

# TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE

England & Wales · Charity number 1190702

## Details

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Other names	TRUTH BE TOLD
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2020-08-03
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	St. Pauls Church Landford Way Bournemouth BH8 0NY
Phone	01202 112448
Email	<a href="mailto:hello@truthbetold.org.uk">hello@truthbetold.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.truthbetold.org.uk">www.truthbetold.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:(1) TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PREVENTING PEOPLE FROM BECOMING SOCIALLY EXCLUDED, RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED AND ASSISTING THEM TO INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY BY THE PROVISION OF INTERGENERATIONAL STORYTELLING ACTIVITIES.FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE 'SOCIALLY EXCLUDED' MEANS BEING EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, AS A RESULT OF, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS: OLD AGE; ILL HEALTH (PHYSICAL OR MENTAL); FAMILY CHALLENGES OR BREAKDOWN; CRIME (EITHER AS A VICTIM OF CRIME OR AS AN OFFENDER REHABILITATING INTO SOCIETY).(2) THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.

**Activities:** Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life (TBT) is an intergenerational storytelling charity whose objects are to promote social inclusion and advance the Christian faith. We train and equip individuals and churches with everything they need to share parable style stories, inviting everyone of all ages, cultures and abilities to belong together.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£93,589	£76,999	-	-
2024-07-31	£80,652	£74,540	-	-
2023-07-31	£72,587	£48,547	-	-
2022-08-03	£28,198	£38,132	-	-
2021-08-03	£67,246	£24,219	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Ashley Liddington		2023-07-10
Hannah Elizabeth Lawford		2020-08-03
Irwin Buchanan		2025-11-03
JACQUELINE ANN LAST		2020-08-03
Lwanga Chibamba		2021-11-25
Priscilla Eileen Roxburgh		2026-02-03
Stuart Taylor		2025-03-15

**TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190702

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# Accounts

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# Truth *Be* Told

Storytelling for life



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

1st August 2024 - 31st July 2025

Charity Number - 1190702

# CONTENTS

1. Objectives
2. Activities for the public benefit
3. Finance Report
4. References and Administrative Information
5. Impact Report 2024 - 2025



## OBJECTIVES

- (1) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society by the provision of intergenerational storytelling activities.
- (2) The advancement of the Christian faith.

## ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

Truth Be Told (TBT) is all about Storytelling For Life. We bring joy and hope to people of all ages, cultures, and abilities making it really easy for everyone to belong together. Just as God intended. We provide resources, training, and support to help churches and individuals extend this invitation of belonging to everyone in their community.

Storytelling sessions can take place in community spaces, churches, care homes or other locations, and have been designed specifically to involve, encourage and fulfil all guests. The trained Storyteller tells a short bespoke story, using props and drawing everyone in the room together.





The group all share memories and imaginative ideas together. The sessions have Christian roots and references but are enjoyable for those of any faith and none.

Everyone is equal and valued and belongs, regardless of their age or stage, ethnic origin or needs. It is this interdependence and mutuality that means TBT is in its very essence, socially inclusive and combative against loneliness and isolation. The sessions act as a vehicle to facilitate the building of authentic, long-lasting and supportive relationships outside of the group context.

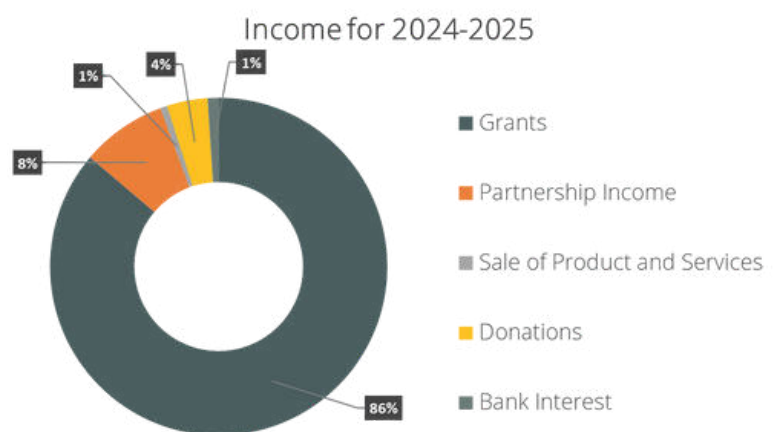
*In supporting the activities of TBT, the Trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.*

# FINANCE REPORT

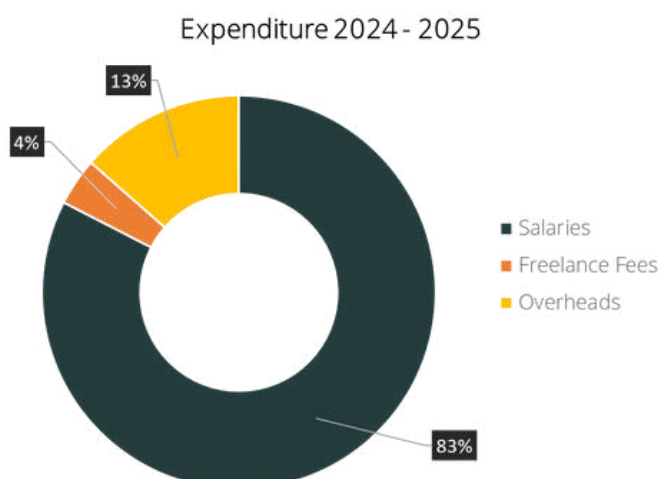
The charity's financial position is healthy and can fund the immediate plans to further its strategy, although we are dependent on grant-funding and continued Church Licence fees. The due diligence carried out by our reputable funders confirms TBT's good governance and pioneering impact. Grants during the year 2024/2025 received from:

-  Benefact Trust
-  Valentines Trust
-  Joseph Rank Trust
-  Souter Charitable Trust

Our **Income** for 2024 - 2025 came to **£93,589** and was sourced from five different areas. In particular, £82,170 was from grant funding. Our partner church income was £7,060.



Our **Expenditure** for this year was **£76,999**. This includes £61,531 on salaries and £720 on freelance fees.



## RESERVES

The charity recognises the propriety of not building up funds for which there are no clear expenditure plans. The charity's policy is to allow reserves to accrue to a level of a minimum of four months average expenditure, plus funds which may be earmarked for specific projects in the future.

As the charity is growing, reserves may only exceed this policy level in order to be able to respond positively to new opportunities. This situation is monitored to ensure that reserves do not build up unnecessarily.

At the end of the year, the cash at bank balance was £75,271, of which £41,821 was unrestricted and could be used for any of our charitable purposes, The reserves policy of holding £30,000 in unrestricted funds was met.

Our reserves are high at year-end, as a bulk of our grant funding comes in towards the end of our financial year and our current funds will enable the programme to continue at it's current level until August 2028, whilst maintaining an 4 month reserve (£30,000) as per our reserves policy. There are plans in place to expand the staff team / skills available further in 2025/26.

Jackie Last  
Jackie Last (Dec 4, 2025 08:40:59 GMT)

Dec 4, 2025

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE



I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life ('the charity') for the year ended 31 July 2025 on following pages.

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Lisa Darby*

Lisa Darby (Dec 8, 2025 15:14:48 GMT)

Lisa Darby FCA  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Dec 8, 2025

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2025

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2025 £	2024 £
		General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £		
<b>Income receipts</b>						
Grants		43,000	-	39,170	82,170	69,500
Donations		2,332	-	-	2,332	1,127
Sales of services and products		1,045	-	-	1,045	1,958
Church partner income		7,060	-	-	7,060	7,225
Bank interest		951	-	-	951	841
Gift aid		30	-	-	30	-
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>54,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,170</u>	<u>93,589</u>	<u>80,652</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	41,279	-	35,720	76,999	74,540
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>41,279</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,720</u>	<u>76,999</u>	<u>74,540</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		13,140	-	3,450	16,590	6,112
Transfers between funds	4	(30,000)	30,000	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(16,860)</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>3,450</u>	<u>16,590</u>	<u>6,112</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		58,681	-	-	58,681	52,569
<b>Cash funds at this year end</b>	A	<u>41,821</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>3,450</u>	<u>75,271</u>	<u>58,681</u>

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2025

Notes	Unrestricted Funds			2025 £	2024 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
<b>A Cash funds</b>					
Cash at bank with immediate access	10,046	-	3,450	13,496	17,853
Deposit accounts	31,775	30,000	-	61,775	40,828
	<u>41,821</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>3,450</u>	<u>75,271</u>	<u>58,681</u>
<b>B Other monetary assets</b>					
Other debtors	75	-	-	75	255
	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>255</u>
<b>C Liabilities</b>					
<b>Falling due within one year</b>					
Taxes due	-	-	-	-	2,176
Fee for Independent Examination	1,110	-	-	1,110	1,020
Pensions payable	-	-	-	-	1,397
	<u>1,110</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,110</u>	<u>4,593</u>
<b>D Assets retained for charity's own use</b>					
			Fund to which asset belongs	Cost £	
Computers and IT			General	<u>1,596</u>	

### E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Jackie Last*

Jackie Last (Dec 4, 2025 08:40:59 GMT)

JACQUELINE LAST

Date: Dec 4, 2025

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2025

### Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly</b>					
Employment costs	26,531	-	35,000	61,531	43,922
Subcontracted Staff	-	-	720	720	18,878
Rent	-	-	-	-	4,630
Advertising and promotion	1,906	-	-	1,906	712
IT expenses	1,955	-	-	1,955	1,285
Office Costs (including equipment)	197	-	-	197	720
Training	150	-	-	150	492
Travel and Accomodation	2,031	-	-	2,031	623
Insurance	497	-	-	497	469
Accountancy	1,020	-	-	1,020	-
Consultancy fees	2,510	-	-	2,510	-
Subscriptions	1,476	-	-	1,476	892
Bank Charges	550	-	-	550	114
Other costs	2,456	-	-	2,456	1,804
	<u>41,279</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,720</u>	<u>76,999</u>	<u>74,540</u>

### Transactions with related parties

No payments are made to trustees (or connected parties) other than the reimbursement of expenditure incurred on behalf of the charity.

