

**Curious Arts**

**Charity No. 1198708**

**Company No. 10709247**

**Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts**

**30 April 2024**

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## **Curious Arts**

### **Independent Examiners Report**

#### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Curious Arts**

**I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Curious Arts for the year ended 30 April 2024.**

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

**As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act).**

**Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's financial statements as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.**

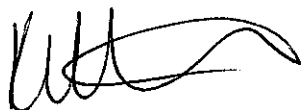
#### **Independent examiner's statement**

**As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of FFA FTA, which is one of the listed bodies.**

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the 2006 Act ; or**
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or**
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements under section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or**
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).**

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



**Kay Wightman FFA FTA  
Accounting for Good CIC  
2 Geordie Ridley Place  
Upper Precinct Wesley Court  
Blaydon on Tyne  
Tyne and Wear  
NE21 5BT  
03 December 2024**

**Curious Arts**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 30 April 2024**

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Notes				
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	5,784	-	5,784	6,866
Charitable activities	5	170,343	199,572	369,915	341,189
Other trading activities	6	261	-	261	5,815
Other	7	-	-	-	117
<b>Total</b>		<b>176,388</b>	<b>199,572</b>	<b>375,960</b>	<b>353,987</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	8	564	-	564	1,439
Charitable activities	9	84,128	220,021	304,149	274,413
Other	10	37,669	-	37,669	26,994
<b>Total</b>		<b>122,361</b>	<b>220,021</b>	<b>342,382</b>	<b>302,846</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net income</b>	11	<b>54,027</b>	<b>(20,449)</b>	<b>33,578</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>		<b>54,027</b>	<b>(20,449)</b>	<b>33,578</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Other gains and losses</b>					
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>54,027</b>	<b>(20,449)</b>	<b>33,578</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>49,330</b>	<b>37,331</b>	<b>86,661</b>	<b>35,520</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>103,357</b>	<b>16,882</b>	<b>120,239</b>	<b>86,661</b>

**Curious Arts**  
**Summary Income and Expenditure Account**  
**for the year ended 30 April 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
Income	375,960	353,987
Gross income for the year	<u>375,960</u>	<u>353,987</u>
Expenditure	341,582	302,071
Depreciation and charges for impairment of fixed assets	800	775
Total expenditure for the year	<u>342,382</u>	<u>302,846</u>
Net income before tax for the year	33,578	51,141
Net income for the year	<u>33,578</u>	<u>51,141</u>

Curious Arts  
Balance Sheet  
at 30 April 2024

Company No. 10709247	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	<u>2,933</u> 2,933	<u>3,733</u> 3,733
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	23,393	24,517
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>123,108</u> 146,501	<u>76,819</u> 101,336
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	15	<u>(29,195)</u>	<u>(18,408)</u>
Net current assets		117,306	82,928
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>120,239</u>	<u>86,661</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		<u>120,239</u>	<u>86,661</u>
Total net assets		<u>120,239</u>	<u>86,661</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds	16		
Restricted income funds		<u>16,882</u> 16,882	<u>37,331</u> 37,331
Unrestricted funds	16		
General funds		73,357	49,330
Designated funds		<u>30,000</u> 103,357	<u>-</u> 49,330
Reserves	16		
Total funds		<u>120,239</u>	<u>86,661</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

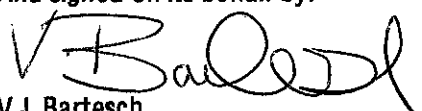
For the year ended 30 April 2024 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

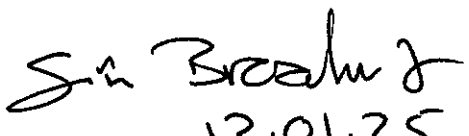
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the board on 03 December 2024

And signed on its behalf by:

 11/01/25  
V.J. Bartesch  
Trustee  
03 December 2024 VERITY BARTESCH

 12.01.25  
SIÂN BROADHURST

**Curious Arts**  
**Statement of Cash flows**  
for the year ended 30 April 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income per Statement of Financial Activities	33,578	51,141
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	800	775
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables	1,124	(24,517)
Increase in trade and other payables	9,574	16,462
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>45,076</u>	<u>43,744</u>
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,883)</u>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	45,076	39,861
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	76,819	36,208
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<u>121,895</u>	<u>76,069</u>
<b>Components of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash and bank balances	123,108	76,819
	<u>123,108</u>	<u>76,819</u>

**Curious Arts**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
for the year ended 30 April 2024

**1 Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

**Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts**

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

**Fund accounting**

**Unrestricted funds** These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

**Designated funds** These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

**Revaluation funds** These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.

**Restricted funds** These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

**Income**

**Recognition of income** Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.

**Income with related expenditure** Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.

**Donations and legacies** Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

**Tax reclaims on donations and gifts** Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.

**Donated services and facilities** These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.

**Volunteer help** The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.

**Investment income** This is included in the accounts when receivable.

**Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets** This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

**Gains/(losses) on investment assets** This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.



## Curious Arts

### Notes to the Accounts

#### Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

#### Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Plant & Machinery	3% Reducing Balance
IT & Office Equipment	3% Straight Line

#### Freehold investment property

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value at each balance sheet date and are not depreciated. All gains or losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise.

#### Stocks

Stock is included at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Donated items of stock are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

#### Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

## **Curious Arts**

### **Notes to the Accounts**

#### **Trade and other creditors**

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### **Research and development**

Expenditure on research and development is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

#### **Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

#### **Leased assets**

Where the charity enters into a lease which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a finance lease.

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to charity are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are initially recognised as assets of the charity at their fair value at the inception of the lease or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet date as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are apportioned between finance expenses and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance expenses are recognised immediately, unless they are directly attributable to qualifying assets, in which case they are capitalised in accordance with the charity's policy on borrowing costs.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

#### **Pension costs**

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the company has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds.

#### **Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services**

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

**Curious Arts**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**2 Company status**

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

**3 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	6,866	-	6,866
Charitable activities	185,315	155,874	341,189
Other trading activities	5,815	-	5,815
Other	117	-	117
<b>Total</b>	<b>198,113</b>	<b>155,874</b>	<b>353,987</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	1,439	-	1,439
Charitable activities	141,942	132,471	274,413
Other	26,994	-	26,994
<b>Total</b>	<b>170,375</b>	<b>132,471</b>	<b>302,846</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>27,738</b>	<b>23,403</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>	<b>27,738</b>	<b>23,403</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Other gains and losses:</b>			
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>27,738</b>	<b>23,403</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>21,592</b>	<b>13,928</b>	<b>35,520</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>49,330</b>	<b>37,331</b>	<b>86,661</b>

**4 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Donations, Gift Aid, Fundraising</b>	<b>5,784</b>	<b>5,784</b>	<b>6,866</b>
	<b>5,784</b>	<b>5,784</b>	<b>6,866</b>

**Curious Arts**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**5 Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Grant Income	39,075	199,572	238,647	155,874
Other Public Funds	11,505	-	11,505	21,976
Earned Income	119,763	-	119,763	163,339
	<u>170,343</u>	<u>199,572</u>	<u>369,915</u>	<u>341,189</u>

**6 Income from other trading activities**

	Unrestricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising Events	261	261	5,815
	<u>261</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>5,815</u>

**7 Other income**

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Other Income	-	117
	<u>-</u>	<u>117</u>

**8 Expenditure on raising funds**

	Unrestricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
<i>Fundraising trading costs</i>			
Fundraising Events	-	-	1,357
Merchandising/Shop Costs	564	564	82
	<u>564</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>1,439</u>

**9 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Core Team Costs	41,254	87,090	128,344	142,143
Marketing Costs	4,775	-	4,775	11,730
Project Costs	38,071	132,931	171,002	120,479
<i>Governance costs</i>				
Board Meetings	28	-	28	61
	<u>84,128</u>	<u>220,021</u>	<u>304,149</u>	<u>274,413</u>

