

Curious Arts

Charity No. 1198708

Company No. 10709247

Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts

30 April 2025

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## **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**

The past year has seen the continued growth of Curious Arts through the hard work and dedication of our team and trustees.

We have significantly increased our impact and reach in Hartlepool and Tees Valley from our new Hartlepool Borough Hall base. Taking an active role in local strategic, cultural and community partnerships in Hartlepool, Redcar and Middlesbrough.

2024 saw the launch of two-year Tees Valley Combined Authority supported project Pride in Tees Valley. Bringing together community planning groups and cultural and community partners to curate Pride events in Hartlepool, Saltburn, Stockton-on-Tees and Middlesbrough. Alongside supporting Darlington Pride Weekender produced by Darlington Borough Council. Creating numerous volunteering opportunities and producing joyful, inclusive celebrations representative of the communities they empowered. As part of this programme we took volunteers to York Pride for a 'Go See' to widen and inform their contributions to planning meetings. Alongside our Pride in Tees Valley work we supported and co-delivered Newcastle

Pride's shift to its new city centre model.

We continued to develop our family programme, scaling up Mini Pride with repeated partners to Curious Takeovers at Kirkleatham Museum, Seaton Delaval Hall and Darlington Hippodrome. Mini Pride continued to provide families across the country with creative crafts with highlights including a return to Canary Wharf and new venue partners Ormesby Hall and Hopetown Darlington.

Following the success of Wildflower we developed one final national tour including Bradford, RHS Bridgewater Manchester and closing at International Children's Arts Festival Boing! in Winchester. Further building on our touring family work we developed glow in the dark touring work, Groove and Glow. An illuminated street theatre performance, the pilot tour included Hexham Lantern Parade, Sunderland Light Festival and Hartepool Fireworks Display. We will continue to develop new work and tour activity widely.

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, Newcastle and Sunderland.

We have invested in piloting new activity including digital content and reaching online audiences through a new podcast - Chatti Patti, spotlighting LGBTQIA+ creatives. Heritage project Curious Histories saw the beginnings of the creation of an LGBTQIA+ archive capturing lived experiences of community members in Newcastle, Barnard Castle and Sunderland. Live Theatre also hosted artist platform Live Theatre is Curious, amplifying Northern LGBTQIA+ artists.

We continue to contribute to arts and culture sector development with national impact through our LGBTQIA+ Awareness training. We have delivered training sessions to varied sectors including arts and care charity Blue Cabin, Further Education establishment New College Durham, Construction Company Morgan Sindell, Finance company Sage, and scientific engineering firm Leica Bio systems.

We continue to coordinate and deliver Queer Arts North, supporting peer organisations and offering Artist support and commissions. This year we piloted a new online Artist Development programme 'Connect & Develop'.

We continue to raise awareness of our work, develop and encourage best practice understanding through University lectures, workshops and guest speaking at conferences on the areas of LGBTQIA+ Culture and inclusion. This year our Chief Executive undertook a Clore Fellowship and research trips internationally, team members also undertook a varied and high quality programme of training. Organisational development achievements and growth included expanding the team with additional administration and producer roles.

We acknowledge a further 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. We are managing this by supporting team members and developing our own internal practice.

We are 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 partners and funders, who have helped us to deliver during the year, in particular we would like to thank the Joicey Trust, UK Youth, Children in Need and PFC Trust for their support.

We also thank

Youth Music for funding our Trailblazers Dec 2024 - 2025 (*restricted funds*)

Woodsmith Foundation for their funding to support community activity in Redcar and Cleveland contributing to pride activity.

Shears (restricted income) for supporting our youth and community activity.

