

# GROUNDSWELL ARTS

England & Wales · Charity number 1198895

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [07359937](#)

**Registered** 2022-05-10

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

## Contact

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**Address** Groundswell Arts  
Stroud Green Primary School  
Big Red Building  
Haringey  
N4 3EX

**Phone** 02072638046

**Email** [info@groundswellarts.com](mailto:info@groundswellarts.com)

**Website** [www.groundswellarts.com](http://www.groundswellarts.com)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO (BUT NOT LIMITED BY) DELIVERING ARTS PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AND PROVIDING TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS TO INTEGRATE ARTS AND CULTURE INTO THE CURRICULUM AND COMMUNITY

**Activities:** Groundswell Arts is a London based organisation that designs and delivers creative education programmes for 0 to 11 year olds their families and teachers. We value an inclusive approach to creative learning, which supports and nurtures the wellbeing of children. Our initiatives are designed to reduce educational disadvantage and develop teachers confidence to embed creativity and the arts

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£252,594	£292,918	-	-
2024-03-31	£279,315	£259,182	-	-
2023-03-31	£314,703	£207,834	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Natalie Merritt</b>	Chair	2024-03-20
Anna Sushila Barton-King		2025-12-05
Blaise Grimes-Viort		2017-10-10
Gareth Clayton		2024-03-20
Lydia Ashman		2024-03-20
Matthew Ian Burbedge		2021-11-27
Sarah Crompton		2022-01-05

**GROUNDWELL ARTS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1198895

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# Accounts

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Company number 07359937  
Charity number 1198895

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Report and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**Breckman & Company Ltd**  
**Chartered Certified Accountants**  
**49 South Molton Street**  
**London W1K 5LH**

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**

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## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

#### **Constitution**

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 07359937 incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Company is a registered charity, number 1198895.

#### **Directors and trustees**

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular trustees meetings.

The trustees during the year and since the year end, were:

Matthew Ian Burbedge  
Sarah Helen Crompton  
Blaise Grimes-Viort  
Nick Hewlett                      resigned 24 February 2025  
Gareth James Clayton  
Natalie Sarah Merritt  
Lydia Ashman

#### **Artistic Directors/day to day management**

Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells

#### **Independent Examiners**

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

#### **Bankers**

Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA.

#### **Registered office and operation address**

Stroud Green Primary School (The Big Red Building), Woodstock Road, London, N4 3EX.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the Financial Statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative details set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and 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).

**Objectives**

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document is to advance education for the public benefit with particular reference to (but not limited to) delivering arts programming, for children and young people and providing training and professional development for teachers and educators to integrate Arts and Culture into the Curriculum and Community.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance public benefit: running a charity (PB2).

**Aims**

Groundswell Arts was established in 2010 as a not-for-profit organisation by founders Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells. In 2022 Groundswell Arts made a step change to become a charity.

We value an inclusive approach to creative learning, which supports and nurtures the wellbeing of children. Our initiatives are designed to reduce educational disadvantage and develop teachers' confidence to embed creativity and the Arts into the curriculum.

We use a range of art forms to support the wellbeing of children and their families, paying particular attention to developing children's language and communication skills, their attachment relationships, self-confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. We believe that parents and carers play a primary role as influencers and educators, and all our projects nurture this link between parents/carers and their children. We work closely with education and community settings to engage parents/carers experiencing social isolation or challenging circumstances.

Our approach and process are child-centered, responding to children's ideas and building on their innate capacity for creativity. We promote an inclusive approach to education and consider how every programme can be accessed by all learners. We encourage and empower early years and primary educators to develop and use Arts practices and skills in their work with children and young people, equipping them with the confidence to incorporate this work into their own teaching practice through peer support and training.

**Strategies for achieving its aims and objectives**

Where possible, Groundswell Arts aims and continues to run multi-year projects with the schools and settings it supports. This allows time for a holistic and long-term embedding of our approach. We are working towards a national profile for our approach and are seeking opportunities to expand our partnerships further across and beyond London.

We work with a pool of 25+ skilled freelance Arts practitioners to deliver a range of creative projects for 0–11-year-olds, their families, and educators, reaching on average 4,000 participants per year.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

We were successful in our application to become Youth Music's Learning Partner for their new Energiser fund with funding for the next three years the fund focuses on the voice and creative development of 2–4-year-olds and will involve curating a programme of learning for 11 National Arts organisations the fund is also for the arts beyond music. As part of this we will work with a research partner, develop a mentoring scheme, run two online yearly trainings, monthly organisation reflection meetings, and two-yearly events. This new development for the company allows us to strengthen ties across the country with a variety of large and smaller scale venues, working alongside them to support and grow a community of learning that holds Co-Creation in the early years at its centre and supports our company's development through the work we are already doing.

We have developed National relationships with organisation Blue Cabin who has piloted our project Sing Our Story working with care experienced children and carers in the Northeast of England in Redcar, Darlington, and Gateshead. We are in planning for a second pilot phase of this programme with Take Art, an organisation working in Somerset and Dorset in the Southwest of England planned for next year.

We have continued to develop our Dancing Together programme developing relationships with several funders and new local authorities in London. The programme has now expanded in Haringey, Barnet, Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham. We have also worked with the lead practitioner to develop more training linked to the programme which is being rolled out in Waltham Forest.

Our ongoing development of child-led theatrical projects saw the creation and delivery of the Invention Lab, science and Circus project and allowed us to again fine tune our methodology in the development of this theatrical process. We aim to tour this to 5 schools in 25-26 funding pending.

**Activities**

Groundswell Arts has a number of core programmes operating both in schools and the community. In the past year we have worked with 4,842 children and young people and parents, delivered 47 training and CPD sessions to educators to over 330 educators, and delivered 885 creative sessions.

**Sing Our Story**

Sing Our Story continues to be our flagship programme and is a bespoke song-writing project delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories.

Youth Music has continued to fund this project and we are now awaiting on the outcome of another 2 year funding. Alongside Youth Music this project has also be supported by John Lyons Charity, City Bridge Trust, Haringey Council, Edmonton Community Partnership and Haringey Creates. The project has included a national pilot in partnership with Blue Cabin in the north east of England.

This year we have delivered the project in another 16 London settings and have begun working with the Haringey Portage Service delivering the program directly with 10 families in their home.

We continue to develop trainings related to the project, delivering three training packages to childminders and EY practitioners in Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham each year as well as other bespoke trainings. We would like to continue to market these trainings in the future.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**The Communication Pod**

Designed for the Early Years Foundation Stage, The Communication Pod uses natural resources and interactive technology, built into a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling. The Pod is an inviting space where young children can express themselves and explore different forms of writing and artistic expression. The Communication Pod programme has a strong focus on supporting children's speech and language development. This year the Pod has received support from John Lyons Charity and Barking and Dagenham Family Hubs and toured to 4 schools and 2 Libraries in Brent and 3 Libraries in Barking and Dagenham.

This funding has continued and we are aiming for a 9-week tour in Autumn 2025.

**Energiser Fund – Learning Partner**

As a new large-scale project for Groundswell, it was a busy year fine tuning the delivery, relationships, training and mentoring of the 11 Energiser partnership organisations.

As part of the learning support of this work we have delivered our first learning community event held in Haringey in October. We have hosted our 8 monthly online reflection session and have match 11 organisations with mentors, that have been taken place alongside the partners own project delivery. A second event at the Whitworth in Manchester has been planned for May 2025 and we delivered two online trainings in November and February. It is a significant workload and learning curve for the company, but a very exciting year and one we believe we have risen to the challenge of.