**Curious Arts**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**10 Other expenditure**

	Unrestricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Employee costs	9,029	9,029	3,426
Motor and travel costs	15,992	15,992	16,941
Premises costs	3,560	3,560	800
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	800	800	775
General administrative costs	3,303	3,303	2,340
Legal and professional costs	4,985	4,985	2,712
	<u>37,669</u>	<u>37,669</u>	<u>26,994</u>

**11 Net income before transfers**

	2024	2023
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	800	775

**12 Staff costs**

	2024	2023
Salaries and wages	4,975	-
	<u>4,975</u>	<u>-</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

**13 Tangible fixed assets**

	Plant & Machinery	IT & Office Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or revaluation			
At 1 May 2023	4,000	1,525	5,525
At 30 April 2024	<u>4,000</u>	<u>1,525</u>	<u>5,525</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 May 2023	267	1,525	1,792
Depreciation charge for the year	800	-	800
At 30 April 2024	<u>1,067</u>	<u>1,525</u>	<u>2,592</u>
Net book values			
At 30 April 2024	<u>2,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,933</u>
At 30 April 2023	<u>3,733</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,733</u>

**Curious Arts**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**14 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	22,674	24,185
Prepayments and accrued income	719	332
	<u>23,393</u>	<u>24,517</u>

**15 Creditors:**  
**amounts falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	8,880	1,951
Corporation tax	-	29
Other taxes and social security	7,553	8,479
Accruals	2,862	1,649
Deferred income	9,900	6,300
	<u>29,195</u>	<u>18,408</u>

Curious Arts  
Notes to the Accounts  
16 Movement in funds

	At 1 May 2023	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 30 April 2024 £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>					
Core Funding	7,500	9,950	(17,450)	-	-
Youth Groups	11,000	29,063	(40,063)	-	-
Pride/Mini Pride/Other Events	980	19,382	(3,480)	-	16,882
Awareness Raising & General Support	-	13,787	(13,787)	-	-
Curation Panel & Heritage	8,851	7,020	(15,871)	-	-
Arts Events	-	103,100	(103,100)	-	-
Youth Music	9,000	17,270	(26,270)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,331</b>	<b>199,572</b>	<b>(220,021)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,882</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
General funds	49,330	176,388	(122,361)	(30,000)	73,357
<b>Designated funds:</b>					
Marketing & New Product Development	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>86,661</b>	<b>375,960</b>	<b>(342,382)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120,239</b>

**Purposes and restrictions in relation to the funds:**

**Restricted funds:**

Core Funding	Contribution toward core costs
Youth Groups	Cost towards Newcastle, Middlesbrough and Teesdale Youth Group Sessions
Pride/Mini Pride/Other Events	Cost towards pride/mini pride events & other events
Awareness Raising & General Support	Cost towards pride/mini pride events & other events
Curation Panel & Heritage	Cost toward LGBTQIA+ Curation Panel & Heritage Project
Arts Events	Cost towards arts events and general support
Youth Music	Cost toward Queer Youth Music Project
<b>Designated funds:</b>	
Marketing & New Product Development	Cost of additional marketing & new product development for sustainability

**Curious Arts**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**17 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	2,933	-	2,933
Net current assets	146,503	(29,197)	117,306
	<u>149,436</u>	<u>(29,197)</u>	<u>120,239</u>

**18 Reconciliation of net debt**

	At 1 May 2023	Cash flows	At 30 April 2024
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	76,819	46,289	123,108
	<u>76,819</u>	<u>46,289</u>	<u>123,108</u>
Net debt	<u>76,819</u>	<u>46,289</u>	<u>123,108</u>

**19 Related party disclosures**  
***Controlling party***

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.