### Movement of funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	58,681	54,419	(41,279)	(30,000)	41,821
Designated funds					
Ongoing commitments and future projects	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
Restricted funds					
Grant for storytelling sessions at Castle Dene Care Home	-	1,170	(720)	-	450
Joseph Rank fund	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
ESOL fund	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-
Travel grant	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>39,170</u>	<u>(35,720)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,450</u>
Total funds	<u>58,681</u>	<u>93,589</u>	<u>(76,999)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75,271</u>

The grant for storytelling sessions was specifically given to provide sessions for residents and young children at Castle Dene Care Home.

The Joseph Rank Fund provides a contribution towards staff costs and overheads

ESOL fund contributes towards staff costs, development costs, travel and equipment to engage non-English speakers in areas of deprivation with the charity's activities.

The travel grant was given towards travels costs to Taiwan or Ghana to deliver training, this is provisionally planned to be spent for travel to Taiwan in early 2026

The trustees have elected to hold approximately 4 months reserves in a designated fund, to meet ongoing commitments and/or put money aside for future projects.

## REFERENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

ORGANISATION TYPE	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution
REGISTERED ADDRESS	St Paul's Church, Landford Way, Bournemouth, BH8 0NY
CEO	Gemma Gillard
TRUSTEES	Mrs Jackie Last (Chair) Mrs Hannah Lawford (Designated Safeguarding Lead) Mrs Lwanga Chibamba (Assistant Safeguarding Lead) Mr Ashley Liddington Mr Stuart Taylor Mr Tosh Hales (resigned March 2025) Mr William Irwin Buchanan (appointed November 2025)
TEAM	TBT operates with a small part-time team of three who are highly experienced in governance, relationship management, creative content writing and technical implementation. We draw on the skills and experience of a network of other connections in similar positions and charities to inform our decisions and guide on best practise. We are grateful for an involved and supportive Trustee team who are diverse in demographic and skillset along with other trusted advisors and experts.
RECRUITMENT & SELECTION OF TRUSTEES	New Trustees are identified through connections made with individuals in the course of TBT's activities, and social media publicity. Exploratory conversations occur and if the time/skills of the individual and the needs of the Board align, the person is invited to attend a Board meeting. If this is successful, the person is invited to an interview with two Trustees where they have the opportunity to ask further questions and introduce themselves. If a synergy is identified, then the person is invited to become a Trustee based upon the voting of existing Trustees.

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011

We also have responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Jackie Last*

Jackie Last (Dec 4, 2025 08:40:59 GMT)

**Jacqueline Last**

Chair of Trustees

Dated: Dec 4, 2025

OUR VALUES - JOY - BELONGING - INTERGENERATIONAL - HIGH QUALITY - SIMPLICITY

# TRUTH BE TOLD IMPACT REPORT 24/25

Our vision is Storytelling For Life.  
Joyful life. Family life. Full life.  
Here's how we delivered it for  
everyone involved this year.

[www.truthbetold.org.uk](http://www.truthbetold.org.uk)



# CONTENTS

Letter from our founder

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All about us

---

The numbers

---

Storyteller profiles

---

Let me tell you a story

---

Timeline

---

What's next

---

Thank you



JOY - BELONGING - INTERGENERATIONAL - HIGH QUALITY - SIMPLICITY

# WELCOME

Jesus told stories all the time. Between 30 and 50 depending on how you qualify them.

He knew His listeners were story people. That we're all hardwired for story. Which is why we're trying to walk in His footsteps at Truth Be Told.

So whilst I'm constantly astonished by the impact you're going to read about on the following pages, it's no surprise that a simple story can transform a life.

It happened to me - it may have happened to you? TBT is happening across the UK and excitingly, across the world now too. We are so grateful for the support of individuals, funders, churches and other organisations that have enabled this.

So to God be all the glory and may His story be told forevermore.

*Gemma*

GEMMA GILLARD FOUNDER & CEO





# ALL ABOUT US



**Truth Be Told is all about Storytelling For Life.**

Joyful life, family life and full life.

**We bring joy and hope to people of all ages, cultures and abilities** through our storytelling sessions, making it really easy for everyone to belong together. Just as God intended.

We partner with individuals, churches and other organisations to **provide resources, training and support** so they can tell stories in their community. Whether in a care home with older adults and children, those with English as a second language, all age church services, schools, those with learning difficulties, whether in the UK or internationally, anywhere people need to find hope and find family.

**If you are on the fringes and isolated for whatever reason, there is belonging available.**

What we know, and this Impact Report proves, is that **the power of story to unite everyone is profound.**

We have **big ambitions for the future** because we believe the open-arms of the gospel story welcomes everyone home together.

# THE NUMBERS 24/25

184

Sessions run in care homes and toddler groups

4480

Total reported attendances across all sessions



21

National and International ESOL (English as a second language) sessions run

JOY - BELONGONG - HIGH QUALITY - SIMPLICITY - INTERGENERATIONAL

21

Nationalities attended ESOL sessions



677

Reported attendances in ESOL groups

217

Storyteller Reflections completed providing our impact data

# STORYTELLER PROFILE



## PAUL AND JULIE - CARE HOME GROUP

After two and a half years with Truth Be Told, we've built deep connections with many residents, hearing their stories, meeting their families, and walking with them through moments of joy and loss. Some have grown frail and passed on. Others have shared their spiritual journey with us. One gentleman told me he keeps all his Truth Be Told stickers in his room and once brought me a Christian newspaper because he thought I'd enjoy it.

'P', who is non-verbal and physically very vulnerable, listens and responds clearly. As we sang and spoke blessings over her, she quietly said, "Yes, that's true." I couldn't believe my ears. Another woman, 'J', times her weekly visit with her mother to join our sessions. She gently repeats the stories in her mother's ear to ensure she understands.

The children are just as impacted. Pre-schoolers put their hands together to pray and say "amen" with confidence. One three-year-old, after seeing her sister hurt her foot on a day out, shouted, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus help us!" Many sing "Yes, Jesus loves me" both inside and outside the care home. We've watched shy children slowly grow in confidence—learning to share, take turns, and engage meaningfully with their older friends.

Personally, I've been humbled. Often on my knees beside the frail, I'm reminded of the scripture that talks about God choosing the weak and those who are considered nothing. I now find it much easier to approach and connect with older people in general. While visiting Ghana, I saw how oral storytelling remains central in communities where many don't read or write. Local Christian storytellers lead after-school clubs and Sunday schools under trees, teaching scripture through songs, repetition, and the power of the spoken word. It was a privilege to share Truth Be Told with them and to hear reports of them using the project in their community.

# STORYTELLER PROFILE



## KAREN - ESOL GROUP

Storytelling is something that we do every day, and storytelling with a purpose is something that Jesus did all the time. When I was asked if I would join a team that would use storytelling to bring people of all generations together, it was a no-brainer. We started with a community toddler group, and we saw some relationships built. This then moved into a care home setting, and then a further group was launched, aimed at the ESOL community based in Bournemouth.

I think the most important thing that storytelling brings to the guests in my ESOL group is peace and joy. They have said that it is a time in their day when they don't have to worry about everything else, they can just relax and know that they are accepted and loved. There are many times of joy and laughter as they join in with their children's laughter and have fun with the parachute and bubbles.

One of the most meaningful moments for me was when a Muslim guest asked whether I was a Christian or a Muslim. They were curious because I often speak about Jesus, yet I also greet them with the traditional Arabic greeting, *Peace be upon you*. It gave me a beautiful opportunity to share that I am a Christian, and that I truly do wish them peace upon them. It left them thinking, it opened a gentle and respectful door for deeper reflection.

The storytelling sessions have been a powerful way to build relationships and a sense of community between people from different nations and language backgrounds. One of the most beautiful things to witness is the children, speaking different languages, from different cultures, playing and laughing together with ease. The adults now greet one another, and me, with genuine warmth rather than just politeness. They support each other with their children, share smiles, and even walk to the shops together between lessons. It's a glimpse of the kind of community we long to see more of.

# LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...

## VALUE IN ACTION - BELONGING

As a childminder, I'm always looking for new opportunities for the children, and that's how I discovered Truth Be Told. Sophie responded quickly to my enquiry, providing all the details for our first session. She was so welcoming and made us feel comfortable right away. It's wonderful to be part of something that brings joy to everyone in the room. The sessions are uplifting, fun, and full of encouragement from Sophie. Being involved has not only connected us with the local community but also added to the variety of experiences I can offer the children each week.

Guest Childminder

"I have watched the transformation of Addi going from a little girl who was very shy to coming and blowing bubbles with me."

Guest Mum

"The Children themselves make it really enjoyable to be a part of, they seem to have such a good time. It takes me back to when I was their age, and it's wonderful to take part in some of the activities"

Guest Resident George

## VALUE IN ACTION - HIGH QUALITY

I love seeing the residents and children interact during the sessions, it's heartwarming to watch them sing and play together. Familiar songs like *Incy Wincy Spider* and *The Buzzy Bee* songs are always a hit. The residents wave scarves to the music, which helps them feel included and adds to the joy.

The songs often bring back memories and encourage reminiscing, which is so good for the residents. Each session has a clear theme, showing how thoughtfully they're planned.

I also enjoy the Bible stories being shared. They've helped me learn more about the Bible, like the fact that there are 66 books! These stories have deepened my understanding in a positive way, without changing my beliefs.

What I love most is the sense of connection. Residents, children, and carers all come together, creating a real feeling of community and belonging. It's uplifting to be part of something that brings so much joy and togetherness.

Care home Companionship Co-ordinator

# LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...

"Such a lovely message, with wonderful stories that brings a real sense of family and community."

Guest Mum

## VALUE IN ACTION - INTERGENERATIONAL

It's always heart warming to see the interactions between the residents and the children as they grow more comfortable with each other. A particularly lovely moment was when the children handed out stickers along with the message, "You are precious." One little boy took on his role wonderfully, handing out the stickers and saying the special message clearly. It was so lovely to see the smiles and appreciation from the residents, who truly love being around the children.