**Invention Lab**

Invention Lab uses physical theatre, circus, and design technology to set up a narrative that requires each class to contribute to solving a dilemma using 'Rube Goldberg' contraptions (chain reaction machines) and the school physics curriculum

During an assembly a group of 'Handy People' arrive to fix the new school bell. They take over the stage in an extremely over the top way using their circus skills and proceed to build a contraption with a bell that's out of reach with a big red control button on the other side of the room, that doesn't work.

What ensues over the following week is series of workshops and physical circus performances with KS2 classes helping the 'Handy People' to complete the machine and finally ring the bell using an elaborate mix of scientific components.

The research and development for Invention Lab was successful, and we completed final reporting to ACE for this work.

We have debriefed with the show director about the successes and challenges of the work and discussed plans for touring the programme in 2025/26.

We are aiming to tour this project to 6 schools and are also looking at other possible partnerships including one with the Park Theatre in Islington.

**Lightbox**

Lightbox is an interactive STEAM project that invites children into an illuminated space and encourages them to explore the use of light, dark, reflection, shadow, and colours. Light Box engages children in creative and scientific observation and investigation leading to puppetry and storytelling. We work with approximately 180-250 early years children per year on this programme.

## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Trustees' Report**

It was a busy year for LightBox with a new commission from the V&A Museum running a monthly accessible session for family's programme for families with SEND. Initially this programme ran until December 2024 but was then extended until December 2025. In addition to this we have run Light-Box projects at the Tate Modern as part of A New Directions – I am Festival 2025 and for Schools and Nursery commissions.

#### **Dancing Together**

Dancing Together was originally funded by Sports Unites and Peabody Housing in 2022/23 and has continued through into 2024/25 with funding through City Bridge Trust, and Haringey Community Chest, and have just received funding from London Marathon fund which will continue until 2028. Dancing Together continues to grow into a regular Groundswell Programme.

We also began a new partnership in Barking and Dagenham Family Hubs towards the end of the year and this will continue into 2025/26. We are also offering the sessions this term at Northumberland Park Family Hub at Eric Alin Community Centre.

Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

#### **Creative Music Making**

We received a commission from Haringey Early Years to deliver a creative music making project for early years professional development in 15 schools between January 2024-June 2024 this was subsequently recommissioned for Jan – June 2025 again.

#### **Let's Create**

We received a commission from Haringey Family Hubs for a new programme supporting toddlers and families in the community with a focus on home learning. We used creative play and music and the theme of schemas (developmental patterns found in young children's play) to inform planning for sessions in two hubs Muswell Hill and Northumberland Park in 2024 with a further block of sessions scheduled for Wood Green Hub in 2025/26.

#### **Training**

We continue to develop CPD for Waltham Forest early years team linked to Sing Our Story with new CPD in puppetry and dance planned for 2025/26 alongside this.

We delivered online CPD for Early Years Music Scotland.

#### **Achievements and performance**

A big achievement this year for the charity was to be given the role of Learning Partner as part of the Youth Music Energiser fund with funding for the next three years. The fund focuses on the voice and creative development of 2 to 4-year-olds and will involve curating a programme of learning for 11 National Arts organisations working with the Early Sector in a variety of art forms from music to dance, drama and environments. Working alongside a research partner, we will develop a mentoring scheme, run online yearly trainings, monthly organisation reflection meetings, and two-yearly conference events.

This body of work aims to build a community of Early Years practitioners working together to build a research-based framework around the practice of Co-creation with children age 2-4.

Groundswell Arts has also continued to grow its Youth Music funded Sing Our Story project. Working with new schools' community centres and local authorities, we delivered 16 projects a year in person, online and in homes.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

We have piloted the project in partnership with Blue Cabin, (Working with care-experienced children) in the Northeast and hope to continue this relationship in 2025/26.

We received the Arts and Culture award from Haringey community collaborative – Cultural Organisation of the Year in 2024.

The Sing Our Story work has also seen an increase in support and funding from a wide range of organizations including, Haringey Creates, Edmonton Community Partnership, Rayne Foundation, City Bridge Trust.

Our new partnership with John Lyons Charity is another exciting achievement for the year.

As part of this 3-year funding we have been able to increase our delivery of work in the Brent, Camden, and Barnet with both our Sing Our Story and Communication Pod projects. This work has had a significant focus around brokering relationships with special needs schools and we continue to develop more experience and knowledge in this area.

With this support we were able to build new partnerships with schools, both mainstream and SEND and also develop a new strand of the Communication Pod project for 2 libraries in Brent.

Invention Lab for schools is a new Arts Council England funded project (funded received at the end of 2023/24 with development taking place this year. It is the latest in our development of participant led theatrical work and is our first time working with Circus and the Science (Physics) curriculum and continues to grow our body of work in this area, with a tour planned for 2025/26

The Dancing Together programme continued to grow with new funding from London Marathon Fund (covering 3yrs) & City Bridge Trust investing in the programme to continue our work with babies, toddlers and their carers, with sessions now delivered across Haringey, Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham.

Our work with the Light Box at the V&A was expected to end in December 2024 but has now been extended until Dec 2025. These monthly SEND sessions have been a great opportunity to work on new areas of this accessible sensory work and also open the doors to working with A New Direction on the I Am festival and our continued relationship with Castlebar School.

In February we worked with Jenn Raven and Callum Given to develop a new vision and mission statement and theory of change for Groundswell which we are fine tuning and looking to release as part of our strategic development in 2025/26 which will also be our 15<sup>th</sup> year since founding the organisation.

**Funding**

Our main funders this year have continued to be Youth Music, Arts Council England, and the London Marathon, with new relationships with John Lyons Charity and City Bridge Trust, with both our Haringey Giving Alleviate, and Foyle Foundation Funding coming to an end.

This was our final Year of our 3-year funding for the Sing Our Story project from Youth Music Catalyser. We have applied for another 2 years under the Catalyser fund and are awaiting an outcome.

This was the final year of a 3 year find for the Recharge Grant from Youth Music Recharge, which was to support organisations post pandemic.

This is our first year of a 3-year grant as the learning partner or Youth Music Energiser Fund.

Arts Council England – Support another new project this year and it is our hope that we can continue this relationship with a tour of this work in 2025/26.

## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Trustees' Report**

Our new funding relationships are with:

- John Lyons Charity – That has kindly awarded us a 3-year grant for projects to be delivered in Brent, Barnet, Camden with a focus on our Communication Pod and Sing Our Story work. This is the first year of this new relationship.
- City Bridge Trust – Has awarded us a 2-year fund, support our Dancing Together programme and Sing Our Story (Portage) development.
- Rayne Foundation – Have awarded us a 1-year fund to support work with care-experienced children in Sing Our Story with a view to developing a longer – term three-year application in the future.

We have received commissions from Haringey family Hubs and Haringey early years for Lets Create and Creative Music Making programmes.

Our Funding from both Haringey Giving – Alleviate finished this year but will hope to apply for further funding in the future.

Along with these new funds we have or will be looking to apply to Garfield Weston Foundation, Henry Smith, National Lotteries and other trusts and foundations.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

At core our carbon footprint remains negligible: we have two full-time staff members. We have small office space and are based inside a school.

We currently work alongside the schools recycling efforts and are a member of the local scrap projects to (where possible) use recycled materials on all of our projects.

We are signed up to Julies Bicycle and use the Creative Green Carbon Calculator in planning our tours, in the hope that this will give us a better understanding for future tours of where our biggest impact is and a better understanding for planning in the future.

We are signed up with the Theatre Green Book framework and use these resources as part of ongoing good practice.

We have implemented a yearly environmental staff audit and policy review Our policy will be linked in our staff and board induction packs.