### **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

Recognising Curious Arts continued ambition, scale and growth trajectory and its impact on team capacity and wellbeing; We plan to sustain and develop our activity by:

- Establishing a trading company to increase and diversify charitable income to be less reliant on trusts and foundations. Profits from income donated annually will be generated from commercial activity including -
  - *Commercial event delivery*
  - *Skills development programme including volunteering and Creative sector workforce development.*
  - *Creative and Cultural accommodation*
  - Increased sales of our training, acquiring certified accreditation and focus on Corporate markets and e.g. leisure and hospitality and corporate sectors.
- Continue to develop tourable works to reach a broad range of public audiences. Eg. The Turkey and The Caterpillar, Groove and Glow.
- Begin to develop Curious Arts as a thought leader in the LGBTQIA+ heritage sector, through a multi-year project. Leading the creation of a community focused digital archive capturing local LGBTQIA+ culture and heritage.
- Delivering community co-produced local pride events across Tees Valley promoting acceptance and community cohesion and upskilling and empowering local volunteer committees.
- Scaling up team structure to meet scale and ambition of programmes. Ensuring open recruitment to meet the skills needed for identified roles.
- 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.
- 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 serve and represent.

- Continue to develop our regular youth, community and heritage activity with partners.
- The continued development of online platforms and presence developing digital and online audiences and participation. Explore 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 intellectual property and capital based strategic projects, ensuring robust research and planning.
- 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

Our approach to future plans is underpinned by building resilience, efficient ways of working, partnerships and 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.

### **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 £85,000.

If possible, the Trustees then aspire to retain an additional allowance of £25,000 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 £110,000. Curious Arts currently holds total Unrestricted Reserves of £113,000 at 30 April 2025. The Trustees will monitor turnover and costs and set objectives to ensure reserves are appropriate.

This policy will be regularly appraised by the Trustee finance sub group and reviewed by all 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, the challenging fundraising climate and the increasingly complex political and legal operating context of our work with this in mind they have identified the need to invest funds strategically through designating funds. £65,000 will be designated for three specific organisational development activities including;

- Increased legal expertise and increased insurance to navigate the complex and shifting legal context we are operating in. £10,000
- Development of new products and services to ensure the charity and trading company are at the forefront of its field in terms of effective activity programmes to make the impact needed to further its charitable aims. £20,000
- Research and planning time for capital based strategic projects and partnership development £7000
- Increased staffing costs including recruitment, wellbeing, salary costs, additional fundraising and increased office costs. £20,000
- Finalise development of website and CRM systems. £8,000

## **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. Bartesch

H Imtiaz

G.E. Longstaff

C Taylor

D Tuffnell

P.C.L Wong

S Broadhurst

Chair

J.D Smith

P Holliday

Appointed 10th January  
2025

D J Fahey

Appointed 10th January  
2025

Registered Office C/O Hartlepool Town Hall  
Theatre

Raby Road

Hartlepool

TS24 8AH

Accountants

Accounting for Good CIC

2 Geordie Ridley Place

Upper Precinct Wesley Court

Blaydon

NE21 5BT

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2025.

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company No. 10709247

Charity No. 1198708

Registered Office

Hartlepool Town Hall Theatre  
Raby Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AH

#### Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law.

The following Directors and Trustees served during the year:

V.J. Bartsch

S. Broadhurst

D.J. Fahey

P. Holliday

H. Imtiaz

G.E. Longstaff

J. McAndrew

(Resigned 6 June 2024)

J.D.E. Smith

C. Taylor

D. Tuffnell

P.C.L. Wong

#### Accountants

Accounting for Good CIC  
2 Geordie Ridley Place  
Upper Precinct Wesley Court  
Blaydon on Tyne  
Tyne and Wear  
NE21 5BT

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Curious Arts

Trustees Annual Report

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Signed on behalf of the board

  
V. Bartesch (Jan 23, 2026 09:03:35 GMT)

V.J. Bartesch

Trustee

28 December 2025



Sian Broadhurst

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Curious Arts for the year ended 30 April 2025.

