health, 37% said they felt more isolated and 74% missed the creative outlet the meetings give them. We feel that shows our activities have improved the lives of our members. We now have a planned annual member survey to be sent out using Survey Monkey, starting in August 2022, to check that our activities are still appropriate and having the effect on members that the trustees envisage.

During the reporting period, we spent the majority of the time in lockdown and/or under COVID restrictions. We managed to meet at Bispham United Reformed Church, following governmental guidance, in September 2020 and had our Second AGM before we were locked down again. During early 2021, we lost our theatre home at Bispham United Reformed Church as the property was being sold. This led to us needing to store our multitude of equipment at three different member homes. It was not ideal and continues to show how our charity is massively effected by having to rent a space to perform and for storage.

In order to keep our group together and provide some support during lockdown, we started in April 2021 to meet in several groups of six, outside in a public gardens during the summer months of 2021 to do script read throughs. We even managed to attract some new members during this time. At the end of July 2021 to August 2021, under strict COVID policies that were put in place, we started to meet for free in a hotel and for a nominal fee at the 1st Bispham Scout Hut on a Sunday night to

rehearse *The Clamourings At Giggly Halt* by Richard Coleman. We planned to perform this in an outside space for two different care homes that had been so affected by COVID. In the end, one home was locked down the morning of the performance, so we only performed for Glen Tanar Care Home on Saturday the 28th of August 2021. They were very impressed with the transportable set, sound effects, performance, extra bingo and raffle. We did not ask for payment, choosing to give back to the community. However, the care home staff did a quick whip around to say thank you and made a donation of £60 to Bispham CastAways. We are planning to continue and develop this method of performing for care homes starting in 2022.



We will also be performing *The Clamourings* in September 2021 at our new home, Holy Family RC Church Hall, that we have just managed to secure for the future.

There have been no other community events to get involved in during the reporting period due to COVID restrictions.

Now we have secured a new home, we hope to look into more social prescribing initiatives and look at having regular activities for those who are not directly involved in the current production to boost member engagement and attendance.



## **PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

We have a current Public Benefit Statement that has not been changed within the reporting period. Please see attached.



## Public Benefit Statement for Charitable Purposes of Bispham CastAways

### The benefit that flows from the purposes:

Promoting the enjoyment and better understanding of the arts, culture, heritage and science, in particular those relating to theatre and performance, through exposure to and participation in (either as audience member or physical participant) the art and culture of theatre and performance. Independent research (although gaps have been identified in their data) has found that exposure to cultural experiences and participation in the arts, can have deep value to the individual and the wider community. *(See the table below taken from "Understanding the Value and Impacts of Cultural Experiences - A Literature Review" prepared for Arts Council England by John D. Carnwath and Alan S. Brown for the value which the arts, culture, heritage and science can have.)*

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### These benefits will be evidenced through:

- Photo and video documentation.
- Regular internal and external qualitative assessment.
- Regular collation of quantitative data on charitable activities, audiences and participation.
- Regular collation of qualitative data on charitable activities using surveys *(some based on those used in independent research into the value of cultural experiences)* of the general public in Bispham and the surrounding areas,

audience members and participants, some targeted to specific groups of the general public if the need arises.

- Regular reporting of charitable activities and financial performance in annual trustee reports, audited annual accounts and other reports where necessary.

**The beneficiaries are:**

The beneficiaries are the general public, in particular but not exclusively those living in Bispham and the surrounding areas. However, some projects may address the needs of specific sections of society, for example access to a one act play festival targeting young people to increase their confidence, social connectedness, exposure to cultural experiences, health and wellbeing, etc.

**The possibility of harm:**

The possibility of harm, for example by physical or emotional injury incurred through participation in or experiencing of theatre performances or workshops, are outweighed by the benefits. The risks are significantly reduced by the policies and procedures in place to address them, such as the health and safety policy, rules and safeguarding policies.