Leaders will attend training on environmental impact, and it will be a standing item in board meetings.

More widely, environmental responsibility will be linked to our social media campaigns throughout the year where we will raise awareness about different issues that may be relevant to our audience, for example supporting children with climate anxiety.

### **Financial review**

In 2024/25 the charity has continued to build back its reserves from the previous post pandemic year and as at 31/03/2025 these are now £90,728.

### **Reserves Policy**

The company relies on core funding from grant-aiding bodies supplemented by its generation of income from performances, commission fundraising and donations. The policy is to maintain a level of free reserves that would sustain its operation over a three-month period. These are currently lower than our target due to reserves still being built back up post pandemic and also with the timing our current funding streams finishing and starting up again. As at 31 March 2025, our free reserves are currently £45,828.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Restricted and Designated funds**

As at 31 March 2025, the company had £44,900 in restricted funds.

Its designated funds are £31,530.

**Risk management**

Financial controls are in place at operational and board level. Budgets are set and approved by the board who also receive quarterly management accounts. Our Artistic Director, with support from our bookkeeper and the Treasurer of the board of Trustees, manages ongoing accounts.

Our accountants are Breckman and Company, the recognised leading chartered accountancy firm in the specialised field of accountancy for theatrical organisations of all types and sizes.

We have full Employers and Public Liability insurance, Trustees' insurance and our assets are insured at £37K.

Core company costs are carefully calibrated in line with income streams, and project costs are always shared with commissioning partners to mitigate potential financial risks.

Our core structures are minimal and appropriately costed and we have free office space in Stroud Green Primary School. This allows us to maximize finance for our artistic output.

As a streamlined core with resources geared towards our creative activities, financial risk increases in periods of project delivery and requires management specific to each project.

**Structure, governance and management**

Groundswell Arts is a charitable company (limited by guarantee) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. First registered as a Charity on 27 August 2010, Groundswell Arts made the step change to become a charity and amended its Articles and obtained charitable status on 10 May 2022. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

The charity's board meets on a quarterly basis to review the previous quarter and to make decisions on future matters. All key decisions on company matters are made by the Trustees.

The company has a streamlined and sustainable board structure and management core, which comprises two Artistic Directors, with project-based production support. This allows us to keep core costs to a minimum and dedicate maximum revenue towards the creative activities for the public benefit.

**Related Parties**

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with Groundswell Arts.

Any connection between a Trustee with a co-producer, contracted Artist or other worker must be disclosed to the full board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party.

Stroud Green Primary School provides Groundswell Arts with free office space on an ongoing basis.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Small company exemptions**

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 1 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Signed by:  
  
BBFC9FB2B10241D...  
**Matthew Burbedge**  
Trustee

Signed by:  
  
397073BA3CC242D...  
**Natalie Merritt**  
Trustee

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Groundswell Arts**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 24.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

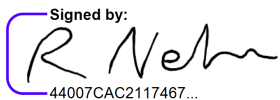
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by:  


44007CAC2117467...

**Richard Nelson FCCA**  
**Breckman & Company Ltd**  
**Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street  
London W1K 5LH

1 December 2025

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>	<b>2</b>						
Donations and legacies - page 12		22,100		22,100	21,600		21,600
Charitable activities:							
Theatre - page 12		65,560	164,934	230,494	59,227	198,488	257,715
<b>Total</b>		<u>87,660</u>	<u>164,934</u>	<u>252,594</u>	<u>80,827</u>	<u>198,488</u>	<u>279,315</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		-	-	-	5,600	-	5,600
Charitable activities:							
Theatre - page 13		80,756	212,162	292,918	61,179	198,003	259,182
<b>Total</b>		<u>80,756</u>	<u>212,162</u>	<u>292,918</u>	<u>66,779</u>	<u>198,003</u>	<u>264,782</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>	<b>4</b>	6,904	(47,228)	(40,324)	14,048	485	14,533
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>38,924</u>	<u>92,128</u>	<u>131,052</u>	<u>24,876</u>	<u>91,643</u>	<u>116,519</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>12, 13</b>	<u><u>45,828</u></u>	<u><u>44,900</u></u>	<u><u>90,728</u></u>	<u><u>38,924</u></u>	<u><u>92,128</u></u>	<u><u>131,052</u></u>

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income from donations and legacies</b>		
<b>Donations</b>		
Other donations	500	-
In-Kind Support: Stroud Green School	21,600	21,600
	<u>22,100</u>	<u>21,600</u>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>		
<b>Theatre</b>		
<b>Theatre income</b>		
Fee income	14,435	25,027
Training income	650	4,150
School matched income	-	15,000
Local authority income	15,000	15,000
Fee Income - non school	35,475	-
Other income	-	50
	<u>65,560</u>	<u>59,227</u>
<b>Project specific funding</b>		
<b>Grants</b>		
Haringey Giving	-	4,940
Foyle Foundation	-	20,000
John Lyons	-	40,000
London Marathon	2,450	17,500
Haringey Community Chest	-	9,885
Arts Council England	2,997	47,478
City Bridge	49,790	-
Youth Music	108,197	58,195
Bagheera Trust	1,500	-
Comic Relief (Groundwork)	-	490
	<u>164,934</u>	<u>198,488</u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Expenditure on raising funds</b>		
Fundraising and publicity of the charity	-	5,600
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,600</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,600</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Theatre</b>		
<b>Production/project costs</b>		
Project costs	156,927	117,483
	<u>156,927</u>	<u>117,483</u>
Support costs - page 14	130,433	133,128
Governance costs - page 14	5,558	8,571
	<u>292,918</u>	<u>264,782</u>
	<u>292,918</u>	<u>264,782</u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Support and governance costs</b>				
<b>Support costs</b>				
<b>Office overheads</b>				
Rent - in kind	21,600		21,600	
Telephone/ internet	611		440	
Insurance	1,317		1,209	
Repairs/maintenance	646		517	
Depreciation of equipment	1,144		1,925	
		25,318		25,691
<b>Administration costs</b>				
Salaries/support staff	91,242		93,000	
Social security costs	4,910		4,910	
Staff pension costs	2,326		2,326	
Staff training	645		314	
Staff welfare	-		350	
Website/computer/software	2,138		2,176	
Travel/transport	2,547		1,948	
Motor expenses	-		325	
Entertaining	88		573	
Printing/postage/stationery	473		467	
Advertising/marketing	-		536	
Subscriptions	81		91	
Sundries	173		106	
Charitable donations	-		50	
		104,623		107,172
<b>Professional/financial</b>				
Legal/professional	482		263	
Bank charges	-		2	
Bad debts	10		-	
		492		265
		130,433		133,128
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Accountancy	3,150		4,400	
Bookkeeping	2,408		4,171	
		5,558		8,571
		135,991		141,699

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Balance Sheet  
31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	1,138	1,163
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	3,200	4,098
Cash at bank and in hand		104,005	136,476
		<u>107,205</u>	<u>140,574</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(17,615)	(10,685)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>89,590</u>	<u>129,889</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>90,728</u>	<u>131,052</u>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Unrestricted funds			
- General fund	12	14,298	38,924
- Designated funds		31,530	-
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		<u>45,828</u>	<u>38,924</u>
Restricted funds	13	44,900	92,128
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>90,728</u>	<u>131,052</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.