Storyteller Sophie

## VALUE IN ACTION - SIMPLICITY

"Seeing the children smiling and laughing fills me with happiness. It's just gorgeous. I look forward to Fridays when they come to cuddle me, and afterwards I feel rested and calm."

Guest Resident Viv

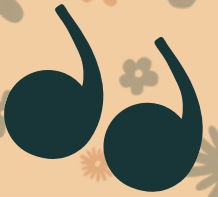
## VALUE IN ACTION - JOY

"I just love coming. It brings me joy, lifts my spirits, and makes me feel happy every time. Even on days I don't feel well, I still make the effort, because it's the light of my life."

Guest Resident Lynn



# LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...



"Thank you for this mornings session it was really great, I loved the story and how easy it was to follow and how you explained the end. The games were really good."

Guest mum

"Will we be doing this when we go to big school?" asked a regular little visitor during one of the TBT sessions.

Guest child





# LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...



"Best day ever!" From a resident guest who had heard about TBT and shared with staff that he needed to join us every time.

Guest resident

"I love being greeted by the children. They come and hug me and make my day"

Guest resident



# TIMELINE FOR TBT YEAR



## GROWTH IN 2024-2025



As we began the 2024 academic year, we knew we wanted to widen our net and reach more isolated communities, in particular those with English as a second language.

We wanted to make it easy for anyone to share a parable-style, gospel-based story wherever they are, without cost being a barrier.

As a result of this research we rebranded and relaunched our website in January 2025 with more options of how to partner with us including the launch of TBT Stories, where for just £5 per month an individual can partner with us and have access to some training and 16 of our stories. The outcome has been incredible with our partnerships more than doubling from 12 to 30.

We've also seen an increase in the settings and locations we're seeing these missional stories being shared, both in the UK and overseas.

We're excited to have been able to create our first Diocese Partnership in Hereford as well as a partnership with a church plant in Asia and a missional community in Ghana.



# WHAT'S NEXT?

Two-thirds of the world are oral learners, and as we're connecting with more people internationally, we are seeing the need firsthand. Our services are expanding as a result, so get in touch if any of these questions are your questions:

1. How can we tell any Bible stories with anyone?
2. How can we connect the disconnected through missional storytelling?
3. How can we write parables that point to Jesus?

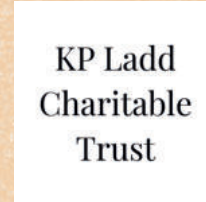
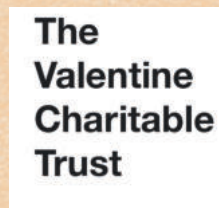
We have the determination and passion to progress but it takes time, energy, people, resources and money and so if you have felt in any way inspired to get involved in any capacity, please do get in touch, we would absolutely love to hear from you: [gemma@truthbetold.org.uk](mailto:gemma@truthbetold.org.uk)

# THANK YOU!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNER CHURCHES



**BENEFACT  
TRUST**



# BE A PART OF THE STORYLINE...

DONATE 

We only exist thanks to the generous support of our donors and funders. If you would like to support the work of Truth Be Told our bank details are below or visit our website for other opportunities to support us.

HSBC

Account Name: Truth Be Told

Sort code: 40-13-07

Account number: 92808609



 **01202 112 448**

 **[www.truthbetold.org.uk](http://www.truthbetold.org.uk)**

 **[hello@truthbetold.org.uk](mailto:hello@truthbetold.org.uk)**

**TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190702

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# Accounts

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# Truth *Be* Told

Storytelling for life



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

1st August 2023 - 31st July 2024

Charity Number - 1190702

# CONTENTS

1. Objectives
2. Activities for the public benefit
3. Finance Report
4. References and Administrative Information
5. Impact Report 2023 - 2024



## OBJECTIVES

- (1) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society by the provision of intergenerational storytelling activities.
- (2) The advancement of the Christian faith.

## ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

Truth Be Told (TBT) is all about Storytelling For Life. We bring joy and hope to people of all ages, backgrounds and cultures making it really easy for everyone to belong together. Just as God intended. We provide resources, training, and support to help churches extend this invitation of belonging to everyone in their community.

Storytelling sessions can take place in community spaces, churches, care homes or other locations, and have been designed specifically to involve, encourage and fulfil all guests. The trained Storyteller from the Partner Church leads the group in some well-known songs, tells a short bespoke story, and uses a hand-sewn bag covered in pockets and full of props.





The group all share memories and imaginative ideas together. The sessions have Christian roots and references but are enjoyable for those of any faith and none.

Everyone is equal and valued and belongs, regardless of their age or stage, ethnic origin or needs. It is this interdependence and mutuality that means TBT is in its very essence, socially inclusive and combative against loneliness and isolation. The sessions act as a vehicle to facilitate the building of authentic, long-lasting and supportive relationships outside of the group context.

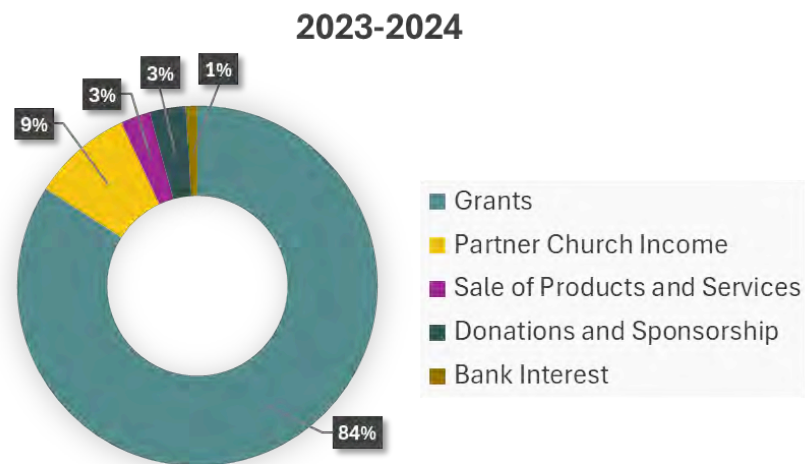
*In supporting the activities of TBT, the Trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.*

# FINANCE REPORT

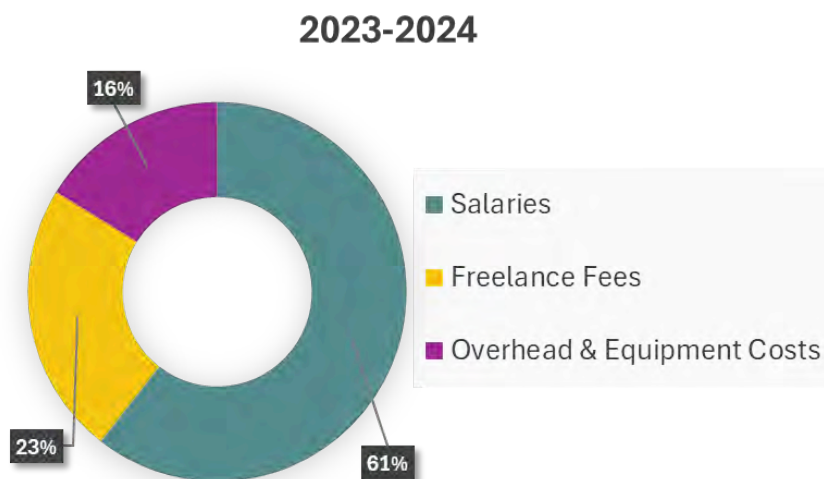
The charity's financial position is healthy and can fund the immediate plans to further its strategy, although we are dependent on grant-funding and continued Church Licence fees. Out of the nine grant applications submitted this year, we were successful with four of them which is a rate that exceeds the industry standard of 1 in 10. The due diligence carried out by our reputable funders confirms TBT's good governance and pioneering impact. Grants during the year 2023/2024 received from:

-  Benefact Trust
-  Bishop Radford Trust
-  Valentines Trust
-  Joseph Rank Trust

Our **Income** for 2023 - 2024 came to **£80,652** and was sourced from five different areas. In particular, £69,500 was from grant funding, up £6,000 from the previous year. Our partner church income was £7225 an increase of £2,510.



Our **Expenditure** for this year was **£74,540**. This includes £43,922 on salaries and £18,878 on freelance fees. Due to the increase in our activities this year our overall expenditure increased by £21,125



## RESERVES

The charity recognises the propriety of not building up funds for which there are no clear expenditure plans. The charity's policy is to allow reserves to accrue to a level of a minimum of three month's average expenditure, plus funds which may be earmarked for specific projects in future.

As the charity is growing, reserves may only exceed this policy level in order to be able to respond positively to new opportunities. This situation is monitored to ensure that reserves do not build up unnecessarily.

### **Our current reserves held are £58,681**

Our reserves are high at year-end, as a bulk of our grant funding comes in towards the end of our financial year and our current funds will enable the programme to continue at it's current level until August 2027, whilst maintaining an 3 month reserve as per our reserves policy. There are plans in place to expand the staff team/ skills available further in 2024/25.

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life ('the charity') for the year ended 31 July 2024 on following pages.