**Curious Arts**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**  
for the year ended 30 April 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations, Gift Aid, Fundraising	5,784	-	5,784	6,866
	<u>5,784</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,784</u>	<u>6,866</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Grant Income	39,075	199,572	238,647	155,874
Other Public Funds	11,505	-	11,505	21,976
Earned Income	119,763	-	119,763	163,339
	<u>170,343</u>	<u>199,572</u>	<u>369,915</u>	<u>341,189</u>
<b>Other trading activities</b>				
Fundraising Events	261	-	261	5,815
	<u>261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>5,815</u>
<b>Other</b>				
Other Income	-	-	-	117
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>117</u>
<b>Total income and endowments</b>	<b>176,388</b>	<b>199,572</b>	<b>375,960</b>	<b>353,987</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
<b>Costs of other trading activities</b>				
Fundraising Events	-	-	-	1,357
Merchandising/Shop Costs	564	-	564	82
	<u>564</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>1,439</u>
<b>Total of expenditure on raising funds</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>1,439</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Grant Income	41,254	87,090	128,344	142,143
Other Public Funds	4,775	-	4,775	11,730
Earned Income	38,071	132,931	171,002	120,479
	<u>84,100</u>	<u>220,021</u>	<u>304,121</u>	<u>274,352</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Board Meetings	28	-	28	61
	<u>28</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>61</u>
<b>Total of expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>84,128</b>	<b>220,021</b>	<b>304,149</b>	<b>274,413</b>
<b>Employee costs</b>				
Salaries/wages	4,975	-	4,975	-
Staff training	4,054	-	4,054	3,426
	<u>9,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,029</u>	<u>3,426</u>
<b>Motor and travel costs</b>				

**Curious Arts****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

Travel and subsistence	14,533	-	14,533	16,941
Fares	1,459	-	1,459	-
	<u>15,992</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,992</u>	<u>16,941</u>
<b>Premises costs</b>				
Rent	3,347	-	3,347	758
Premises cleaning	101	-	101	10
Premises repairs and maintenance	112	-	112	32
	<u>3,560</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,560</u>	<u>800</u>
<b>General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation</b>				
Depreciation of Plant & Machinery	800	-	800	267
Depreciation of IT & Office Equipment	-	-	-	508
Bank charges	145	-	145	74
General insurances	609	-	609	166
Postage and couriers	299	-	299	-
Software, IT support and related costs	539	-	539	751
Stationery and printing	588	-	588	-
Subscriptions	550	-	550	385
Sundry expenses	479	-	479	964
Telephone, fax and broadband	94	-	94	-
	<u>4,103</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,103</u>	<u>3,115</u>
<b>Legal and professional costs</b>				
Audit/Independent examination fees	1,650	-	1,650	1,650
Accountancy and bookkeeping	3,322	-	3,322	512
Consultancy fees	-	-	-	535
Other legal and professional costs	13	-	13	15
	<u>4,985</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,985</u>	<u>2,712</u>
<b>Total of expenditure of other costs</b>	<u>37,669</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,669</u>	<u>26,994</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>122,361</b>	<b>220,021</b>	<b>342,382</b>	<b>302,846</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>54,027</b>	<b>(20,449)</b>	<b>33,578</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>	<b>54,027</b>	<b>(20,449)</b>	<b>33,578</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Other Gains</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>54,027</b>	<b>(20,449)</b>	<b>33,578</b>	<b>51,141</b>

**Curious Arts**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

**Reconciliation of funds:**

<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>49,330</b>	<b>37,331</b>	<b>86,661</b>	<b>35,520</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b><u>103,357</u></b>	<b><u>16,882</u></b>	<b><u>120,239</u></b>	<b><u>86,661</u></b>

*Sân Broadhurst*  
SIÂN BROADHURST  
13.01.25

**CURIOUS  
ARTS**

*V B Bartesch*  
VERITY BARTESCH  
11/01/25

Curious Arts Trustee Report *For the year ended 30 April 2024*

## **1. Objectives and activities**

Curious Arts' charitable objects are the promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit through the staging of an annual LGBTQIA arts and culture festival and the provision of a programme of year round local and national arts activities designed to: a) eliminate discrimination and inequality on the grounds of gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation; b) advance education and raise awareness of issues relating to sexual orientation or gender identity and discrimination and the needs of LGBTQIA people and the issues affecting their communities; and c) cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity in relation to persons who identify as LGBTQIA. For the purposes of this clause 'LGBTQIA' is defined as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual.

