

**Charity Registration No. 1185724**

**THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY CIO  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 23 NOVEMBER 2022**

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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### Trustees

Ms J Hamlet	(Appointed 9 October 2020)
Ms E Devaney	(Appointed 9 October 2019)
Ms C Graves	(Appointed 9 October 2020)
Mr E Barton	(Appointed 1 July 2020)
Ms L Barton	(Appointed 1 October 2020)
Ms C H I Pedley	(Appointed 9 October 2019)
Ms A Berwick	(Appointed 9 September 2022)

### Charity number

1185724

### Principal address

**% Chalice Media Studios**  
8 Cambridge Road  
Ellesmere Port  
Cheshire  
CH65 4AG

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

## CONTENTS

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	<b>Page</b>
<b>Trustees' report</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Aims and Objectives</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Achievements and Performance</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Public Benefit</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Profit and Loss Statement</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Financial and Management Reviews</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Declaration</b>	<b>10</b>

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 23 NOVEMBER 2022

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**T**he Boaty Theatre Company was set up in 2010 responding to a need to facilitate a youth programme in Ellesmere Port. After a brief summer programme hosted by the National Waterways Museum (then The Boat Museum) a group of young people expressed an interest in continuing the provision. We have always had a person-centred approach and our young participants have always had a say in our next steps, even down to naming our company, which transpired with the company emerging as The Boaty Youth Theatre. Since then we have become The Boaty Theatre Company CIO (Registered Charity from 2019) with a highly successful and industry recognised youth company, community company and professional wing.

Between 2021 and 2022 the trustees have worked closely with the artistic and creative teams to gain a more hands on experience of the work we undertake and the community we serve. Each of the trustees possesses skills and expertise that are beneficial to the operation of the charity and to maintaining our high standards in quality and dynamic representation as well as supporting, guiding and upholding our ethos going forward.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Each year The Boaty Theatre Company sets out to produce six productions, which are open to paying audiences. 2021-2022 saw a slow return to the theatre for audiences who were not yet fully ready trust that productions would not be cancelled, etc due to covid-related restrictions. This had a major impact on our in-house productions and ticket-sales, but is not unique to us; rather it is a legacy of the pandemic. Audiences needed time to build up their trust in live events and performances once more.

Despite all of this the company has worked tirelessly through multiple lockdown periods and beyond to provide entertainment, education, opportunities for creative wellbeing and community support in the best way we could. The immediate, yet long-lasting effects of the pandemic (and the lockdowns in particular) quickly became very apparent and we were ready - as ever - to respond to the needs of our community, increasing the frequency and type of drop-in sessions we offered at The Boat Shed.

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

Our coffee mornings, breakfast club and after school sessions were welcomed and well attended during the period and we support by the likes of the ASDA Foundation, Tesco Groundworks and the Morrisons Community Team.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE.

2021-2022 has seen The Boat Shed go from strength to strength,

We have seen the number of attendees to our various groups and weekly activities soar. For our young people, vulnerable adults and those with additional needs, having our own building has had a massively positive impact, both on their engagement in activities and their wellbeing.

The Boat Shed is a friendly, welcoming safe-space that is also much more of a secure space to host young people, etc, from a safeguarding standpoint.

Our building - our new home - is situated in the town centre, is visible from the high street and is less than a five minute walk from the new bus station in Ellesmere Port. Our groups are open and accessible to anyone regardless of ability or experience. Since opening our doors in early March 2020 our public engagement on a weekly basis increased from 30 to over 100 (2021) to a further 250+ substantial weekly engagements with members of our community in 2022.

Our regular weekly groups consist of:

**The Boaty Youth Theatre**, which has a regular number of between 12 and 15 young people in attendance each week. The group is free to attend as local statistics show that the average expendable income of households for extra-curricular activities is just £3 per household, which may already be assigned elsewhere and it is important to us that money is never a barrier for someone when choosing whether or not to engage with creative activities that have a positive impact on their mental and physical wellbeing.

**The Write Path:** Writer's Cafe, which provides peer support for established writers and beginners. This group is a focus group with an underlying wellbeing aspect stressing the importance of journalling and writing to help maintain good mental wellness.

**Sunday Social:** Sunday Social is a group that grew from the need to provide a safe place over the weekend for people suffering with mental ill-health and those in recovery

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

from addiction. National and local statistics show that the weekends are the most difficult time for anyone struggling with their mental wellbeing in isolation due the reduction of services. Sunday Social is an organic group and has grown into a musical meet up. Many people bring instruments, some play for the first time. There are no age restrictions and so Sunday Social has grown into a supportive community activity for people of all ages. The group is now attended by between 30 and 40 people each week and the recorded EP "Sounds from a Forgotten Town" is due for release in February 2023.