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect: 1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or 2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Lisa Darby*

[Lisa Darby \(Jan 28, 2025 09:58 GMT\)](#)

Lisa Darby FCA  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jan 28, 2025

# TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Note	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			2024 £	2023 £
		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds		
		£	£	£		
<b>Income receipts</b>						
Grants		69,500	-	-	69,500	62,000
Donations		1,271	-	-	1,127	3,441
Sales of services and products		1,958	-	-	1,958	7,044
Church partner income		7,225	-	-	7,225	
Bank interest		841	-	-	841	102
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>80,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,652</u>	<u>72,587</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	74,540	-	-	74,540	53,415
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>74,540</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,540</u>	<u>53,415</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		6,112	-	-	6,112	19,172
Transfers between funds	4	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>6,112</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,112</u>	<u>19,172</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		52,569	-	-	52,569	33,397
<b>Cash funds at this year end</b>	A	<u>58,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,681</u>	<u>52,569</u>

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

# TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Not es	Unrestricted Funds			2024 £	2023 £
		General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
<b>A Cash funds</b>						
Cash at bank with immediate access		17,853	-	-	17,853	12,569
Deposit accounts		40,828	-	-	40,828	40,000
		<u>58,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,681</u>	<u>52,569</u>
<b>B Other monetary assets</b>						
Gift aid due to charity		-	-	-	-	-
Other debtors		255	-	-	255	-
		<u>255</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>255</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>C Liabilities</b>						
<b>Falling due within one year</b>						
Taxes due		2,176	-	-	2,176	-
Fee for Independent Examination		1,020	-	-	1,020	300
Pensions payable		1,397	-	-	1,397	136
		<u>4,593</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,593</u>	<u>436</u>

## D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost £
Computers and IT	General	<u>1,217</u>

## E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Jackie Last*

Jackie Last (Jan 28, 2025 22:42 GMT+13)

JACQUELINE LAST

Date: Jan 28, 2025

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

# TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

## 1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

In the previous year, the charity presented accounts prepared on the accruals basis. As the charity's income is less than £250,000, it has taken advantage of the option to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis and the results reported previously have been restated; further information is given in note 5 below.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £		
<b>2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly</b>					
Employment costs	43,922	-	-	43,922	27,871
Subcontracted Staff	18,878	-	-	18,878	10,119
Rent	4,630	-	-	4,630	-
Purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising and promotion	712	-	-	712	608
Web design Costs	-	-	-	-	241
IT expenses	1,285	-	-	1,285	8,042
Office Costs (including equipment)	720	-	-	720	721
Training	492	-	-	492	2,511
Travel and Accommodation	623	-	-	623	238
Insurance	469	-	-	469	1,161
Accountancy	-	-	-	-	405
Consultancy fees	-	-	-	-	260
Subscriptions	892	-	-	892	540
Bank Charges	114	-	-	114	638
Other costs	1,804	-	-	1,804	60
	<u>74,540</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,540</u>	<u>53,415</u>

## 3 Transactions with related parties

No payments are made to trustees (or connected parties) other than the reimbursement of expenditure incurred on behalf of the charity.

## 4 Movement of funds

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
General funds	52,569	80,652	(74,540)	-	58,681
Total funds	<u>52,569</u>	<u>80,652</u>	<u>(74,540)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,681</u>

# REFERENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

ORGANISATION TYPE	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution
REGISTERED ADDRESS	9 Blair Avenue, Poole, BH14 0DA
CEO	Gemma Gillard
TRUSTEES	<p>Mrs Jackie Last (Chair)</p> <p>Mrs Hannah Lawford (Designated Safeguarding Lead)</p> <p>Mrs Lwanga Chibamba (Assistant Safeguarding Lead)</p> <p>Mr Tosh Hales</p> <p>Mr Ashley Liddington</p>
TEAM	<p>TBT operates with a small part-time team of three who are highly experienced in governance, relationship management, creative content writing and technical implementation. We draw on the skills and experience of a network of other connections in similar positions and charities to inform our decisions and guide on best practise. We are grateful for an involved and supportive Trustee team who are diverse in demographic and skillset along with other trusted advisors and experts.</p>
RECRUITMENT & SELECTION OF TRUSTEES	<p>New Trustees are identified through connections made with individuals in the course of TBT's activities, and social media publicity. Exploratory conversations occur and if the time/skills of the individual and the needs of the Board align, the person is invited to attend a Board meeting. If this is successful, the person is invited to an interview with two Trustees where they have the opportunity to ask further questions and introduce themselves. If a synergy is identified, then the person is invited to become a Trustee based upon the voting of existing Trustees.</p>

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011

We also have responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Jackie Last*

[Jackie Last \(Jan 28, 2025 22:42 GMT+13\)](#)

**Jacqueline Last**

Chair of Trustees

Dated: Jan 28, 2025



Truth  
*Be* Told  
Storytelling for life

IMPACT REPORT 23/24

# CONTENTS

A Note from our Founder & CEO	Page 1
What do we do?	Page 2
Achievements	Page 3
What do people say about us?	Pages 4-6
Guest stories	Page 7-9
What next?	Page 10
Thank you	Page 10



# WELCOME

## **It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to Truth Be Told and our Annual Impact Report.**

I could say... 'what a busy year we've had' but I think that much is evident!

What I'd like to tell you is there's a small but incredible team of trustees, staff and storytellers who make possible the kind of impact you're going to read about. It is only with their dedication to our vision - Storytelling For Life - that joy, hope and life have been experienced by so many this year.

Most of all, I'd like to take this opportunity to give all the glory to God who sparked this idea five years ago, gave me the boldness to go for it and the people to bring it to life. Truth Be Told belongs to God and we thank Him every day for every person who encounters Him through it.

We hope you experience the joy of Truth Be Told as you read the following pages and feel totally inspired to get more involved in our story by the end.

Many thanks and every blessing,

*Gemma*

GEMMA GILLARD FOUNDER & CEO



# WHAT DO WE DO?

Truth Be Told is all about Storytelling For Life.

Joyful life, family life and new life.

We bring joy and hope to people of all ages, backgrounds and cultures through our storytelling sessions, making it really easy for everyone to belong together. Just as God intended.

We partner with churches and provide them with everything they might need - stories, songs, session plans, operational resources, training and support so that they can deliver storytelling sessions in their community. This may be in a care home setting with older residents, children and their parents or with women and children who are asylum seekers or refugees needing to learn English and integrate into the community.

Our intention is to offer our stories and resources to those working with children with additional needs, adults with learning disabilities and families in the prison system. If you are on the fringes and isolated for whatever reason, there is belonging available.

What we know, and this Impact Report proves, is that the power of story to unite everyone is profound. We have big ambitions for growth and breadth because the need is great and we want this belonging to spread to tackle loneliness with the hope of the gospel.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

226

Care home sessions with an average attendance of 20 guests

18

Nationalities have attended ESOL sessions

577

ESOL attendances over 24 sessions



5,645

Reported attendances in total across all sessions this year

250

Storyteller Reflections completed which provide our impact data

2363

Reported moments of particular confidence and participation

# WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING?

A guest from Libya to one of our ESOL sessions told us that 'I love this time because I am not thinking about my problems. It is relaxing and helps me feel not stressed.

One of the children shouting 'Hello June' to one of the residents, as she came in a bit late. June was very touched by the fact she had been remembered by name.

One resident who 2 years ago never wanted to come in, now doesn't ever miss a session and participates more and more each week. He likes getting his stickers and props and interacts with the children in a really sweet way.



A lady joined in with this little piggy and run run as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man. The activities manager said 'that was the first time' she had ever heard her speak.

We had the song wind the bobbin up and one of our props was my grandmothers copper thimble, the lady that opened the bag it was in, is very crippled and bent over. But she insisted on standing up and trying to walk over to the children to show them. Her husband who was visiting was so pleased and teary.



A resident who was distressed and crying, was wandering the corridor. The Storyteller managed to help calm her, shared that she was safe and that God was with her. She came into the room and then, during the session, was beaming with joy from the songs & children. She then transitioned into lunch easily.

One resident told our storyteller - 'I just love it, I just can't get enough of it, and seeing all the children's expressions is just wonderful'. She also witnessed one of the residents helping a child zip up their coat at the end of session.

At the end of a session a carer came up to the Storyteller to say thank you, and that she hadn't got a sticker. So they gave her a sticker saying 'I am valued' and she welled up with tears so she spoke to her some more about how God loves her and values her and sees her and she was really moved.



One storyteller was sent this message by the care home manager:  
I just wanted to let you know CQC gave us an Outstanding! In the very chunky detailed report, they mentioned that a group of toddlers visited on the day that the CQC Directors arrived unannounced, and that there was much positive interaction plus lovely comments from the residents themselves and other people too.



One resident with severe dementia was seemingly sound asleep during the session. But when I gave her the truth sticker and told God loved her, she opened her eyes and smiled.

In our ESOL group one lady tried to read the song from the word handout, and singing it to herself as she remembered it from last time



A little girl attending a session had written an invitation to one of our older friends to invite them to her birthday party

# GUEST STORIES



## AVERIE AND LAUREN

Averie's mum , Lauren says - 'We started coming to Truth Be Told sessions when Averie was 6 weeks old. Our best friends had been coming for a while and invited us along. We felt so welcomed from our first session. It has been so lovely to watch Averie interact more with every session as she became more aware of what was going on around her. Yvonne, our Storyteller, remembers everyone's name, mums and children and remembers all the residents names and also the stories. We love coming along learning new songs and listening to the wonderful stories with props. Meeting new people and making friends whist watching residents light up seeing the babies, toddlers and sometimes older children. And if you're struggling however that may be there's someone there with a shoulder to lean on and an ear to listen. I can't wait to watch Averie engage more in each session we go to as she grows.'



## MARIE

When resident Marie, sadly passed away. Her family came to share in one of our Truth Be Told sessions and one of the mums from the group organised flowers from everyone.

Marie's son knew all about Truth Be Told because his mum had spoken about our weekly sessions so much. He said that "TBT had been a large part of Marie's life."



## ROY AND THEO

Care home resident, Roy, was reluctant to attend Truth Be Told but decided to give it a go and was so pleased that he did. One of the children, Theo, took a shine to Roy and it wasn't long before they became firm friends. Theo would run straight to Roy when he arrived and he and his grandma continued to visit Roy during the school holidays when sessions took a break. Through this relationship Roy has been able to engage not only with the sessions but also with God, by attending and participating in services lead by a local chaplain. He's also started writing poetry about Truth Be Told to express himself and his enjoyment of the group. Here are a couple of his odes...!