Directors' responsibilities:

. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 1 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Signed by:  
  
BBFC9FB2B10241D...  
**Matthew Burbedge**  
Trustee

Signed by:  
  
397073BA3CC242D...  
**Natalie Merritt**  
Chair

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**1. Accounting policies**

**1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

**1.2. Going Concern**

The charity is dependent on the continued support of grant aiding bodies. The trustees believe that the charity will continue to receive this support and accordingly consider that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **1.3. Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

#### **- Donations and legacies**

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

#### **- Charitable activities**

Theatrical income - income from box office, performance fees and sundry other theatrical income is included in incoming resources in the period in which the relevant show takes place.

Project specific funding - when donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

#### **- Donated services and facilities**

Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 1.4. Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

#### - Costs of raising funds

Costs incurred in attracting donations, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### - Charitable activities

Theatre production costs - costs incurred in production and running of productions toured in the year.

#### - Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to theatre production costs.

#### - Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

#### 1.5. Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- Designated funds - these are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.6. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computer Equipment - Straight line over 3 years

#### 1.7. Debtors

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

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 1.8. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 1.9. Creditors and provisions

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.

#### 1.10. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value, and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### 1.11. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually.

#### 1.12. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

## 2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

## 3. Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,144	1,925
Independent examiner's remuneration - independent examination	3,150	4,400
	3,150	4,400

## 4. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses

The trustees received no remuneration during the year (2024 - £nil).

The aggregated amount reimbursed to trustees during the year was £nil (2024 - £nil).

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

<b>5. Staff costs and numbers</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Staff costs</b>		
Salary costs	90,000	90,000
Social security costs	4,910	4,910
Pension costs	2,326	2,326
	<u>97,236</u>	<u>97,236</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2024 - £nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £92,326 (2024 - £92,326).

**Staff numbers**

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Support/production	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

**6. Pension costs**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £2,326 (2024 - £2,326).

**7. Corporation Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

<b>8. Fixed assets - tangible assets</b>	<b>Computer Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
1 April 2024	12,702	12,702
Additions	1,119	1,119
31 March 2025	13,821	13,821
<b>Depreciation</b>		
1 April 2024	11,539	11,539
Charge for year	1,144	1,144
31 March 2025	12,683	12,683
<b>Net book values</b>		
31 March 2025	1,138	1,138
31 March 2024	1,163	1,163
<b>9. Debtors</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	3,150	4,000
Other debtors	50	50
Prepayments and accrued income	-	48
	3,200	4,098
	3,200	4,098
<b>10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	2,151	400
Other taxation/social security	2,339	2,447
Other creditors	-	2,704
Accruals	13,125	5,134
	17,615	10,685
	17,615	10,685

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 11. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2025 there were 6 members.

12. Unrestricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Carried forward £
General fund	38,924	87,660	(80,756)	(31,530)	14,298
Designated funds:					
Haringey Council Family Hubs	-	-	-	3,413	3,413
YM SOS School Fees designated	-	-	-	17,795	17,795
Tate/Lightbox	-	-	-	497	497
Haringey Council Creative Music Making	-	-	-	9,825	9,825
	38,924	87,660	(80,756)	-	45,828
	38,924	87,660	(80,756)	-	45,828

#### **Haringey Council Family Hubs**

Commissioned 3 x 8 week family workshops to explore 'Schemas' (Child development through play) alongside the parents and carers. Creating immersive environments around each schema theme and creating take home DIY workshops for families.

#### **YM SOS School Fees designated**

Additional match fund required buy in for schools to take part in the Sing Our Story, Youth Music Funded Project.

#### **Tate/Lightbox**

A New Direction commissioned light box project to support the 'I am festival' at the Tate Modern.

#### **Haringey Council Creative Music Making**

A council commissioned training for early years practitioners around confidence building around the use of music in settings as a tool for transitions, emotional regulation and development.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

13. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Youth Music	26,742	108,197	(114,892)	20,047
Arts Council England	22,557	2,997	(25,554)	-
John Lyons Charitable Trust	39,810	-	(30,692)	9,118
London Marathon Fund	3,019	2,450	(5,469)	-
City Bridge	-	49,790	(35,555)	14,235
Bagheera Trust	-	1,500	-	1,500
	92,128	164,934	(212,162)	44,900
	92,128	164,934	(212,162)	44,900

#### **Youth Music**

Youth Music Energiser Fund - Learning Partner

To partner with Youth Music to curate the Energiser Fund focusing on the voice and creative development of 2 to 4-year-olds - supporting a programme of learning for 11 National Arts organisations working with the Early Sector in a variety of art forms from music to dance, drama and environments.

Youth Music - Catalyser Fund

To Support our Sing Our Story Programme

Sing Our Story is a bespoke song-writing programme delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories. To date we have created over 3000 unique songs for families in this programme.

#### **Arts Council England**

To support the research and development our new Circus and contraption project Invention Lab. The Invention Lab is an interactive circus performance and science workshops that use a theatrical narrative to inspire the children to development of a Rube Goldberg and complete classroom workshops around the Physics Curriculum.

#### **John Lyons Charitable Trust**

To support the development of our Dancing together & Communication project in the boroughs of Camden, Brent, Barnet. Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance. Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care. The Communication Pod is designed for the early year's foundation stage, its is a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling.

#### **London Marathon Fund**

To Support our Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance. Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**City Bridge**

To cover the costs of running the creative wellbeing sessions, including session practitioners' and a production engineer's fees, a portion of the Artistic Directors' salaries, and a contribution to overheads and administration.

**Bagheera Trust**

To cover the cost of new workshop and project musical instruments.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>General funds £</b>	<b>Designated funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	1,138	-	-	1,138
Net current assets	13,160	31,530	44,900	89,590
	<u>14,298</u>	<u>31,530</u>	<u>44,900</u>	<u>90,728</u>

**15. Related party transactions**

There were no additional related party transactions in the year.

**GROUNDWELL ARTS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1198895

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# Accounts

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Company number 07359937  
Charity number 1198895

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Report and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Breckman & Company Ltd**  
**Chartered Certified Accountants**  
**49 South Molton Street**  
**London W1K 5LH**

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**

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## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

#### **Constitution**

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 07359937 incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Company is a registered charity, number 1198895.

#### **Directors and trustees**

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular trustees meetings.

The trustees during the year and since the year end, were :

Matthew Ian Burbedge	
Sarah Helen Crompton	
Hannah D'Aguiar	resigned 17 October 2023
Blaise Grimes-Viort	
Nick Hewlett	
Gareth James Clayton	appointed 20 March 2024
Natalie Sarah Merritt	appointed 20 March 2024
Lydia Ashman	appointed 20 March 2024

#### **Artistic Directors/ day to day management**

Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells

#### **Independent Examiners**

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

#### **Bankers**

Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA.

#### **Registered office and operation address**

Stroud Green Primary School (The Big Red Building), Woodstock Road, London, N4 3EX.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

The trustees present their annual report together with the Financial Statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative details set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and 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).

**Objectives**

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document is to advance education for the public benefit with particular reference to (but not limited to) delivering arts programmes for children and young people and providing training and professional development for teachers and educators to integrate Arts and Culture into the Curriculum and Community.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

**Aims**

Groundswell Arts was established in 2010 as a not-for-profit organisation by founders Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells, In 2022 Groundswell Arts made a step change to become a charity.

We value an inclusive approach to creative learning, which supports and nurtures the wellbeing of children.

Our initiatives are designed to reduce educational disadvantage and develop teachers' confidence to embed creativity and the arts into the curriculum.

We use a range of art forms to support the wellbeing of children and their families, paying particular attention to developing children's language and communication skills, their attachments, self-confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. We believe that parents and carers play a primary role as influencers and educators, and all our projects nurture this link between parents/carers and their children. We work closely with education and community settings to engage parents/carers experiencing social isolation or challenging circumstances.