#### 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*

Kay Wightman FFA FTA  
Accounting for Good CIC  
2 Geordie Ridley Place  
Upper Precinct Wesley Court  
Blaydon on Tyne  
Tyne and Wear  
NE21 5BT  
28 December 2025

Curious Arts  
Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 30 April 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	4	4,293	-	4,293	5,784
Charitable activities	5	241,704	281,554	523,258	369,915
Other trading activities	6	1,507	-	1,507	261
Total		247,504	281,554	529,058	375,960
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	1,309	-	1,309	564
Charitable activities	8	61,631	264,436	326,067	304,149
Other	9	109,629	-	109,629	37,669
Total		172,569	264,436	437,005	342,382
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income	10	74,935	17,118	92,053	33,578
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)		74,935	17,118	92,053	33,578
Other gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		74,935	17,118	92,053	33,578
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		103,357	16,882	120,239	86,661
Total funds carried forward		178,292	34,000	212,292	120,239

Curious Arts  
Summary Income and Expenditure Account  
for the year ended 30 April 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Income	529,058	375,960
Gross income for the year	<u>529,058</u>	<u>375,960</u>
Expenditure	435,967	341,582
Depreciation and charges for impairment of fixed assets	1,038	800
Total expenditure for the year	<u>437,005</u>	<u>342,382</u>
Net income before tax for the year	<u>92,053</u>	<u>33,578</u>
Net income for the year	<u><u>92,053</u></u>	<u><u>33,578</u></u>



Curious Arts  
Balance Sheet  
at 30 April 2025

Company No. 10709247	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	3,834	2,933
		<u>3,834</u>	<u>2,933</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	18,143	23,393
Cash at bank and in hand		217,505	123,108
		<u>235,648</u>	<u>146,501</u>
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	14	(27,190)	(29,195)
Net current assets		<u>208,458</u>	<u>117,306</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>212,292</u>	<u>120,239</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		<u>212,292</u>	<u>120,239</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>212,292</u></u>	<u><u>120,239</u></u>
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	15		
Restricted income funds		34,000	16,882
		<u>34,000</u>	<u>16,882</u>
Unrestricted funds	15		
General funds		113,292	73,357
Designated funds		65,000	30,000
		<u>178,292</u>	<u>103,357</u>
Reserves	15		
Total funds		<u><u>212,292</u></u>	<u><u>120,239</u></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 2025 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 28 December 2025

And signed on its behalf by:

V. Bartsch  
V. Bartsch (Jan 23, 2026 09:03:35 GMT)



Sian Broadhurst

V.J. Bartsch  
Trustee  
28 December 2025

Curious Arts  
Statement of Cash flows  
for the year ended 30 April 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income per Statement of Financial Activities	92,053	33,578
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,038	800
Decrease in trade and other receivables	5,250	1,124
(Decrease)/Increase in trade and other payables	(2,005)	9,574
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>96,336</u>	<u>45,076</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(1,939)	-
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(1,939)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash from financing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	94,397	45,076
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	123,108	76,819
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>217,505</u>	<u>121,895</u>
Components of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and bank balances	217,505	123,108
	<u>217,505</u>	<u>123,108</u>

## 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.
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Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
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Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
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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.
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Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.
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## 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.

#### 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.

## 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 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	5,784	-	5,784
Charitable activities	170,343	199,572	369,915
Other trading activities	261	-	261
Total	<u>176,388</u>	<u>199,572</u>	<u>375,960</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	564	-	564
Charitable activities	84,128	220,021	304,149
Other	37,669	-	37,669
Total	<u>122,361</u>	<u>220,021</u>	<u>342,382</u>
Net income	<u>54,027</u>	<u>(20,449)</u>	<u>33,578</u>
Net income before other gains/(losses)	54,027	(20,449)	33,578
Other gains and losses:			
Net movement in funds	<u>54,027</u>	<u>(20,449)</u>	<u>33,578</u>
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	49,330	37,331	86,661
Total funds carried forward	<u>103,357</u>	<u>16,882</u>	<u>120,239</u>

## 4 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations, Gift Aid, Fundraising	4,293	4,293	5,784
	<u>4,293</u>	<u>4,293</u>	<u>5,784</u>

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Grant Income	46,802	281,554	328,356	238,647
Other Public Funds	2,375	-	2,375	11,505
Earned Income	192,527	-	192,527	119,763
	<u>241,704</u>	<u>281,554</u>	<u>523,258</u>	<u>369,915</u>