*It's Wednesday so through the doors.  
Come the Toddlers group of under 4's  
Welcomed by Yvonne and the Abbey crew  
It doesn't matter that some are new  
All enjoy the games and singing  
Till the residents ears are ringing.  
My friend Theo makes a noise  
With all the games and musical toys  
And quiet young Alice  
Not quite into games  
Is the image of Alice in Wonderland fame.*



*Once again through the doors  
Comes our little group of under fours  
This time younger than before  
To enjoy a picnic out of doors  
Where gardener Joan  
On her own  
Make bubbles waft through the air  
While companions Kia and Sara  
Make a picnic of veg, apples and pear.  
A happy occasion in fine summer weather  
And a pleasure in all being together*



## ENGLISH SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

It has been an honour to partner with International Care Network in Bournemouth to pilot and then rollout Truth Be Told sessions for mothers, grandmothers, aunts and children for whom English is a second language. In between their language classes, we have been running sessions to help guests learn nursery rhymes, simple vocabulary and to grasp gospel truths through our bible-based stories. In the beginning the women were tentative about coming and joining in but Storyteller, Karen Priest has built an incredible place of safety and joy so that everyone can put aside their concerns and have fun together. The group has grown week by week and even though some of the women don't have their own children, they are willing to travel long distances and come early because they value it so much.



The weekly truth such as 'I am precious' or 'I am loved' or 'I am special' is particularly important to these guests as they spend time translating and understanding it. During one session there was a conversation about 'I am heard' and there was a shared appreciation and awe in the room that we are heard by God.

After the TBT session, the guests moved on to their English class and some of the women were still wearing their 'I am heard' stickers. The teacher asked one of them about it and she told that class, 'I am hear', and then they looked together and read it. The teacher asked her, what does this mean?

The lady pointed upward and said 'God', then pointed to her ear 'hears', then pointed toward herself, 'me'.

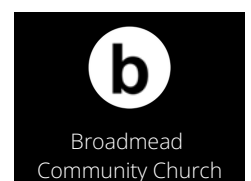
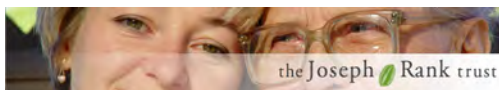
# WHAT NEXT?

Over the next year, we want make our stories and resources available to more people wherever they might need them. These good news stories are for telling all over the place! And we want to enable individuals with a passionate Christian faith to do this as well as ongoing church partnerships. We intend to grow the number of ESOL partnerships particularly as our pilot group has been so successful and this is such an large area of need.

All of this takes time, energy, dedication, people, resources and money and so if you have felt in anyway inspired to get involved in any capacity, please do get in touch, we would absolutely love to hear from you: [gemma@truthbetold.org.uk](mailto:gemma@truthbetold.org.uk)

# THANK YOU!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNER CHURCHES.













# Final TBTSFL Report and Accounts 2023-2024

Final Audit Report

2025-01-28

Created:	2025-01-21
By:	Lisa Darby (lisa.darby@stewardship.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA-7saTO0X-tJg7NuNwEasD28_ChbSSy62

## "Final TBTSFL Report and Accounts 2023-2024" History

-  Document created by Lisa Darby (lisa.darby@stewardship.org.uk)  
2025-01-21 - 12:40:38 GMT
-  Document emailed to Jacqueline Last (last.j@btinternet.com) for signature  
2025-01-21 - 12:43:31 GMT
-  Email viewed by Jacqueline Last (last.j@btinternet.com)  
2025-01-21 - 22:30:54 GMT
-  Email viewed by Jacqueline Last (last.j@btinternet.com)  
2025-01-28 - 09:19:50 GMT
-  Signer Jacqueline Last (last.j@btinternet.com) entered name at signing as Jackie Last  
2025-01-28 - 09:42:49 GMT
-  Document e-signed by Jackie Last (last.j@btinternet.com)  
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-  Document emailed to Lisa Darby (lisa.darby@stewardship.org.uk) for signature  
2025-01-28 - 09:42:53 GMT
-  Email viewed by Lisa Darby (lisa.darby@stewardship.org.uk)  
2025-01-28 - 09:57:24 GMT
-  Document e-signed by Lisa Darby (lisa.darby@stewardship.org.uk)  
Signature Date: 2025-01-28 - 09:58:12 GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.  
2025-01-28 - 09:58:12 GMT

**TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190702

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# Accounts

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**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2023**

**ALL TAX LTD  
17 MORTIMER ROAD  
BOURNEMOUTH  
DORSET  
BH8 9HP**

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2023**

**CONTENTS**

Charity Information	3
Trustees Annual Report	4
Independent Examiners Report	13
Income and Expenditure Account	14
Balance Sheet	15
Notes to the Accounts	16

TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE

CHARITY INFORMATION

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Trustees	Lwanga Chibamba Tosh Hales (appointed May 2023) Jacqueline Last Hannah Lawford Ashley Liddington (appointed 10 July 2023) Karen Todd (resigned August 2023)
CEO	Gemma Gillard
Principal Office	9 Blair Avenue Poole Dorset BH14 0DA
Charity Registration Number	1190702
Independent Examiner	All Tax Ltd 17 Mortimer Road Bournemouth Dorset BH8 9HP
Website	<a href="https://truthbetold.org.uk/">https://truthbetold.org.uk/</a>




## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From** 4 August 2022 **Period start date** **To** 31 July 2023 **Period end date**

**Charity name:** Truth Be Told: Storytelling for Life (TBT)


**Charity registration number:** 1190702

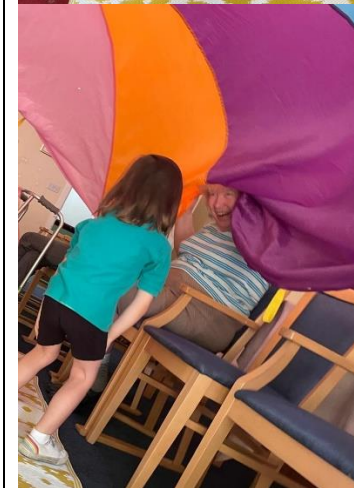
### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p><b>Objects of the charity</b></p> <p>(1) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society by the provision of intergenerational storytelling activities.</p> <p>(2) The advancement of the Christian faith.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p> 	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p><b>Main activities for the public benefit</b></p> <p>TBT partners with churches across the UK to provide training, resources and support, enabling them to deliver intergenerational storytelling sessions with local families and older adults in care homes and the community.</p> <p>These sessions can take place in care homes and in churches, they have been designed specifically to involve, encourage and fulfil <i>all</i> guests. The trained Storyteller from the Partner Church leads the group in some nursery rhymes, tells a short bespoke story, and using a hand-sewn bag covered in pockets and full of props, the group all share memories and imaginative ideas together. The sessions have Christian roots and references but are enjoyable for those of any faith and none.</p> <p>Everyone is equal and valued and belongs, regardless of their age or stage. It is this interdependence and mutuality that means TBT is in its very essence, socially inclusive and combative against loneliness and isolation. The sessions act as a vehicle to facilitate the building of authentic, long-lasting and supportive relationships outside of the group context.</p>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In supporting the activities of TBT, the Trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.
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## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity’s work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	Para 1.20	<p>We’re increasing our impact in four key areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Replicating the project</li> <li>2. Creating an intergenerational befriending programme</li> <li>3. Reaching other isolated groups</li> <li>4. Embedding an intergenerational approach in our partner churches.</li> </ol>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2022-2023 Stats</b></p> <p><b>2098</b> attendances of all ages in:  <b>118</b> groups that were run in:  <b>9</b> different settings</p> <p>Our storytellers reported seeing:  <b>250</b> New Moments of Confidence  <b>309</b> New Moments of Participation</p> <p>These statistics are only a proportion of our actual impact as we implemented a new impact data gathering process from May 2023</p>		<p><b>1)Replicating the project</b></p> <p>In line with our funding and strategy we’re now working with ten partner churches who are running the project in a variety of settings. We aim to have 30 partner churches by April 2026.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gateway Church (Poole)</li> <li>2. Bournemouth (Citygate Church)</li> <li>3. Godfirst (Christchurch)</li> <li>4. Dorchester (Dorchester Family Church)</li> <li>5. Sherborne (ReBorne Church)</li> <li>6. Surrey (St Peters Church, West Moseley)</li> <li>7. New Milton (New Life Church)</li> <li>8. Hereford (St Georges Church)</li> <li>9. London (St Peters Church, Brockley)</li> <li>10. Brockenhurst (Brockenhurst Parish Church)</li> </ol>
		<p>Feedback from each setting is now received weekly, which includes photographs and quotes from the session. This means we’re now able to see in real time the impact that the project is having on the lives of beneficiaries:</p>



**Promotion of social inclusion:** Carers regularly comment how their residents eagerly anticipate TBT coming in. One resident commented that the only time those in the home with dementia smile is during our sessions.

**Advancement of the Christian faith:** We receive regular feedback that the project is beneficial for those who either have no faith or those whose faith is dormant as Storytellers share Bible stories every week and offer to pray with guests. Our impact data clearly shows that the children are engaging keenly with the stories and repeating the bible truths at home.

### **2) Intergenerational Befriending Programme**

Our aim is to benefit the most isolated older adults in the community by piloting this innovative programme with another expert befriending organisation. We will be pairing up befrienders and befriendeds with local families who together will enjoy a sense of belonging through our bespoke storytelling activities.

### **3) Reaching Other isolated groups**

In order to have as much impact as possible, we commissioned a report to assess other groups where social exclusion and isolation is prevalent. This has resulted in a diversification plan and a partnership with a local organisation – International Care Network. Together we are setting up a pilot to reach those with English as a second language (ESL) with a particular focus on refugees. We are creating a bespoke version of our TBT sessions to promote social inclusion for those isolated due to language and cultural barriers. This will be transformative as the project gives them confidence to engage in their local community.



**4) Embedding an Intergenerational Approach within Partner Churches**

By working with partner churches throughout the country we are equipping them to work with isolated groups in their local communities more intentionally. We intend to develop this area and measure our impact accordingly.