Our approach and process are child-centered, responding to children's ideas and building on their innate capacity for creativity. We promote an inclusive approach to education and consider how every programme can be accessed by all learners. We encourage and empower early years and primary educators to develop and use arts practices and skills in their work with children and young people, equipping them with the confidence to incorporate this work into their own teaching practice through peer support and training.

**Strategies for achieving its aims and objectives (short & longer term)**

**Long Term Strategies**

Where possible Groundswell Arts aims to and continues to run multi-year projects with the schools and settings it supports. This allows time for a holistic approach and long-term embedding of our approach. We are working towards a national profile for our approach and are seeking opportunities to expand our partnerships further across and beyond London.

We work with a pool of 25+ skilled freelance arts practitioners to deliver a range of creative projects for 0–11-year-olds, their families, and educators reaching on average 4000 participants per year. We are based in Haringey, North London but also deliver programme's in Enfield, Waltham Forest, Barnet, Brent, and other London boroughs. We have worked internationally with our Sing Our Story project in Galway Ireland and are piloting nationally in Cornwall and the north east of England along with a continued online offer enabling national reach and supporting to care experienced children through Haringey Virtual Schools, Portage programmes and a partnership with Young Lives Vs Cancer to support children across the UK who are being

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

treated for cancer at Great Ormond St Hospital.

We have continued to develop our Dancing Together project and this has become one of our core projects, with various avenues of funding. It has expanded from our local Borough of Haringey into Barnet and Waltham Forest. We aim to continue this growth through 2024-25

Our creative Club project with CPotential ran throughout 2023/24 with positive feedback from children staff and families with many parents and carers asking for more input. Although the direct funding from CPotential has finished we are now looking to grow both our SEND and PMLD accessible workshops and have been recently commissioned to deliver neurodiverse sensory sessions for the V&A Museum South Kensington and have an increasing number of special needs schools engaging with our Pod and Sing Our Story programmes.

**Activities**

Groundswell Arts has a number of core programmes operating both in schools and the community.

In the past year we have worked with 2180 children and young people, delivered 56 training and CPD sessions to educators to over 200 educators, and delivered 693 creative sessions.

**Sing Our Story**

Sing Our Story continues to be our flagship programme and is a bespoke song-writing project delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories.

Youth Music has continued to fund this project with an additional 3 years funding. The project has included national pilots planned in partnership with Blue Cabin in the north east of England and Wild Young Parents in Cornwall.

This year we have delivered the project in another 16 London settings and have begun working with the Haringey Portage Service delivering the program directly with families in their home.

We have been lucky to have also received funding from John Lyons charitable trust to extend it in 2024/25 and work more directly with schools in the Boroughs of Brent, Barnet and Camden.

We continue to develop training related to the project delivering three training packages to childminders and EY practitioners in Waltham Forest each year as well as other bespoke trainings. We would like to continue to market these trainings in the future.

**The Communication Pod**

Designed for the Early Years Foundation Stage, The Communication Pod uses natural resources and interactive technology, built into a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling. The Pod is an inviting space where young children can express themselves and explore different forms of writing and artistic expression. The Communication Pod programme has a strong focus on supporting children's speech and language development. This year the Pod has received support from Arts Council England and is touring to six schools in Enfield and Haringey including two special schools.

The Communication Pod received funding from Arts Council England to do a small tour to schools and Nurseries in summer 2023 which allowed us to work with 2 new settings The Grove (a special school) and St Mary's Priory. Alongside this we worked with Haringey Family Hubs and delivered sessions at Triangle Children's Centre for families in their community.

We have received funding again through John Lyons Charitable Trust, to deliver this to 6 Schools in Brent next year.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Forgotten Stories**

Forgotten Stories is a theatrically led interactive project for primary aged children. A team of researchers (actors) are in residence in schools for 2 weeks working with classes in their interactive research pod. Designed to capture children's imagination, Forgotten Stories encourages a sense of exploration, research and deduction which inspires children's creative and persuasive writing. Forgotten Stories was funded by Arts Council England in 2022/23 to develop, rehearse, and restage the tour. As part of the end of this funding we worked with 2 schools in June 2023 (Belmont Infants and a new partner, Earlham Primary) to deliver this 2 week interactive show.

**Lightbox**

Lightbox is an interactive STEAM project that invites children into an illuminated space and encourages them to explore the use of light, dark, reflection, shadow, and colours. Lightbox engages children in creative and scientific observation and investigation leading to puppetry and storytelling. We work with approximately 180-250 early years children per year on this programme.

It was a busy year for Lightbox with projects taking place as part of our CPotential creative club project, working with children with PMLD, and also as part of a new commission from the V&A Museum. We are in the process of creating a Sensory Light project as part of the V&A's families programme for families with SEND. It runs up until December 2024 and has given us a great opportunity to develop our work further by creating open ended sensory activities in response to the V&A collection.

**Dancing Together**

Dancing Together was originally funded by Sports Unites and Peabody Housing in 2022/23

Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

In 2023/24 the project received additional funding from the London Marathon and Haringey Community Chest and continues to grow into a regular Groundswell Programme.

**Achievements and performance**

Groundswell Arts has continued to grow throughout 2023/24 with its continued support from Youth Music for our Sing Our Story project.

Sing Our Story continues to work with new schools' community centres and local authorities, delivering 16 projects a year in person, online and in homes.

Due to the impending pressures surrounding school budgets, we did lots of work in the Spring trying to meet with people within local authorities and build on strategic partnerships to find ways of making the programme more affordable for schools and this has been quite successful for 2023/24.

We have raised in relation to this programme:

- £2,000 from Magdalen Hospital Trust towards reducing the cost of four schools in Edmonton participating.
- £1,500 for three schools in the Edmonton Community Partnership to participate.
- £4,500 from Haringey Early Help team via the disability access fund for 9 Haringey schools or PVIs via the disability access fund paying £500 per school instead of £1,000.
- £6,000 from Waltham Forest towards 6 schools participating in Sing Our Story via Storytelling funding.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

- £500 from Enfield Music Service towards West Lea pilot programme.

As a result, we have lots of brand-new emerging school partnerships for next year: 6 new schools in Waltham Forest and 3 new Sing Our Story schools in Enfield.

Our national pilots with partners Blue Cabin (Newcastle) and another new partner in the south west of England have been lined up for 2024/25.

At the end of 2022/23 we received a direct commission from CPotential, a children's therapy centre in Muswell Hill that works with children and families with movement disorders from around greater London:

- We delivered 24 family activities over 12 months from April 2023 – March 2024, giving us the opportunity to develop the accessibility of many of our existing projects and time to develop new ideas, working and coordinating with the therapist at the centre and with the children and families at the centre.
- During the year, we delivered a number of puppet shows and workshops, music sessions, light and sensory play, sushi and origami making, lantern making, clay, animation, green screen and paint workshops among others.
- We had regular core group drop ins throughout. All families gave great feedback from the workshops and many asked about ongoing sessions elsewhere and expressed a need for more accessible projects in general.

As an extension to this, in February 2024 we were approached by the V&A Museum, Exhibition Road to deliver 8 monthly activities to be delivered from April 2024 - Dec 2024.

The Dancing Together programme continued to grow throughout the year with both the Haringey Community Chest and London Marathon Fund investing in the programme to continue our work with babies, toddlers and their carers, with over 22 sessions delivered across Park Lane, Triangle and Welbourne Children's Centres and a very successful term at Earlsmead Primary and also Noel Park.

At the end of 2023, our 3-year Story Lab programme funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation came to an end and we are seeking new funds to continue the work. The Story Lab programme was a three year project working with 5 schools across Haringey, over 2200 children, 120 teachers and 100 families and featured a report written by Dr Jonathan Barnes.