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Any private benefit gained, for example through rental or improvement of rehearsal space, exposure of and payment for specific artists' works, advertisement of or increased use of goods and services from the local area, are ancillary to the charitable purposes and is greatly outweighed by the public benefit. No trustee or member of the CIO, nor any connected person to them, will make a financial gain from it's activities. (*See the Constitution for further detail on this.*)

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- Offer additional free or low cost performances of a play or event, for example a dress rehearsal performance.
- Offer family tickets.
- Perform in other venues like state schools and other community facilities.

## Accounts

### **BISPHAM CASTAWAYS BALANCE SHEET FROM 01/09/2020 TO 31/08/2021**

	<b>INCOME</b>			<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
	Production	0		Rent	0
	Memberships	100		Set & Props	0
	other			Costume	0
				Catering	0
				Other	50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£100</b>			<b>£50</b>
	B/F	£360.7			
	Income	100			
	Expenditure	50			
	<b>Total on hand</b>	<b>£410.7</b>			
	Bank	£221.50			
	Cash	£189.20			
		£410.7			
	Angela Crossley	Financial Manager		Bispham Castaways Community Theatre Group CIO	



**BISPHAM CASTAWAYS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182404

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# Accounts

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**Bispham CastAways**  
*Community Theatre Group*



**Annual Report of  
Bispham CastAways CIO  
RCN - 1182404**

**Address - 40 Cavendish Road, Bispham, Blackpool, FY2 9JR**

**FINANCIAL YEAR  
July 2019 - July 2020**

**TRUSTEE REPORTING PERIOD  
July 2019 - May 2021**

**TRUSTEES**

**Susan Hope**

**Angela Crossley**

**Hayley Price**

**Debbie Flavell**

**Martin Thompson**

**Colin Maycock**

**Suzanne McEachran**

**Mark Marsden (retired January 2020)**

**Siân Conroy (voted in but unable to take up position)**

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Bispham CastAways CIO is governed by a Constitution (date) together with a set of policies including Safeguarding, Social Media and Public Benefit policies. Each member has also been given a copy of (and signed their agreement to on joining the group) our Member Code of Conduct, Privacy Notice and Netiquette Policy. At the moment, we do not have any policies or procedures for induction or training of trustees. However, we are looking at this for the future, especially as we are hoping to have our second AGM when the lifting of lockdown and our hunt for a new home has been completed.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The charitable purposes of Bispham CastAways CIO are:

- (a) the advancement of arts, culture and heritage, particularly relating to theatre and performance, through the presentation of theatre performances and other performance arts for the public benefit and by providing opportunities for people to learn about, participate and engage in theatre, in particular but not exclusively for those people living in Bispham and the surrounding areas.
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Our Public Benefit Policy is followed at all times and any monies made are funnelled back into the objectives of Bispham CastAways with all Trustees and members being volunteers, with zero employees.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **(Including future plans)**

Our policies and dedicated board of trustees have allowed us to grow a diverse range of members of Bispham CastAways from the Bispham and Blackpool area. We have helped many of them to use theatre to grow in confidence. Participation in our group has supplied essential support to several members who have had a difficult time and the Trustees have received reports that simply ensuring a Christmas card got to each member during lockdown and an organised group card and flowers to a bereaved member has meant a lot for their mental health. Through a recent member survey, we found from the responses to a question about how missing Bispham CastAways meetings during lockdown had affected them, 100% missed the social aspect, 32% said it affected their mental health, 37% said they felt more isolated and 74% missed the creative outlet the meetings give them. We feel that shows our activities have improved the lives of our members. In the future, we plan to make regular member surveys to track any changes in their thoughts on our activities.

From July 2019 to February 2020, we produced four vastly different productions for the public in the Bispham and Blackpool areas;

- A murder mystery, “Brutal Biology”, in August and September 2019
- A set of three historically important short plays under the title, “Dramatic Tales From History”, in September 2019
- A family pantomime, “Cinderella”, in December 2019
- A group of three comedic short plays under the title, “Comedy New Year”, in February 2020

From the response from our audiences and increasing/steady audience numbers, we believe this has met our purpose of engaging people from the area in theatre and the performance arts. Our positive reviews from the National Operatic and Dramatic Association, plus our nominations in their local awards for both Brutal Biology and

Cinderella for performances given, means we have advanced theatre and performance within our area.