**Financial Review**

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Para 1.21</p>	<p>The charity's financial position is healthy and can fund the immediate plans to further its strategy, although we are dependant on grant-funding and continued Church Licence fees.</p> <p>Grants during the year gratefully received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefact Trust</li> <li>• Bishop Radford Trust</li> <li>• Valentines Trust</li> <li>• McCarthy and Stone</li> <li>• The Anchor Foundation</li> </ul>
<p>Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held</p>	<p>Para 1.22</p>	<p>The charity recognises the propriety of not building up funds for which there are no clear expenditure plans. The charities' policy is to allow reserves to accrue to a level of three months' average expenditure, plus funds which may be earmarked for specific projects in the future.</p> <p>As the charity is growing, reserves may only exceed this policy level in order to be able to respond positively to new opportunities. This situation is monitored to ensure that reserves do not build up unnecessarily.</p>
<p>Amount of reserves held</p>	<p>Para 1.22</p>	<p>£52,569</p>
<p>Reasons for holding zero reserves</p>	<p>Para 1.22</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Details of fund materially in deficit</p>	<p>Para 1.24</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern</p>	<p>Para 1.23</p>	<p>n/a</p>

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution, as lodged with Charity Commission
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	New Trustees are identified through connections made with individuals in the course of TBT's activities, and social media publicity. Exploratory conversations occur and if the time/skills of the individual and the needs of the Board align, the person is invited to attend a Board meeting. If this is successful, the person is invited to an interview with two Trustees where they have the opportunity to ask further questions and introduce themselves. If a synergy is identified, the person is invited to become a Trustee based upon the voting of existing Trustees.

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Truth Be Told: Storytelling for Life
Other name the charity uses	Truth Be Told (TBT)
Registered charity number	1190702
Charity's principal address	9 Blair Avenue Poole Dorset BH14 0DA

## 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	Mrs Jackie Last	Chair	Whole year	
2	Mrs Karen Todd		Whole year	
3	Mrs Hannah Lawford		Whole year	
4	Mrs Lwanga Chibamba		Whole year	
5	Mr Tosh Hales		From May-23	

## Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

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

Gemma Gillard, CEO

### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

n/a

### Other optional information

n/a

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	JACQUE LAST	
Full name(s)	JACQUELINE LAST	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	
Date	21 NOVEMBER 2023	

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT**

**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared, without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the accounting records of Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life and from information and explanations supplied to us.

 JAMES SHUTTLE

Dated: 6.12.2023

All Tax Ltd  
17 Mortimer Road  
Bournemouth  
Dorset  
BH8 9HP

**TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	2022		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Grants	25,750		62,000	
Donations and sponsorship	1,866		3,441	
Sales of services and products	580		7,044	
Bank interest received	2		102	
		28,198		72,587
<b>Cost of sales</b>				
Purchases	330		608	
Sub-contractors	15,025		10,119	
		15,355		10,727
<b>Gross profit</b>		12,843		61,860
<b>Overhead expenses</b>				
Salaries and NIC	15,808		26,700	
Pension costs	656		1,171	
Advertising and promotion	1,612		241	
Web design costs	1,157		2,792	
Computer expenses	765		721	
Office costs	188		1,185	
Room hire	50		-	
Training costs	-		238	
Travel and accommodation	665		1,161	
Insurance	378		405	
Accountancy	300		300	
Consultancy fees	800		540	
Subscriptions	-		638	
Sundries	271		-	
Bank charges	96		60	
Amortisation	-		1,313	
Depreciation	31		355	
		22,777		37,820
<b>Net surplus / (deficit)</b>		- 9,934		24,040

TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2023

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Office equipment	92	1,063
Website development	-	3,937
	<u>92</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Bank balances	33,397	12,569
Savings account balances	-	40,000
	<u>33,397</u>	<u>52,569</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors and accruals	396	436
	<u>396</u>	<u>436</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>33,093</u>	<u>57,133</u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>		
<b>RESERVES</b>		
Balance at start of period	43,027	33,093
Net surplus / (deficit)	- 9,934	24,040
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>33,093</u>	<u>57,133</u>

TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS AS AT 31 JULY 2023

		<u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	
		£	£	£	£
1	<b>Fixed assets</b>				
	<b>Office Equipment</b>				
	<b>Cost:</b>				
	As at 4 August 2022	164		164	
	Additions	-		1,326	
	As at 3 August 2023	164		1,490	
	<b>Depreciation:</b>				
	As at 4 August 2022	-	41	-	72
	Charge for the year	-	31	-	355
	As at 3 August 2023	-	72	-	427
	<b>Net book value 3 August 2023</b>		92		1,063
2	<b>Intangible assets</b>				
	<b>Website Development</b>				
	<b>Cost:</b>				
	As at 4 August 2022	-		-	
	Additions	-		5,250	
	As at 3 August 2023	-		5,250	
	<b>Amortisation:</b>				
	As at 4 August 2022	-		-	
	Charge for the year	-		-	1,313
	As at 3 August 2023	-		-	1,313
	<b>Net book value 3 August 2023</b>		-		3,937
3	<b>Details of certain types of expenditure</b>				
	The independent examiners' fee for the year to 3 August 2023 was £300 (2022: £300).				
4	<b>Staff costs and numbers</b>				

At the date of the balance sheet the charity employed 4 part-time staff.

No member of staff earned in excess of £60,000 in the period.

**TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190702

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# Accounts

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**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2022**

**ALL TAX LTD  
17 MORTIMER ROAD  
BOURNEMOUTH  
DORSET  
BH8 9HP**

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2022**

**CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
Charity Information	1
Trustees' Annual Report	2
Independent Examiners' Report	8
Income and Expenditure Account	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Accounts	11

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2022**

<b>Trustees</b>	Lwanga Chibamba (appointed 21.11.21) Jacqueline Last Hannah Lawford Richard Stamp (resigned 21.11.21) Karen Todd
<b>CEO</b>	Gemma Gillard
<b>Principal Office</b>	9 Blair Avenue Poole Dorset BH14 0DA
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1190702
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	All Tax Ltd 17 Mortimer Road Bournemouth Dorset BH8 9HP
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://truthbetold.org.uk/">https://truthbetold.org.uk/</a>



**Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 4 August 2021 Period start date**

**To 3 August 2022 Period end date**

**Charity name: Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life (TBT)**

**Charity registration number: 1190702**

**Objectives and Activities**

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document

SORP ref. (Statement of Recommended Practice)

Para 1.17

**Objects of the charity**

- (1) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society by the provision of intergenerational storytelling activities.
- (2) The advancement of the Christian faith.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.

Para 1.17 and 1.19

**Main activities for the public benefit**

TBT partners with churches across the UK to provide training, resources and support, enabling them to deliver intergenerational storytelling sessions with local families and older adults in care homes and the community.

These sessions can take place in care homes, in churches or online and have been designed specifically to involve, encourage and fulfil *all* guests. The trained Storyteller from the Partner Church leads the group in some nursery rhymes, tells a short bespoke story, and using a hand-sewn bag covered in pockets and full of props, the group all share memories and imaginative ideas together. The sessions have Christian roots and references but are enjoyable for those of any faith and none.

Everyone is equal and valued and belongs, regardless of their age or stage. It is this interdependence and mutuality that means TBT is in its very essence, socially inclusive and combative against loneliness and isolation. The sessions act as a vehicle to facilitate the building of authentic, long-lasting and supportive relationships outside of the group context.



Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Para 1.18

In supporting the activities of TBT, the Trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

# Achievements and Performance

SORP  
ref.

Para  
1.20

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

## 1) Increasing impact by replicating the project

In line with our 5-year strategy, we are working hard to partner with 50 churches by the end of 2026 to enable them to deliver the project and its benefits in their community.

### a. Seven projects in place

Despite the ongoing limitations to growth this past year due to Covid, we are delighted to have seven Partner Churches, all now delivering the project in care homes or in their own facilities. These are located as follows:

1. Birmingham (Gas Street Church)
2. Bournemouth (Citygate Church)
3. Christchurch (GodFirst Church)
4. Dorchester (Dorchester Family Church)
5. Poole (Gateway Church)
6. Sherborne (ReBorne Church)
7. Surrey (St Peter's Church, West Molesey)

*"I always leave feeling more joyful."*

*"A Thai childminder began sharing Thai greetings with an older adult who lived in Thailand as a child."*

*"A resident who was very agitated at the start of the session, began to join in and sing and was very interactive by the end."*

*"It feels like we're making a difference in people's lives!"*

It is impossible to fully paint the picture of how the project is impacting individual beneficiaries, but we ask each Storyteller to submit their reflections after every session and above left are a few of their highlights, of which there are many similarly.



### b. Jubilee giveaway

The Jubilee was the perfect occasion to bring together people from all generations to learn from one another and celebrate. We took this opportunity to promote the project by giving away a new story, session plan, songs and various training workshops. Representatives from 20 toddler groups attended the workshops and downloaded our resources so that they could help people of all ages have an increased sense of belonging at that time. One participant said, *"I was trying to pull something together myself exactly like this, but you offer such a great structure - thank you!"*

### c. National span

The profile of the charity has increased over the year, thanks to our growing social media following, our Jubilee giveaway and the number of projects now active. This has meant that we are in contact with interested potential partners in all four nations of the United Kingdom.

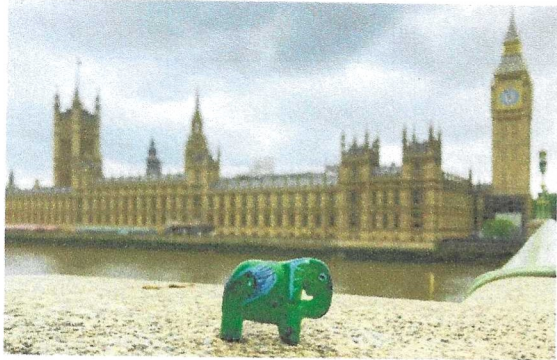
### d. Cinnamon Recommended Project status

Our relationship with Cinnamon Network has continued and having met their criteria for successful replications, we were awarded the accolade of becoming a Cinnamon Recommended Project. This puts Truth Be Told alongside many other trusted social action projects who also have a transformative impact on their communities such as CAP Debt Advice, Trussell Trust Food Banks and Hope Into Action.