### **Funding**

Our main funders this year have continued to be Youth Music, Art Council England, the London Marathon Foundation, The Foyle Foundation and local authorities.

As at the end of 2023/24, we have also received a number of multiyear grants from new funds to carry us into the new year, these include:

- A new Youth Music Fund: Learning Partner, which is 3 years of funding to be the mentoring partner for its national energizer fund
- 2 years of multiple project and core funding from The Rayne Foundation
- 3 years funding from John Lyons
- A new project development grant from Arts Council England
- A commission by the V&A
- Haringey Council

Along with these new funds we will be looking to reapply to Paul Hamlyn to extend our work on the Story Lab project, along with other funding applications to the Linder Foundation, Hargreaves Foundation, Garfield Weston, The National Lotteries.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Environmental Sustainability**

At core our carbon footprint remains negligible: we have two full-time staff members. We have small office space and are based inside a school.

We currently work alongside the schools recycling efforts and are a member of the local scrap projects to (where possible) use recycled materials on all of our projects

We are signed up to Julies Bicycle and have planned to use the Creative Green Carbon Calculator in planning our tours, in the hope that this will give us a better understanding for future tours of where our most impact is and a better understanding for planning in the future.

We have implemented a yearly environmental staff audit and policy review Our policy will be linked in our staff and board induction packs.

Leaders will attend training on environmental impact, and it will be a standing item in board meetings.

More widely, environmental responsibility will be linked to our social media campaigns throughout the year where we will raise awareness about different issues that may be relevant to our audience, for example supporting children with climate anxiety.

We have entered into a data sharing agreement with Stroud Green School where our office is based.

**Financial review**

In 2023/24 the charity has continued to build back its reserves from the previous post pandemic year and these are now at £131,052.

**Reserves Policy**

The company relies on core funding from grant-aiding bodies supplemented by its generation of income from performances, commission fundraising and donations. The policy is to maintain a level of free reserves that would sustain its operation over a three-month period. As at 31st March 2024 this was be £38,924.

**Restricted and Designated funds**

At present the company has £92,128 Restricted funds.  
It's free reserves are £38,924

**Risk management**

Financial controls are in place at operational and board level. Budgets are set and approved by the board who also receive quarterly management accounts. Our Artistic Director, with support from our bookkeeper and the Treasurer of the board of Trustees, manages ongoing accounts.

Our accountants are Breckman and Company, the recognised leading chartered accountancy firm in the specialised field of accountancy for theatrical organisations of all types and sizes.

We have full Employers and Public Liability insurance, Trustees' insurance and our assets are insured at £33K.

Core company costs are carefully calibrated in line with income streams, and project costs are always shared with commissioning partners to mitigate potential financial risks.

Our core structures are minimal and appropriately costed and we have free office space in Stroud Green Primary School. This allows us to maximize finance for our artistic output.

As a streamlined core with resources geared towards our creative activities, financial risk increases in periods of project delivery and requires management specific to each project.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Structure, governance and management**

Groundswell Arts is a charitable company (limited by guarantee) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. First registered as a Not for Profit on 27/08/2010, Groundswell Arts made the step change to become a charity and amended its Articles and obtained charitable status on 10/05/2022. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

The charity's board meets on a quarterly basis to review the previous quarter and to make decisions on future matters. All key decisions on company matters are made by the Trustees.

The company has a streamlined and sustainable board structure and management core, which comprises two Artistic Directors, with project-based production support. This allows us to keep core costs to a minimum and dedicate maximum revenue towards the creative activities for the public benefit.

**Related Parties**

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with Groundswell Arts.

Any connection between a Trustee with a co-producer, contracted Artist or other worker must be disclosed to the full board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party.

Stroud Green Primary School provides Groundswell Arts with free office space on an ongoing basis.

**Small company exemptions**

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 23 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by



**Matthew Burbadge**

**Trustee**



**Natalie Merritt**

**Trustee**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Groundswell Arts**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 23.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Richard Nelson*

**Richard Nelson FCCA  
Breckman & Company Ltd  
Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street  
London W1K 5LH

23 December 2024

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>	<b>2</b>						
Donations and legacies - page 10		21,600		21,600	21,600		21,600
Charitable activities:							
Theatre - page 10		59,227	198,488	257,715	18,025	270,878	288,903
Other - page 10	<b>3</b>	-	-	-	4,200	-	4,200
<b>Total</b>		<u>80,827</u>	<u>198,488</u>	<u>279,315</u>	<u>43,825</u>	<u>270,878</u>	<u>314,703</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		5,600	-	5,600	-		-
Charitable activities:							
Theatre - page 11		61,179	198,003	259,182	28,599	179,235	207,834
<b>Total</b>		<u>66,779</u>	<u>198,003</u>	<u>264,782</u>	<u>28,599</u>	<u>179,235</u>	<u>207,834</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>4</b>	14,048	485	14,533	15,226	91,643	106,869
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>24,876</u>	<u>91,643</u>	<u>116,519</u>	<u>9,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,650</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>12, 13</b>	<u><u>38,924</u></u>	<u><u>92,128</u></u>	<u><u>131,052</u></u>	<u><u>24,876</u></u>	<u><u>91,643</u></u>	<u><u>116,519</u></u>

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income from donations and legacies</b>		
<b>Donations</b>		
In-Kind Support: Stroud Green School	21,600	21,600
	<u>21,600</u>	<u>21,600</u>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>		
<b>Theatre</b>		
<b>Theatre income</b>		
Fee income	25,027	17,775
Training income	4,150	250
School matched income	15,000	-
Local authority income	15,000	-
Other income	50	-
	<u>59,227</u>	<u>18,025</u>
<b>Project specific funding</b>		
<b>Grants</b>		
Haringey Giving	4,940	-
Foyle Foundation	20,000	-
John Lyons	40,000	-
London Marathon	17,500	-
Haringey Community Chest	9,885	-
GLA Sports Unites Fund	-	14,242
Haringey Council Virtual Schools	-	6,300
Arts Council England	47,478	22,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	115,913
Youth Music	58,195	83,887
Peabody	-	15,726
Comic Relief (Groundwork)	490	12,810
	<u>198,488</u>	<u>270,878</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Theatre Tax Relief (TTR)	-	4,200
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,200</u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Expenditure on raising funds</b>		
Fundraising and publicity of the charity	5,600	-
	<u>5,600</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>5,600</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
 <b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
 <b>Theatre</b>		
 <b>Production/project costs</b>		
Project costs	117,483	147,249
Fees	-	5,956
	<u>117,483</u>	<u>153,205</u>
 Support costs - page 12	138,728	47,708
Governance costs - page 12	8,571	6,921
	<u>259,182</u>	<u>207,834</u>
	<u><u>259,182</u></u>	<u><u>207,834</u></u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Support and governance costs</b>				
<b>Office overheads</b>				
Rent - in kind	21,600		21,600	
Telephone/ internet	440		400	
Insurance	1,209		1,122	
Repairs/maintenance	517		151	
Depreciation of equipment	1,925		1,680	
		<u>25,691</u>		<u>24,953</u>
<b>Administration costs</b>				
Salaries/support staff	93,000		18,345	
Social security costs	4,910		-	
Staff pension costs	2,326		-	
Staff training	314		389	
Staff welfare	350		-	
Website/computer/software	2,176		2,253	
Travel/transport	1,948		147	
Motor expenses	325		-	
Entertaining	573		17	
Printing/postage/stationery	467		149	
Fundraising costs	5,600		-	
Advertising/marketing	536		215	
Subscriptions	91		65	
Sundries	106		207	
Charitable donations	50		-	
		<u>112,772</u>		<u>21,787</u>
<b>Professional/financial</b>				
Legal/professional	263		535	
Bank charges	2		-	
		<u>265</u>		<u>535</u>
Deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets		-		433
		<u>138,728</u>		<u>47,708</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Accountancy	4,400		3,000	
Bookkeeping	4,171		3,921	
		<u>8,571</u>		<u>6,921</u>
		<u>147,299</u>		<u>54,629</u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Balance Sheet  
31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	1,163	1,919
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	4,098	7,027
Cash at bank and in hand		136,476	110,938
		<u>140,574</u>	<u>117,965</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(10,685)</u>	<u>(3,365)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>129,889</u>	<u>114,600</u>
<b>Total assets less current over total assets</b>		<u><u>131,052</u></u>	<u><u>116,519</u></u>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Unrestricted funds	12	38,924	24,876
Restricted funds	13	92,128	91,643
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u><u>131,052</u></u>	<u><u>116,519</u></u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 23 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by