6 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Fundraising Events	1,507	1,507	261
	<u>1,507</u>	<u>1,507</u>	<u>261</u>

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
<i>Fundraising trading costs</i>			
Merchandising/Shop Costs	1,309	1,309	564
	<u>1,309</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>564</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Freelance Fees	27,194	-	27,194	128,344
Marketing Costs	16,518	-	16,518	4,775
Project Costs	17,757	264,436	282,193	171,002
<i>Governance costs</i>				
Board Meetings	162	-	162	28
	<u>61,631</u>	<u>264,436</u>	<u>326,067</u>	<u>304,149</u>

9 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Employee costs	68,487	68,487	9,029
Motor and travel costs	22,877	22,877	15,992
Premises costs	6,124	6,124	3,560
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,038	1,038	800
General administrative costs	4,298	4,298	3,303
Legal and professional costs	6,805	6,805	4,985
	<u>109,629</u>	<u>109,629</u>	<u>37,669</u>

10 Net income before transfers

	2025	2024
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	1,038	800

11 Staff costs

	2025	2024
Salaries and wages	62,644	4,975
	<u>62,644</u>	<u>4,975</u>

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

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant & Machinery	IT & Office Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or revaluation			
At 1 May 2024	4,000	1,525	5,525
Additions	250	1,689	1,939
At 30 April 2025	<u>4,250</u>	<u>3,214</u>	<u>7,464</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 May 2024	1,067	1,525	2,592
Depreciation charge for the year	813	225	1,038
At 30 April 2025	<u>1,880</u>	<u>1,750</u>	<u>3,630</u>
Net book values			
At 30 April 2025	<u>2,370</u>	<u>1,464</u>	<u>3,834</u>
At 30 April 2024	<u>2,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,933</u>



13 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	16,050	22,674
Prepayments and accrued income	2,093	719
	<u>18,143</u>	<u>23,393</u>

14 Creditors:

amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,728	8,880
Other taxes and social security	8,886	7,553
Other creditors	1,606	-
Accruals	1,650	2,862
Deferred income	11,320	9,900
	<u>27,190</u>	<u>29,195</u>

15 Movement in funds

	At 1 May 2024	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 30 April 2025 £
Restricted funds:					
Restricted income funds:					
Youth Music Trailblazer	-	28,488	(23,056)	-	5,432
Youth Groups	-	54,428	(46,742)	-	7,686
Pride/Mini Pride/Other Events	16,882	140,314	(136,314)	-	20,882
Woodsmith Foundation	-	4,481	(4,481)	-	-
Shears Foundation	-	3,843	(3,843)	-	-
Arts Events	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
<i>Total</i>	<u>16,882</u>	<u>281,554</u>	<u>(264,436)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,000</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	73,357	247,504	(142,569)	(65,000)	113,292
Designated funds:					
New Product Development	30,000	-	(30,000)	20,000	20,000
Research	-	-	-	7,000	7,000
Legal Fees	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Staffing Costs	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Website & CRM	-	-	-	8,000	8,000
<i>Total</i>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>65,000</u>	<u>65,000</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>120,239</u></u>	<u><u>529,058</u></u>	<u><u>(437,005)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>212,292</u></u>

Purposes and restrictions in relation to the funds:

Restricted funds:

Youth Music Trailblazer	Youth Music Trailblazer 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
Woodsmith Foundation	Cost towards pride/mini pride events & other events
Shears Foundation	Cost toward Shears Foundation Project
Arts Events	Cost towards arts events and general support

Designated funds:

New Product Development	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
-------------------------	--

Research	Planning time for capital based strategic projects and partnership development
Legal Fees	Increased legal expertise and increased insurance to navigate the complex and shifting legal context
Staffing Costs	Increased staffing costs including recruitment, wellbeing, salary costs, additional fundraising and increased office costs.
Website & CRM	Finalise development of website and CRM systems

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	3,834	-	3,834
Net current assets	235,648	(27,190)	208,458
	<u>239,482</u>	<u>(27,190)</u>	<u>212,292</u>