The company's principal activity is the exploration and celebration of LGBTQIA+ culture through the arts, increasing visibility, dialogue and understanding of the LGBTQIA+ community of the North East.

The organisation strives to improve the quality of life of LGBTQIA+ communities and their friends and families by promoting visibility and opportunities for audiences and artists.

Curious Arts is proud to be championing activity with and for children, young people and families, queer artists of colour and female-led activity.

## **2. Achievements and Performance**

Through the continued efforts of the Curious Arts team and Board of Trustees our offer to LGBTQIA+ communities and allies across the North East and beyond continues to grow and flourish. Informed by the communities we serve, we continue to adapt to ensure our projects and events are relevant and representative. A significant shift during this year was the decision to register our address in Hartlepool and to spread the base of our operations across the region, now with offices in Newcastle and a base in Hartlepool. This was also informed and in response to growing activity in Tees Valley including developing Stockton Pride and reviving support for a

**programme of Prides in the Tees Valley from Tees Valley Combined Authority.**

**2023 saw our flagship event Curious Festival, take a hiatus to rest, reflect and strategically plan whilst developing other areas of programme. We have continued to develop and produce our family-focused event, Mini Pride throughout 2023 -2024. . Delivering a high quality well received activity in cultural and community spaces across the North East and beyond. Building new relationships and meeting communities where they are, from Batley Pride, Trafford, Novum Festival, Kirkleatham and Sunderland Pride. Due to a number of our events being outdoors the weather became a considerable challenge to mitigate around to enable programme delivery was safe and went ahead successfully.**

**We have noticed an increase in negativity towards our family and youth work this is being seen across the country as anti LGBTQIA+ Sentiment and views towards LGBTQIA+ communities continues to polarise with rising hate crimes.**

**Our original outdoor performance Wildflower, also continued to meet audiences and communities enchant audiences across the country Increasing visibility of the issues affecting our communities and increasing the profile of our work. Highlights include performing at Canary Wharf and evolving to a Eurovision trike**

**Organisational development achievements and growth included recruiting and appointing a new chair, developing reserves and shifting key, core roles to a payroll structure, whilst this increased the organisation's liabilities it builds resilience and ensures financial and tax compliance as our operating model evolves.**

**We have developed sector leadership through contributing to and leading on Cultural partnerships including Hartlepool, Redcar and Middlesbrough and holding Youth sector networking events to further collaboration and best practise,**

**We have continued to position ourselves as a key provider of LGBTQIA+ youth arts services in the region, sustaining delivery of regular youth groups in Middlesbrough and Newcastle and testing activity in Sunderland and South Shields, alongside forest school Wild & Curious, working with Birkheads Wild in Gateshead. This year we received multi year funding investment from UK Youth and Children in Need.. Our Youth Activity has broadened its reach including rural areas such as Hexham and Barnard Castle and secured support from Lumo Trains as a sponsor.**

**Responding to increased interest from the museums, heritage and historic properties sector we have piloted activity in National Trust properties and developed activities with Ushaw Historic House and Gardens. Funding from Historic England enabled an intergenerational Heritage project - When you Were Me.. A programme of community engagement, creative writing, illustrations, walks talks and community self archiving**

events. We have continued our term time weekly adults' arts and wellbeing programme 'Creative & Curious' through a partnership with NHS Newcastle Hospitals Trust and Urban Green Park Trust.

We continue to contribute to arts and culture sector development with national impact through our LGBTQIA+ Awareness training. We have delivered Training sessions with our partners Northern Pride to Police forces, colleges, amazon and cultural centres such as Story House in Chester.

We continue our partnerships with Middlesbrough Town Hall, ARC Stockton and Darlington Hippodrome to support artist development programmes which included an artist residency in Gateshead.