## 2) Increasing impact by working with other organisations

The national scale of loneliness and isolation, affected further by the pandemic, is too great for organisations like ours to work in a silo. To have the maximum impact, there is strength in number and so it has been a pleasure to be invited to collaborate with more prestigious organisations with aligned vision and values this year.



### a. Advocacy

TBT represented Christians Together Against Loneliness (CTAL) at a meeting with the Loneliness team at the Department for Media, Culture and Sport in May. We were able to increase their understanding of the part churches play in tackling social isolation and offer our ongoing support and commitment to their loneliness agenda.

### b. Collaboration

The TBT team have had the opportunity to speak publicly to the supporters of Faith in Later Life, the Baptist Union and Premier Christian Radio about our work and the part we play in tackling loneliness and advancing the Christian faith. We are also working with HOPE Together and the Growing Faith Foundation among others to best deliver our shared purpose, equipping and empowering others to work for a deeper sense of belonging and faith.

### c. Innovation

Determined to try new and innovative ways to find and help transform the lives of those most lonely and in need of hope, we have been innovating with other organisations this year. Amongst other initiatives we have been exploring creative ways to deliver more content to more people and developing our resources to facilitate an intergenerational befriending approach for those older adults who are at particular risk of isolation and loneliness.



## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The charity's financial position is healthy and can fund the immediate plans to further its strategy, although dependant on securing future grant-funding and continued church Licence Fees. In order to increase impact and the public benefit, there are no plans to make significant investment in assets at this stage, rather it is necessary to increase staff resources. It is the charity's approach to appoint part-time specialists to roles so that expertise can be maximised, and business continuity maintained.</p> <p>Grants during the year were gratefully received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PramaLife</li> <li>• Bishop Radford Trust</li> <li>• Valentines Trust</li> </ul> <p>TBT's social action franchise model means that Partner Churches contribute to the running of their project by paying a Launch Fee and a monthly Licence Fee to the charity (although this can be covered by grant income if necessary if it will enable impact). This will mean that the charity becomes more self-sustaining as the number of Partner Churches grow.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The charity recognises the propriety of not building up funds for which there are no clear expenditure plans. The charities' policy is to allow reserves to accrue to a level of three months' average expenditure, plus funds which may be earmarked for specific projects in the future. As the charity is growing, reserves may only exceed this policy level in order to be able to respond positively to new opportunities. This situation is monitored to ensure that reserves do not build up unnecessarily.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£33,093
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution, as lodged with Charity Commission
How is the charity constituted? (unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>New Trustees are identified through connections made with individuals in the course of TBT's activities, and social media publicity. Exploratory conversations occur and if the time/skills of the individual and the needs of the Board align, the person is invited to attend a Board meeting. If this is successful, the person is invited to an interview with two Trustees where they have the opportunity to ask further questions and introduce themselves. If a synergy is identified, the person is invited to become a Trustee based upon the voting of existing Trustees.</p>

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life
Other name the charity uses	Truth Be Told (TBT)
Registered charity number	1190702
Charity's principal address	9 Blair Avenue Poole Dorset BH14 0DA

### 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	Mr Richard Stamp		Until Nov-21	
2	Mrs Jacqueline Last	Chair	Whole year	
3	Mrs Karen Todd		Whole year	
4	Mrs Hannah Lawford		Whole year	
5	Miss Lwanga Chibamba		From Nov-21	

### Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

### Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

**Additional information (optional)**

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

Gemma Gillard, CEO

**Exemptions from disclosure**

**Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details**

n/a


**Other optional information**

n/a

**Declarations**

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

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

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Miss Lwanga Chibamba	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Trustee, on behalf of the Chair	

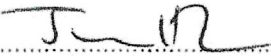
**Date** 15.1.23

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2022**

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared, without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the accounting records of Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life and from information and explanations supplied to us.

  
.....  
All Tax Ltd - JAMES SWILER  
17 Mortimer Road  
Bournemouth  
Dorset  
BH8 9HP

Dated: 22 NOVEMBER 2022

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2022**

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Grants	25,750		58,500	
Donations and sponsorship	1,866		2,783	
Sales of services and products	580		5,963	
Bank interest received	2		-	
		28,198		67,246
<b>Cost of sales</b>				
Purchases	330		1,043	
Sub-contractors	15,025		7,930	
		15,355		8,973
<b>Gross profit</b>		12,843		58,273
<b>Overhead expenses</b>				
Salaries and NIC	15,808		10,693	
Pension costs	656		229	
Advertising and promotion	1,612		-	
Web design costs	1,157		1,708	
Computer expenses	765		619	
Office costs	188		193	
Room hire	50		-	
Training costs	-		259	
Gifts	-		153	
Travel and accommodation	665		304	
Insurance	378		256	
Accountancy	300		300	
Consultancy fees	800		-	
Subscriptions	-		296	
Sundries	271		128	
Bank charges	96		67	
Depreciation	31		41	
		22,777		15,246
<b>Net surplus / (deficit)</b>		<u><u>- 9,934</u></u>		<u><u>43,027</u></u>

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 3 AUGUST 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Office equipment	92	123
	<u>92</u>	<u>123</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Bank balances	33,397	43,204
	<u>33,397</u>	<u>43,204</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors and accruals	396	300
	<u>396</u>	<u>300</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>33,093</u>	<u>43,027</u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>		
<b>RESERVES</b>		
Balance at start of period	43,027	-
Net surplus / (deficit)	- 9,934	43,027
Balance at end of period	<u>33,093</u>	<u>43,027</u>

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS AS AT 3 AUGUST 2022**

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	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>1 Fixed assets</b>				
<b>Office Equipment</b>				
<b>Cost:</b>				
As at 4 August 2021		164		-
Additions		-		164
As at 3 August 2022		<u>164</u>		<u>164</u>
<b>Depreciation:</b>				
As at 4 August 2021	-	41	-	-
Charge for the year	-	31	-	41
As at 3 August 2022	-	<u>72</u>	-	<u>41</u>
<b>Net book value 3 August 2022</b>		<u>92</u>		<u>123</u>

**2 Details of certain types of expenditure**

The independent examiners' fee for the year to 3 August 2022 was £300.

**3 Staff costs and numbers**

During the year the organisation employed one part time member of staff.  
No member of staff earned in excess of £60,000 in the period.

**TRUTH BE TOLD: STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190702

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# Accounts

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**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2021**

**ALL TAX LTD  
17 MORTIMER ROAD  
BOURNEMOUTH  
DORSET  
BH8 9HP**

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2021**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
Charity Information	1
Trustees' Annual Report	2
Independent Examiners' Report	9
Income and Expenditure Account	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Accounts	12

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2021**

<b>Trustees</b>	Jacqueline Last Hannah Lawford Richard Stamp Karen Todd
<b>CEO</b>	Gemma Gillard
<b>Principal Office</b>	9 Blair Avenue Poole Dorset BH14 0DA
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1190702
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	All Tax Ltd 17 Mortimer Road Bournemouth Dorset BH8 9HP
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://truthbetold.org.uk/">https://truthbetold.org.uk/</a>



**Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 3 August 2020 Period start date**

**To 3 August 2021 Period end date**

**Charity name:** Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life (TBT)

**Charity registration number:** 1190702

**Objectives and Activities**

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document

SORP ref.

Para 1.17

**Objects of the charity**

- (1) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society by the provision of intergenerational storytelling activities.
- (2) The advancement of the Christian faith.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.

Para 1.17 and 1.19

**Main activities for the public benefit**

TBT partners with churches across the UK to provide training, resources and support, enabling them to deliver intergenerational storytelling sessions with local families and older adults in care homes and the community.

These sessions can take place in care homes, in churches or online and have been designed specifically to involve, encourage and fulfil *all* guests. The trained Storyteller from the Partner Church leads the group in some nursery rhymes, tells a short bespoke story, and using a hand-sewn bag covered in pockets and full of props, the group all share memories and imaginative ideas together. The sessions have Christian roots and references but are enjoyable for those of any faith and none.

Everyone is equal and valued and belongs, regardless of their age or stage. It is this interdependence and mutuality that means TBT is in its very essence, socially inclusive and combative against loneliness and isolation. The sessions act as a vehicle to facilitate the building of authentic, long-lasting and supportive relationships outside of the group context.



Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Para 1.18

In supporting the activities of TBT, the Trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

SORP  
ref.

Para  
1.20

### **Main achievements**

TBT began with just a pilot group run by Gateway Church in Poole in January 2019. After **winning** the coveted Cinnamon Network Project Incubator competition for innovative social action projects that were improving the health and wellbeing of their communities in June 2019, we were able to **replicate** the project with ReBourne Church in Sherborne in January 2020. Then the global **pandemic** highlighted the extent of social exclusion and the need for belonging and true hope in all age groups and in all settings.