17 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 May 2024	Cash flows	At 30 April 2025
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	123,108	94,397	217,505
	<u>123,108</u>	<u>94,397</u>	<u>217,505</u>
Net debt	<u>123,108</u>	<u>94,397</u>	<u>217,505</u>

18 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 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Donations, Gift Aid, Fundraising	4,293	-	4,293	5,784
	<u>4,293</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,293</u>	<u>5,784</u>
Charitable activities				
Grant Income	46,802	281,554	328,356	238,647
Other Public Funds	2,375	-	2,375	11,505
Earned Income	192,527	-	192,527	119,763
	<u>241,704</u>	<u>281,554</u>	<u>523,258</u>	<u>369,915</u>
Other trading activities				
Fundraising Events	1,507	-	1,507	261
	<u>1,507</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,507</u>	<u>261</u>
Total income and endowments	247,504	281,554	529,058	375,960
Expenditure on:				
Costs of other trading activities				
Merchandising/Shop Costs	1,309	-	1,309	564
	<u>1,309</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>564</u>
Total of expenditure on raising funds	1,309	-	1,309	564
Charitable activities				
Freelance Fees	27,194	-	27,194	128,344
Marketing Costs	16,518	-	16,518	4,775
Project Costs	17,757	264,436	282,193	171,002
	<u>61,469</u>	<u>264,436</u>	<u>325,905</u>	<u>304,121</u>
Governance costs				
Board Meetings	162	-	162	28
	<u>162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>28</u>
Total of expenditure on charitable activities	61,631	264,436	326,067	304,149
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	62,644	-	62,644	4,975
Staff training	5,843	-	5,843	4,054
	<u>68,487</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,487</u>	<u>9,029</u>
Motor and travel costs				
Travel and subsistence	20,343	-	20,343	14,533
Fares	2,534	-	2,534	1,459
	<u>22,877</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,877</u>	<u>15,992</u>
Premises costs				
Rent	6,084	-	6,084	3,347

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Premises cleaning	-	-	-	101
Premises repairs and maintenance	40	-	40	112
	<u>6,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,124</u>	<u>3,560</u>
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Depreciation of Plant & Machinery	813	-	813	800
Depreciation of IT & Office Equipment	225	-	225	-
Bank charges	98	-	98	145
General insurances	1,154	-	1,154	609
Postage and couriers	210	-	210	299
Software, IT support and related costs	948	-	948	539
Stationery and printing	476	-	476	588
Subscriptions	1,220	-	1,220	550
Sundry expenses	150	-	150	479
Telephone, fax and broadband	42	-	42	94
	<u>5,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,336</u>	<u>4,103</u>
Legal and professional costs				
Audit/Independent examination fees	1,650	-	1,650	1,650
Accountancy and bookkeeping	5,061	-	5,061	3,322
Other legal and professional costs	94	-	94	13
	<u>6,805</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,805</u>	<u>4,985</u>
Total of expenditure of other costs	<u>109,629</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109,629</u>	<u>37,669</u>
Total expenditure	172,569	264,436	437,005	342,382
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
Net income	<u>74,935</u>	<u>17,118</u>	<u>92,053</u>	<u>33,578</u>
Net income before other gains/(losses)	<u>74,935</u>	<u>17,118</u>	<u>92,053</u>	<u>33,578</u>
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	<u>74,935</u>	<u>17,118</u>	<u>92,053</u>	<u>33,578</u>
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	103,357	16,882	120,239	86,661
Total funds carried forward	<u>178,292</u>	<u>34,000</u>	<u>212,292</u>	<u>120,239</u>










# CuriousArts\_30-04-2025 Final Accounts & TAR - signed by Philip Douglas on 16\_01\_2026, 11\_54\_51


Final Audit Report

2026-01-28

Created:	2026-01-23
By:	Michelle Wright (michelle-wright@hotmail.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAiC2ZWRDQ6v3AonT7j_OvtaT3kTuzJjKa

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