We continue to coordinate and deliver Queer Arts North, supporting peer organisations and offering Artist support and commissions.

We continue to raise awareness of our work, develop and encourage best practice understanding through lectures, workshops and guest speaking at conferences on the areas of LGBTQIA+ Culture and inclusion this year we had a presence at the Arts Marketing Association Conference and Family Arts Conferences alongside lecturing at Universities.

Looking forward to our future developments with confidence that Curious Arts will continue to adapt and evolve, but will not defer from our charitable purpose. Promoting equality and diversity and working to eliminate discrimination of LGBTQIA+ communities, through creative programmes that champion, increase visibility and understanding of LGBTQIA+ people.

We are grateful to all of our funders, who have helped us to deliver during the year, in particular we would like to thank the Joicey Trust for their support.

### **3. Public benefit**

The Board of Trustees has referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and planning its future activities. This annual report will aim to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users. The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must meet two key principles and i) demonstrate that they are established for public benefit, and ii) have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission. Curious Arts' beneficiaries are appropriate to its aims, and the public benefits from its work. Benefits are evidenced and relate directly to its aims. The Trustees do not consider that any detriment or harm flows from its work and therefore believe that the charity meets both key principles.

### **4. Plans for future periods**

**Curious Arts continues to be ambitious regarding the scale and quality of our activity whilst recognising the wider impact of our consistent growth on capacity and team well-being. We plan to sustain and develop our existing activity and by:**

- **Continuing to develop tourable works to reach a broad range of public audiences**
- **Deliver community co-produced local pride events across Tees Valley promoting acceptance and community cohesion and upskilling and empowering local volunteer committees.**
- **Stabilising income generation by investing in regular fundraising capacity and continuing to diversify our sources of income. Developing longer term partnership projects to ensure longer and deeper impact of our work. Regularly appraise our fundraising plan to ensure it aligns with our values and ethics alongside striving for larger longer term funding to ensure more robust programmes of activity and reduce fundraising admin. .**
- **Developing original outdoor street performance Groove & Glow to reach night time outdoor autumn / winter festival event audience.**
- **Building balance and depth into our work with focus on priority areas including, Hartlepool, wider Tees Valley and Tyneside.**
  - **Continue to champion diversification of decision making and curating artistic programmes that are informed by the communities they exist to engage.**
- **Develop our online presence through a new website and improve audience engagement and communication through a CRM System.**
- **Continue to develop our youth, community and heritage activity with partners.**
- **Building on the success of our existing training partnership with Northern Pride to reach new audiences s, e.g. leisure and hospitality and corporate sectors**
- **Explore commissioning of new works, artist development programmes and creation of creative assets such as accommodation and installations and new products and projects.**
- **Diversifying and refreshing our Board of Trustees through open recruitment processes to ensure representation of our intersectional society and a range of**

relevant skill sets aligned with our work

### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees aim to firstly hold a level of unrestricted Reserves which enables the charity to have sufficient financial resources to meet various liabilities which would crystallise if Curious Arts's funding were to be withdrawn and/or it were unable to continue operating.

At present, the Trustees estimate that the Unrestricted Reserves required for such purposes amount to approximately £60,000.

If possible, the Trustees then aspire to retain an additional allowance of £10,000 to enable the charity to respond flexibly to issues or appropriate initiatives which might be identified outside of its annual budgeting process.

The required level of Reserves is therefore £70,000. Curious Arts currently holds total Unrestricted Reserves of £71,357 at 30 April 2024. The Trustees will monitor turnover and costs and set objectives to ensure reserves are appropriate.

This policy will be reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis as part of the charity's budgeting processes.

The Trustees regularly review specific liabilities at each Board meeting. The Reserves Policy is re-visited by the Board annually in the light of progress against budget and is updated at the time of drafting the annual accounts.