**Matthew Burbadge**  
Trustee



**Natalie Merritt**  
Chair

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**1. Accounting policies**

**1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

**1.2. Going Concern**

The charity is dependent on the continued support of grant aiding bodies. The trustees believe that the charity will continue to receive this support and accordingly consider that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024**

#### **1.3. Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

#### **- Donations and legacies**

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

#### **- Charitable activities**

Theatrical income - income from box office, performance fees and sundry other theatrical income is included in incoming resources in the period in which the relevant show takes place.

Project specific funding - when donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

#### **- Donated services and facilities**

Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 1.4. Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

#### - Charitable activities

Theatre production costs - costs incurred in production and running of productions toured in the year.

#### - Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to theatre production costs.

#### - Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

#### 1.5. Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.6. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computer Equipment                      -      Straight line over 3 years

#### 1.7. Debtors

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

#### 1.8. Production costs in advance

Costs incurred in respect of a theatre production which opens in the following accounting period, and which are to be paid out of general unrestricted funds, are carried forward at the balance sheet date.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**1.9. Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**1.10. Creditors and provisions**

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.

**1.11. Financial Instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value, and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**1.12. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements**

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually.

**1.13. Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

**2. Incoming resources**

**3. Other income**

Other income includes a claim under the Theatre Tax Relief (TTR) scheme, which is available on qualifying pre-production expenditure.

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Theatre Tax Relief	-	4,200
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>4. Net income for the year is stated after charging:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,925	1,680
Deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	433
Independent examiner's remuneration - independent examination	3,000	3,000
	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
<b>5. Staff costs and numbers</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Staff costs</b>		
Salary costs	90,000	18,066
Social security costs	4,910	-
Pension costs	2,326	-
	<u>97,236</u>	<u>18,066</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2023 - £nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £92,326 (2023 - £18,066).

**Staff numbers**

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Support/production	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

**6. Pension costs**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £2,326 (2023 - £nil).

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 7. Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

#### 8. Fixed assets - tangible assets

	<b>Computer Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
1 April 2023	11,533	11,533
Additions	1,169	1,169
31 March 2024	12,702	12,702
<b>Depreciation</b>		
1 April 2023	9,614	9,614
Charge for year	1,925	1,925
31 March 2024	11,539	11,539
<b>Net book values</b>		
31 March 2024	1,163	1,163
31 March 2023	1,919	1,919

#### 9. Debtors

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	4,000	2,200
Other debtors	50	50
Production costs in advance	-	356
Prepayments and accrued income	48	4,421
	4,098	7,027

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	400	-
Other taxation/social security	2,447	-
Other creditors	2,704	-
Accruals	5,134	3,365
	<u>10,685</u>	<u>3,365</u>

**11. Limited by guarantee**

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2024 there were 7 members.

<b>12. Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Brought forward</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Outgoing resources</b>	<b>Carried forward</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General fund	<u>24,876</u>	<u>80,827</u>	<u>(66,779)</u>	<u>38,924</u>

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

13. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	34,955	-	(34,955)	-
Youth Music	31,150	58,195	(62,603)	26,742
Peabody	8,840	-	(8,840)	-
Comic Relief (Groundwork)	4,593	490	(5,083)	-
Arts Council England	7,980	47,478	(32,901)	22,557
Haringey Council Virtual Schools (HVS)	4,125	-	(4,125)	-
John Lyons Charitable Trust	-	40,000	(190)	39,810
London Marathon Fund	-	17,500	(14,481)	3,019
Foyle Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Haringey Community Chest	-	9,885	(9,885)	-
Haringey Giving	-	4,940	(4,940)	-
	91,643	198,488	(198,003)	92,128
	91,643	198,488	(198,003)	92,128

#### **Paul Hamlyn Foundation**

To support the 3rd year of our Story Lab Project

Story lab focuses on digital literacy and storytelling for children aged 2-11 years, using animation and green screen apps alongside art and drama techniques to bring learning alive. The programme ran in five Haringey schools, supporting teacher development, 1-1 learning interventions and family programmes, reaching 900 children and 70 parents/carers per year.

#### **Youth Music**

To Support our Sing Our Story Programme

Sing Our Story is a bespoke song-writing programme delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories. To date we have created over 3000 unique songs for families in this programme.

#### **Peabody**

To Support our Dancing together programme.

#### **Comic Relief (Groundwork)**

To support our Space to create project

Space to create is a programme for under fives and their families, working to create light and sound environments, using mixed material recycling, UV, paint and musical instruments. Space to create explores creativity through a sensory environment.

## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024**

#### **Arts Council England**

To support the research and development our new Circus and contraption project Invention Lab, and the continued funding for the final tour dates for the previously funded Communication Pod and Forgotten Stories tour to nurseries & primary schools.

The Invention Lab is an interactive circus performance and science workshops that use a theatrical narrative to inspire the children to development of a Rube Goldberg and complete classroom workshops around the Physics Curriculum.

The Communication Pod is designed for the early year's foundation stage, its is a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling.

Forgotten Stories is a theatrically led interactive project for primary aged children. Designed to capture children's imagination, Forgotten Stories encourages a sense of exploration, research and deduction which inspires children's creative and persuasive writing.

#### **Haringey Council Virtual Schools (HVS)**

To support the Haringey Virtual Schools, online adaptation of our Sing Our Story project working with care-experienced children, their carers and social workers to create a personalised bespoke song, through an online platform.

#### **John Lyons Charitable Trust**

To support the development of our Dancing together & Communication project in the boroughs of Camden, Brent, Barnet.

Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance. Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups.

Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

The Communication Pod is designed for the early year's foundation stage, its is a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling.

#### **London Marathon Fund**

To Support our Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance. Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

#### **Foyle Foundation**

£20,000 towards core costs that support project delivery of Dancing together and Sing Our Story Programmes

#### **Haringey Community Chest**

To support the continued delivery of the Dancing together programme at Earlsmead Primary School.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Haringey Giving**

To create and deliver 5 weeks of SEND sensory workshops for children's 2-5 years old at Triangle Family Hub.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>General funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	1,163	-	1,163
Net current assets	37,761	92,128	129,889
	<u>38,924</u>	<u>92,128</u>	<u>131,052</u>

**15. Related party transactions**

There were no additional related party transactions in the year.

**GROUNDWELL ARTS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1198895

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# Accounts

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Company number 07359937  
Charity number 1198895

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Report and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**Breckman & Company Ltd**  
**Chartered Certified Accountants**  
**49 South Molton Street**  
**London W1K 5LH**

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**

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## **Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

#### **Constitution**

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 07359937 incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Company is a registered charity, number 1198895.