In 2019, we also participated in Pride Blackpool, Bispham Gala and a Halloween event at Marsh Mill in Thornton-Cleveleys in order to strengthen our links within the community. Using literature, plus talking to the public in speeches and individually at events, we sought to engage as many people as possible in order to explain the benefits of participation in theatre and performance.

Currently, from March 2020 to April 2021, we have been unable to meet due to the COVID-19 pandemic, other than twice, socially distanced, during September 2020. As of June 2020, we do not have a fixed home base due to losing the use of the Bispham United Reformed Church Hall as it is being sold. Together, this caused all our activities to cease and a complete rethink on the future activities of Bispham CastAways. We have now reopened (starting in April 2021), through the dedicated planning of our trustees, to plan and produce an outdoor project for the Summer 2021, taking our performance out to the public in the local area, including care homes to help those in need.

Although we contacted several local leaders in social prescribing, nothing has come of this, other than a single member joining, who only attended for a few months but did seem to gain in confidence during their time with us. In the future, when we have secured a new home, we hope to look into this further and look at having regular activities for those who are not directly involved in the current production to boost member engagement and attendance.

We have also struggled, during the reporting period, to collate important data to further back up our claims of our impact within our local area. The trustees admit that the attempted use of Audience Finder to collect and analyse this data was a mistake as it would only work for organisations much bigger than ours with much, much bigger audiences. In the future, so we have more actual data on our local impact, we plan to use paper surveys of audience members at each performance run by the front of house team, regular Survey Monkey self-written digital surveys of members and elicited statements from audience members, other groups worked with and the community following performances and events.

## **PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

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## Public Benefit Statement for Charitable Purposes of Bispham CastAways

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### These benefits will be evidenced through:

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### **The beneficiaries are:**

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### **The possibility of harm:**

The possibility of harm, for example by physical or emotional injury incurred through participation in or experiencing of theatre performances or workshops, are outweighed by the benefits. The risks are significantly reduced by the policies and procedures in place to address them, such as the health and safety policy, rules and safeguarding policies.

### **The possibility of private benefit:**

Any private benefit gained, for example through rental or improvement of rehearsal space, exposure of and payment for specific artists' works, advertisement of or increased use of goods and services from the local area, are ancillary to the charitable purposes and is greatly outweighed by the public benefit. No trustee or member of the CIO, nor any connected person to them, will make a financial gain from it's activities. (*See the Constitution for further detail on this.*)

### **Provision for the poor**

The CIO will charge for membership and performances, so to ensure we have made provision for people who are financially struggling to benefit from our services, we may:

- Regularly review the cost of our membership and tickets.
- Membership fees will be broken into four instalment payments.
- Offer concessionary ticket prices.
- Offer free or reduced price membership, where needed.
- Offer additional free or low cost performances of a play or event, for example a dress rehearsal performance.
- Offer family tickets.
- Perform in other venues like state schools and other community facilities.

BISPHAM CASTAWAYS BALANCE SHEET FROM 01/09/2019 TO 31/08/2020

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Production	1515.2	Rent	1250
Memberships	710	Set & Props	414
other	1092.5	Costume	50
		Catering	415
		Other	1155
Total	3317.7		3284
B/F	327		
Income	3317.7		
Expenditure	-3284		
Total on hand	360.7		
Bank	£171.50		
Cash	£189.20		
	360.70		

Angela Crossley  
Financial Manager  
Bispham Castaways Community Theatre Group CIO

Bispham Castaways Income 01/09/2019 to 31/08/2020

Production	Membership	Sponsorship	Other	TOTAL
243	430		42.5	
98	10		1050	
663.7	270			
510.5				
1515.2	710		1092.5	3317.7

BISPHAM CASTAWAYS EXPENDITURE 01/09/2019 TO 31/08/2020

RENT	MARKETING	SET & PROPS	COSTUME	CATERING	OTHER	TOTAL
196	0	150	50	395	40	
28		52		10	25	
642		82		10	40	
384		130			1050	
1250	0	414	50	415	1155	3284