**Ed's Riff Shop:** As an extension of the Sunday Social, we hold a weekly guitar workshop set up and organised by one of the participants (and now member of the board) of the group. Guitar lessons were a constant topic of conversation during Sunday sessions and so we set up a group guitar lesson at an affordable rate of £3 per session and provide a drink and snacks.

**Crafternoons:** An afternoon activity session that encourages social interaction and creativity to enhance positive mental wellbeing. Activities range from colouring to card-making, quilling to gem-art, clay-work, art-therapy and more. A range of options are always offered so that there are opportunities for everyone to get involved, regardless of their ability or experience.

## **PERFORMANCES 2021/2022:**

### "Hunt"

National Theatre Connections Festival 2022

Our Young Theatre Makers toured their version of this brand new youth play, performing at The Boat Shed for two nights and then at The Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

### "Bella Donna"

Working in partnership with Cheshire College South and West College once again, we offered the Technical Theatre students opportunities to work on bringing this performance to life at the college; building full-sized sets, designing sound for live performance and lighting,.

### "HerFest"

A Festival of new writing celebrating Female Writers, Directors and Designers. The festival featured "Home, again.", "Bella Donna", "Nelly

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

Bly" and "Julie: The Musical", all of which went on to tour at larger fringe festivals around the country.

"Twelfth Night" Our open-air Shakespeare Production for this year was performed in a number of green-spaces and featured a live band. It was subsequently selected to be performed as part of the Liverpool Theatre Festival at the Bombed Out Church (St Lukes) in September.

"Bella Donna" Following the success of the debuted play earlier in the year, a small team took 'Bella Donna' on a successful two-week performance run at the Edinburgh Fringe.

## PUBLIC BENEFIT.

### **Purpose:**

The Boaty Theatre Company (TBTC) was established to advance education and community development through the performing arts and continues to deliver based upon this principle. TBTC provides accessible arts education, fosters creative expression, and supports the personal development of individuals across a diverse set of communities and underrepresented groups within Ellesmere Port.

### **Benefit Aspect:**

The activities of TBTC deliver substantial benefits by enhancing the cultural, educational, and social fabric of the community. Through theatrical productions, live (musical) events, workshops, and classes, TBTC promotes creativity, boosts self-confidence, and encourages social cohesion. Our educational programmes not only impart practical skills in the dramatic arts but also contribute to the intellectual and emotional growth of participants, fostering critical thinking, empathy, interview skills and public speaking abilities, all whilst creating real work-placement and employment opportunities in the creative, performing and production arts industries.

### **Public Aspect:**

At TBTC we ensure that all benefits are widely accessible to the public, including but not limited to students, aspiring artists, and under-served groups within the community. We

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

place a special emphasis on youth engagement, offering a safe space for young people to grow, learn, and express themselves creatively as we keenly understand the importance of having a vibrant youth offer in the local community in which we live and which we serve. By maintaining affordability, open-access policies (that include free places for ALL young people), TBTC guarantees that a significant section of the public can participate in and enjoy the services we offer.

## **Furthering the Charity's Purpose:**

The trustees of TBTC are committed to furthering the charity's purpose for the public benefit by:

1. Continually developing and delivering a diverse range of arts programmes that cater to the interests and needs of the community.
2. Fostering partnerships with educational institutions, local businesses, and other community groups to expand outreach and enhance program offerings.
3. Conducting regular evaluations to assess the impact of TBTC's programs and making informed adjustments to maximise public benefit.
4. Ensuring financial sustainability and pursuing funding opportunities to subsidise costs for participants and broaden the scope of accessible arts education.
5. Investing in the professional development of staff and volunteers to uphold high-quality service delivery and enrich the learning experience for beneficiaries.

In conclusion, TBTC is dedicated to enriching the community through the creative, performing and productions arts, creating opportunities that enhance wellbeing and employability. Our purpose, actions, and commitment to inclusivity embody the essence of public benefit, creating a lasting positive impact on society.

The Boaty Theatre Company stands as a beacon of cultural and educational advancement, enhancing the well-being of the public and communities we serve.



# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

## The Boaty Theatre Company CIO Profit and Loss Statement: 2021/2022

### Income:

- Bar Sales:	£449.38
- Ticket Sales:	£2,242.03
- Standalone Classes/Workshops:	£22.29
- Donations:	£2,220.44
- Grants:	£16,365.62
- Group/Class Payments:	£444.00
- Hires:	£1,232.60
- Marketing/PR:	£123.97

**Total Income:** **£23,100.33**

### Expenditure:

- Staff Costs (Inc Freelancers):	£34,139.00
- Rent:	£7,500.00
- Utilities/Service Charges:	£5,456.87
- Broadband/Telecom:	£1,483.17
- Training:	£395.10
- Travel:	£2,989.32
- Equipment/Assets:	£5,023.73
- Software/App:	£496.25
- Purchases/Resources:	£3,755.18
- Expenses:	£2,314.46
- Subscriptions:	£1,363.17
- Maintenance:	£1,171.99
- Insurance:	£1,606.91
- Venue Hire:	£10,976.80
- Marketing/PR:	£1,561.01
- Other:	£113.75

**Total Expenditure:** **£79,344.60**

**Net Income:** **(£46,244.27)**

# THE BOATY THEATRE COMPANY

## Financial review

It is the policy of the CIO that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the CIO's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the CIO is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

## Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity Trustees ("foundation" model). It was incorporated as a CIO in October 2019.



Signed .....

Ms A Berwick  
Chair of Trustees

The Boaty Theatre Company CIO												
Charity Number: 1185724												
Date Period: 2021/2022	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Operating Cash - Beginning	136361.76	132740.63	126934.9	85613.15	94211.08	78773.52	79723.68	74278.25	70654	69280.04	66082.06	63451.7
Cash Brough Forward												
Bar Sales	46.27			23.99				106.58	15.10	258.24		
Cash Sales												
Ticket Sales	1027.45				131.18	90.60	30.20	28.19	130.80	226.17	108.83	1469.07
Standalone Classes/Workshops										22.29		
Donations	22.00	637.23			5.00	5.00	13.46	680.77	26	55.00	75.98	
Grants		2940.22		11523.40		2812.00						2000.00
Restricted Funds												
Group/Class Payments	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00
Hire	40.00	1240.00				458.60	121	168	120	150	174.00	
Refunded payments			45.15				8.40	9.33				
Marketing/PR	123.97											
Other												
Cash In	1296.69	4854.45	82.15	11584.39	173.18	3403.20	210.06	1029.87	328.9	748.7	395.81	3506.07
Expenditure												
Staff Costs (Inc Freelancers)	243.00	9000	24000	272.00		512.00	300.00	120				354.00
Rent Deposit												
Rent	2500.00				2500.00			2500.00			2500.00	
Utilities/Service Charges	1049.50		776.24		2318.90	99.72	72.19	1071.22	76.12		63.59	979.24
Broadband/Telecom	79.97	119.30	126.20	127.91	130.15	125.90	125.25	126.09	126.58	163.06	136.35	151.95
Training	25.00		12000	83.50			192.60	58		36		
Travel	37.00	343.68	22.00	379.69		35.85	32.78		657.22	1512.6		
Equipment /Assets	79.00	358.08	1462.84	212.99	1803.16	228.01	670.86	267.92	74.96	258.95		
Software/App			124.62	206.93			10.00		154.70			
Purchases/Resources	510.49	195.10	372.10	697.31	864.34	433.40	671.86	134.46	189.49	93.48	66.90	34.19
Expenses	368.86	75.63	56.14	221.42	206.52	692.55	82.06	157.47	144.14	73.48	158.39	79.45
Subscriptions	24.34	194.64	83.80	24.09	34.99	34.93	557.16	9.99	131.43	53.32	63.76	291.87
Maintainance			2000					171.99				
Insurance			379.96	464.76		290.00				78.99		392.20
Venue Hire		270.00			7710.00		2940.00			626.80		
Marketing/PR				295.20	42.00			36.98	140.65	1050	37.18	
Other	0.66	103.75		0.66	0.68	0.68	0.73		7.57			0.24
Cash Out	4917.82	10660.18	41403.9	2986.46	15610.74	2453.04	5655.49	4654.12	1702.86	3946.68	3026.17	2283.14
Net Cash Flow	-3621.13	-5805.73	-41321.75	8597.93	-15437.56	950.16	-5445.43	-3624.25	-1373.96	-3197.98	-2630.36	1222.93
Closing Cash Balance	132740.63	126934.9	85613.15	94211.08	78773.52	79723.68	74278.25	70654	69280.04	66082.06	63451.7	64674.63
Average Monthly Cash Flow	-5973.9275											