The Trustees have acknowledged the growth of the organisation and the challenging fundraising climate, with this in mind they have identified the need to invest funds strategically through designating funds. £32,000 will be designated for three specific organisational development activities including;

- A new website and CRM system to ensure the organisation has modern and effective marketing and communication tools which are visible and authentic to the charities work.
- The development of new products and services to ensure the charity is at the forefront of its field in terms of effective activity programmes to make the impact needed to further its charitable aims.
- The development of new intellectual property and capital based strategic projects, ensuring robust research and planning.



## **5. Structure, governance and management**

### **Appointment of Trustees**

The charity currently has a board of 9 non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of four times per year and has taken advantage of the provisions of the Companies Act enabling the waiver of the need to conduct an Annual General Meeting.

Detailed written Board reports and an agenda are prepared by the Chief Executive Officer and circulated in advance of meetings.

Potential Trustees are identified through discussions and recommendations offered by existing Trustees and outside advisors to the organisation, as well as through the formal advertisement of vacancies through arts and charitable networks.

Trustee applicants complete an application process and undergo an interview with a trustee recruitment panel, including the Chair and the Chief Executive, before being recommended to the full Board. Trustees are appointed once the Board has authorised the selection, and on completion of the necessary registration paperwork. New Trustees are offered induction, guidance and required to attend Trustee and Staff away day activities to ensure familiarisation with the charity, its work, finances and their legal duties as a Trustee. New Trustees are inducted by the Chair of the Board, other Trustees and the staff team. They are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of Curious Arts' activities.

From time to time, the Trustees elect a Chair and determine for what period the Chair is to hold office.

### **Organisation**

The trustees administer the charity and the Chief Executive is responsible for managing the work of the charity on a day-to-day basis. The Chief Executive is supported by the Creative Producer as part of the leadership team function. The Chief Executive also is supported by an administration and access worker.

The trustees are aware that the major risk to the organisation is lack of funding. Each quarter the risk is assessed when budgets are compared to actual spend and reserves are reviewed on a yearly basis to ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover five months running costs and any possible redundancy costs.

### **Risk management**

The finance sub-committee has conducted its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and for ensuring the consistent quality of the delivery of all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of

the charity.

As part of its annual business planning process, the Trustees of the charity regularly review the major governance, operational and financial risks the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

Curious Arts has a risk management strategy in place which comprises:

- an annual review of the strategic risks the charity may face via the business plan, • the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified, • the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The Trustees have managed the potential impact of these risks by:

- Introducing contingency planning to cater for ongoing social distancing measures. • Setting prudent budgets with contingencies for the next financial year. • Maintaining a low-cost base
- Reviewing its mechanisms for attracting charitable funding from trusts and foundations.
- Providing regular management accounts, showing performance against budget. • Contingency planning for the actions to take if income appears unlikely to reach its target.
- Adopting a Reserves policy which provides an appropriate amount of uncommitted Reserves, at a level that will always enable the charity to meet all its liabilities, even if income targets are not achieved.
- Creating work plans that specify how work can be re-scheduled or allocated to freelance staff.
- Continuing the development of the company's safeguarding policy and procedures through consultations with other youth providers, drawing on expertise within the board and the continued training of staff.
- Monitoring Trustees' commitment to the organisation and scheduling Trustee recruitment as appropriate.

#### 6. Reference and administrative details

Organisation Name Curious Arts

Company No. 10709247

Registered Charity No. 1198708



Directors & Trustees V.J. Bartsch

VERITY BARTESCH

11/01/25

H Imtiaz

G.E. Longstaff

C Taylor

D Tuffnell

P.C.L Wong

S Broadhurst

J.D Smith

J McAndrew

Registered Office C/O Hartlepool Town Hall Theatre

Raby Road

Hartlepool

TS24 8AH



SIAN BROADHURST

13.01.25

2023

Resigned 6 June 2024

Chair Appointed 4 Sept 2023 Appointed 4 Sept  
Accountants Accounting for Good CIC 2 Geordie

Ridley Place

Upper Precinct Wesley Court

Blaydon

NE21 5BT

2023

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