Although it has become harder to deliver the project, **the need has never been greater** and so our approach has become even more comprehensive and **tenacious**:

### **1) Adapting to overcome pandemic restrictions:**

#### **a) Zoom sessions**

During the year, we delivered sessions bringing belonging, joy and hope using Zoom for:

- 9 care homes
- 31 care home staff
- 70 residents
- 42 parents or carers
- 79 children

The impact on those older adults isolated in care homes has been far greater than we expected:

- *"We have had to cancel all external entertainers, activity providers, trips, visits and events. Our residents would be totally isolated from their wider community if it wasn't for the TBT families and the church who runs the project."*

#### **Activities Manager, Poole care home**

- *"Being involved in the sessions lead residents, including those with dementia to have a sense of self-empowerment, of validation and recognition of their age and status."*

#### **Music and Arts Partner, south west care home provider**

- *"The connection with the children has been so beneficial. Entertainers performing via Zoom during the pandemic have not been well received on screen by and large. But these sessions have helped the residents to light up and participate, pointing, waving and joining in. Asking questions of the children, singing, actions and playing their part."*

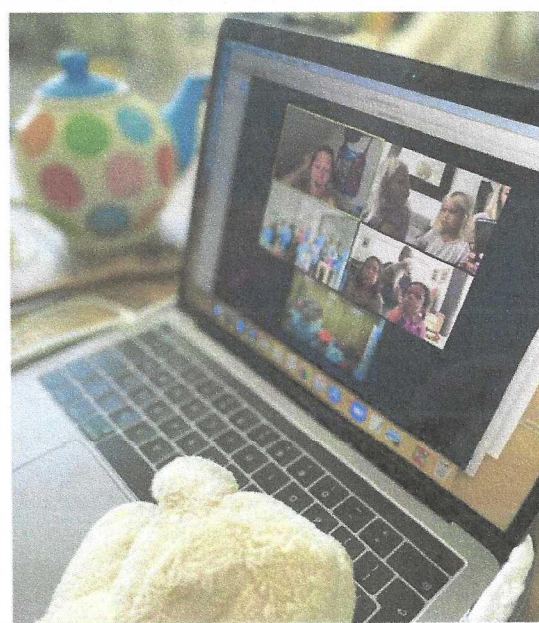
#### **Head of Activities, care home provider**

- *"The reminiscence element is powerful with the songs particularly. One of the residents who often sleeps and rarely speaks took my hand and was able to recall the words to Ring a Ring a Roses repeating "all fall down". She became aware of herself. It was quite extraordinary."*

#### **Music and Arts Partner, south west care home provider**

#### **b) Christmas story video**

TBT was asked by a care home provider to produce a nativity video as there was to be no community contact over the Christmas 2020 season. We rose to the challenge and produced a bespoke story called "Christopher's Perfect Christmas". Here are some statistics:





- 40 children and parents involved
- 70 recordings and pictures submitted
- To produce a **25-minute video**
- The trailer for which received **2.7k views** on social media
- **114** individuals, care homes, organisation and churches registered to watch the video
- **200 DVD's** were sponsored and produced by Four Season's Healthcare Group and distributed to their **139** homes and other older adults in the community.

The impact of the video at such an isolating and concerning time was significant:

- *"Being part of the TBT nativity video had brought such joy and a sense of belonging for both myself and the children... especially in these difficult times when joining together has been impossible."*

**Childminder, Poole**

- *"Our residents enjoyed the show very much and joined in for some of the singing. We would love to see more of TBT in future.... Thank you very much for your hard work, you have made a difference to our residents, thank you very much."*

**Activities leader, care home**

- *"I watched the DVD today and it cheered me up, I so needed that today. It was wonderful!"*

**Older adult in the community, Sherborne**

### c) Including isolated older adults in the community

The pandemic has highlighted not only the isolation of residents in care homes but also on every street in every town in the UK. So to tackle the ubiquitous problem on both levels, TBT trialed a group in the community, hosting sessions in a church building for families and older adults who lived locally. The pilot was highly successful, extended indefinitely and replicated by another church in Devon:

- **100%** of attendees said that "TBT helps me to feel included and offers a sense of belonging".
- **100%** of attendees said that "TBT helps me to feel fulfilled and purposeful".
- **100%** of attendees used the word "joyful" to describe how they felt during TBT sessions.
- **93%** of attendees said that "I feel more connected to the local community because I am part of TBT".
- **80%** of attendees said that "I feel more connected to the local church because I am part of TBT".
- **73%** of attendees said that they felt TBT sessions improved their wellbeing.
- When asked "Would you like to attend next time?" **100%** of attendees said "Yes".
- *"I feel welcomed and part of a little family."*
- *"My children **engage** and communicate more here at TBT than anywhere else"*
- *"The children's **happiness** rubs off and they share it with me."*
- *"I feel **included**, it's so nice seeing others laughing. I miss people joking around."*
- *"You're giving us something to look forward to"*





## 2) Replicating the project to increase impact:

From our first replication in January 2020, there was understandably a pause whilst the pandemic took hold and churches were occupied with their existing ministries. However, there has been sharp uptick in interest to replicate from churches all over the country since Spring 2021:

- **33** attendees to a 'Find Out More' Zoom, March 2021
- Significant explorative discussions with **12** potential Partner Churches
- Working closely with **4** Dioecian leaders to promote TBT across UK counties
- **3** new Partner Churches, trained, resourced, equipped and now delivering sessions in-person in care homes *[pictures of new Partner Church teams in Dorchester and Surrey]*
- **3** more new Partner Churches set to launch in the coming months

Each Partner Church can run multiple groups in different settings, for example in a local care home, in their church building and via Zoom. In each setting, the project can directly impact approximately **133 beneficiaries** annually.



## Financial Review

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Para 1.21</p>	<p>The charity's financial position is set for the growth predicted by the replication indicators described above and in the five-year strategy, which aims for <b>50 Partner Church replications</b> across the UK by 2026.</p> <p>In order to increase impact and the public benefit in this way, it is necessary to increase staff resources by employing a <b>Storyteller Services Associate</b> and <b>Digital Media Associate</b>, both of whom have been providing their services on a freelance basis up until now. The largest investment needed to fulfil our ambitious plans is to employ a <b>Chief Operating Officer</b> to implement the processes, infrastructure and governance needed to enable this growth and successfully support the number of new Partner Churches whilst paving the way for more.</p> <p>Grants during the year were gratefully received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cinnamon Network</li> <li>• Westhill Endowment</li> <li>• Allchurches Trust</li> <li>• Bishop Radford Trust</li> <li>• Valentines Trust</li> <li>• McCarthy Stone Foundation</li> </ul> <p>TBT's social action franchise model means that Partner Churches contribute to the running of their project by paying a Launch Fee and a monthly License Fee to the charity (although this can be covered by grant income if necessary if it will enable impact). This will mean that the charity becomes more self-sustaining as the number of Partner Churches grow.</p>
<p>Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held</p>	<p>Para 1.22</p>	<p>The charity recognises the propriety of not building up funds for which there are no clear expenditure plans. The charities' policy is to allow reserves to accrue to a level of three months' average expenditure, plus funds which may be earmarked for specific projects in the future.</p>

		As the charity is growing, reserves may only exceed this policy level in order to be able to respond positively to new opportunities. This situation is monitored to ensure that reserves do not build up unnecessarily.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£43,027
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution, as lodged with Charity Commission
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	New Trustees are identified through connections made with individuals in the course of TBT's activities. Exploratory conversations occur and if the time/skills of the individual and the needs of the Board align, the person is invited to attend a Board meeting. If this is successful, the person is invited to an interview with two Trustees where they have the opportunity to ask further questions and introduce themselves. If a synergy is identified, the person is invited to become a Trustee based upon the voting of existing Trustees.

## **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name	Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life
Other name the charity uses	Truth Be Told (TBT)
Registered charity number	1190702
Charity's principal address	9 Blair Avenue Poole Dorset BH14 0DA

### **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	Mr Richard Stamp		Whole year	
2	Mrs Jacqueline Last		Whole year	
3	Mrs Karen Todd		Whole year	
4	Mrs Hannah Lawford		Whole year	

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		
n/a		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

**Additional information (optional)**

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

Gemma Gillard, CEO

**Exemptions from disclosure**

**Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details**

n/a

**Other optional information**

n/a

**Declarations**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees


Signature(s)	Jacque Last	
Full name(s)	JACQUELINE LAST	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	
Date	25 OCTOBER 2021 .	

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2021**

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared, without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the accounting records of Truth Be Told: Storytelling For Life and from information and explanations supplied to us.

  
.....  
All Tax Ltd  
17 Mortimer Road  
Bournemouth  
Dorset  
BH8 9HP

Dated: 4th NOVEMBER 2021

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 3 AUGUST 2021**

	2021	
	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Grants	58,500	
Donations and sponsorship	2,783	
Sales of services and products	5,963	
		<u>67,246</u>
<b>Cost of sales</b>		
Purchases	1,043	
Sub-contractors	7,930	
		<u>8,973</u>
<b>Gross profit</b>		<u>58,273</u>
<b>Overhead expenses</b>		
Salaries and NIC	10,693	
Pension costs	229	
Web design costs	1,708	
Computer expenses	619	
Office costs	193	
Training costs	259	
Gifts	153	
Travel and accommodation	304	
Insurance	256	
Accountancy	300	
Subscriptions	296	
Sundries	128	
Bank charges	67	
Depreciation	41	
		<u>15,246</u>
<b>Net surplus / (deficit)</b>		<u><u>43,027</u></u>

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 3 AUGUST 2021**

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	<u>2021</u> £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	
Office equipment	123
	<u>123</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Bank balances	43,204
	<u>43,204</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Creditors and accruals	300
	<u>300</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>43,027</u></u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>	
<b>RESERVES</b>	
Balance at start of period	-
Net surplus / (deficit)	43,027
	<u>43,027</u>
Balance at end of period	<u><u>43,027</u></u>

**TRUTH BE TOLD:  
STORYTELLING FOR LIFE**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS AS AT 3 AUGUST 2021**

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	£	<u>2021</u>	£
<b>1 Fixed assets</b>			
<b>Office Equipment</b>			
<b>Cost:</b>			
As at 4 August 2020		-	
Additions		164	
As at 3 August 2021		<u>164</u>	
<b>Depreciation:</b>			
As at 4 August 2020		-	
Charge for the year	-	41	
As at 3 August 2021	-	<u>41</u>	
<b>Net book value 3 August 2021</b>			<u>123</u>

**2 Details of certain types of expenditure**

The independent examiners' fee for the year to 3 August 2021 was £300.

**3 Staff costs and numbers**

During the year the organisation employed one part time member of staff.  
No member of staff earned in excess of £60,000 in the period.

**4 Additional disclosures**

Prior to the charity being formally incorporated on 3 August 2020, Gateway, Poole acted as a financial agent and dealt with the funds raised for the purposes of Truth Be Told: Story Telling for Life and paid any associated expenses. As at the 3 August 2020 the net funds still available to Truth Be Told: Story Telling for Life were £13,842. These funds were transferred to the Truth Be Told: Story Telling for Life bank account in October 2020 and as the funds were generally derived from grants received have been included as such within the Income and Expenditure Account.