#### **Directors and trustees**

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular trustees meetings.

The trustees during the year and since the year end, were :

Matthew Ian Burbedge

Sarah Helen Crompton

Hannah D'Aguiar

Resigned on 17 October 2023

Blaise Grimes-Viort

Nick Hewlett

#### **Chief executive/day to day management**

Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells

#### **Independent Examiners**

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

#### **Bankers**

Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA.

#### **Registered office and operation address**

Stroud Green Primary School (The Big Red Building), Woodstock Road, London, N4 3EX.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative details set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and 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).

**Objectives**

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document is to advance education for the public benefit with particular reference to (but not limited by) delivering arts programmes for children and young people and providing training and professional development for teachers and educators to integrate Arts and Culture into the Curriculum and Community.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

**Aims**

Groundswell Arts was established in 2010 as a not-for-profit Organisation by founders Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells, In 2022 Groundswell Arts made that step change to become a Charity.

We value an inclusive approach to creative learning, which supports and nurtures the wellbeing of children.

Our initiatives are designed to reduce educational disadvantage and develop teachers' confidence to embed creativity and the arts into the curriculum.

We use a range of art forms to support the wellbeing of children and their families, paying particular attention to developing children's language and communication skills, their attachments, self-confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. We believe that parents and carers play a primary role as influencers and educators, and all our projects nurture this link between parents/carers and their children. We work closely with education and community settings to engage parents/carers experiencing social isolation or challenging circumstances.

Our approach and process are child-centred, responding to children's ideas and building on their innate capacity for creativity. We promote an inclusive approach to education and consider how every programme can be accessed by all learners. We encourage and empower early years and primary educators to develop and use arts practices and skills in their work with children and young people, equipping them with the confidence to incorporate this work into their own teaching practice through peer support and training.

**Strategies for achieving its aims and objectives (short & longer term)**

**Long Term Strategies**

Where possible Groundswell Arts aims to run multi year projects with the schools and setting it supports. The allows time for a holistic approach and long term embedding of our processes.

We work with a pool of 25 skilled freelance arts practitioners to deliver a range of creative projects for 0–11-year-olds, their families, and educators reaching on average 4,000 participants per year. We are based in Haringey, North London but also deliver programmes in Enfield, Waltham Forest, Barnet, Brent, and other London boroughs. We have worked internationally piloting our music programme Sing Our Story in Galway Ireland in 2018/19. Sing Our Story is now piloting in Kent, Cornwall and Newcastle. We have established an online offer for this work enabling national reach and supporting care experienced children through Haringey Virtual School and a partnership with Young Lives Vs Cancer to support children across the UK who are being

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

treated for cancer at Great Ormond St Hospital. This year Sing our Story was shortlisted for a Fantastic for Families Innovation and Impact Award. We also recently won the award for Community Impact in the Arts and Culture category for Haringey in 2022.

**Activities**

Groundswell Arts has a number of core programmes operating both in schools and the community.

**Sing Our Story**

Sing Our Story is a bespoke song-writing programme delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories. To date we have created over 3,000 unique songs for families in this programme. Feedback from 176 participants involved in our Youth Music funded Sing our Story in 2022 indicated 90.2% of families felt that participation in the programme benefited their relationship with their schools or EY settings. 99.3% of respondents indicated that their child's emotional wellbeing and confidence had improved because of their participation, and 90% of schools involved felt it had improved their relationship with parents.

This programme was previously funded by Creative Ireland and piloted in three Galway settings in 2019.

Two academic reports about the impact of this programme have been produced by Dr Jonathan Barnes for the Sydney De Haan Centre of Arts and Health at Christchurch Canterbury University. Groundswell Arts also delivers training based around the Sing Our Story programme such as a current series of courses for childminders and private sector nurseries commissioned by Waltham Forest Early Years Team. Our programmes have also recently been shortlisted for the Innovation and Impact Award under the Fantastic for Families initiative.

*'This is such a brilliant project! We feel so lucky to have been part of it. The whole experience was very exciting for my daughter and for me too, the day we had our first meeting with Jess we both were surprised by how touching this project was and felt very connected afterwards. My daughter, usually quite shy, was very open talking to Jess as she was really good at making you feel comfortable. It was such a treat to receive the song a week later, like a hug from the distance. I cried almost sobbing throughout the song and cannot thank Jess enough for what she created.'* – Parent

*'Some families who are reluctant to come into school / engage have been far more enthusiastic. It has really supported building their relationships within school. The children are proud of their songs, their excitement for their next sessions have been a delight to see (including the music group) as has some of their faces when listening to their songs.'* (School leader)

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

*“On hearing the song her grandfather said, ‘If I had had a song like that when I was a child it could have changed my whole life’” (adoptive parent)*

#### Story Lab

Story Lab: focuses on digital literacy and storytelling for children aged 2-11 years. We use animation and green screen apps alongside art and drama techniques to bring learning alive. Story Lab is a cross-curricular programme which supports both EYFS and primary children. Our Paul Hamlyn funded programme is currently running in five Haringey schools, supporting teacher development, 1-1 learning interventions and family programmes and reaching 900 children and 70 parents/carers per year. The programme has also been run in the past year as a free offer to families in two local libraries funded by Peabody Housing. We are looking to scale our learning from 2023-2026 with another application to Paul Hamlyn Foundation to embed and scale this work further.

*“I have learned so much including how a green screen is applied in general and how it looks on screen. I have also learnt how to take chances and make mistakes with the children, which has in turn helped me learn from them and vice versa”. Teaching assistant*

*“Simply brilliant it encourages the imagination, play and story-telling thank you so much” Parent*

*“One girl has become much more expressive. They’ve learned a lot about how green screen and movies work – they were really amazed about how technology made them disappear and are beginning to understand it. Teacher”*

#### The Communication Pod and Forgotten Stories

Designed for the early year’s foundation stage, The Communication Pod uses natural resources and interactive technology, built into a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling. The Pod is an inviting space where young children can express themselves and explore different forms of writing and artistic expression. We work with approximately 540 children across approx. 4 settings or schools each year. The Communication Pod programme has a strong focus on supporting children’s speech and language development. This year the pod has received support from Arts Council England and is touring to six schools in Enfield and Haringey including two special schools.

Forgotten Stories is a theatrically led interactive project for primary aged children. A team of researchers (actors) are in residence in schools for 2 weeks working with classes in their interactive research pod. Designed to capture children’s imagination, Forgotten Stories encourages a sense of exploration, research and deduction which inspires children’s creative and persuasive writing. Forgotten Stories will have two two-week residencies in Summer 2023 in Haringey.

#### Light Box

The Light box is an interactive STEAM project that invites children into an illuminated space and encourages them to explore the use of light, dark, reflection, shadow, and colours. Lightbox engages children in creative and scientific observation and investigation leading to puppetry and storytelling. We work with approximately 180-250 early years children per year on this programme.

#### Dancing Together

Dancing Together, funded by the GLA and Peabody Housing, takes place in Children’s Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance.

Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

## Groundswell Arts

### (Limited by Guarantee)

### Trustees' Report

In our most recent mother and baby sessions from our sample 84.6 % of mothers (26 mothers) strongly enjoyed dancing with their child and 100 % of parents in both this class and the toddler class said it had improved their personal wellbeing. Parents of toddlers also commented that it increased their child's wellbeing.

*"Amazing project, gives you strength and happiness and joy" "100% improved my wellbeing"*

*"Great fun for both child and adult helping us to build a greater connection and understanding" "It's been an enjoyable 6 weeks that has increased our son's confidence to express himself"*

### **Achievements and performance**

Groundswell Arts has had a very busy year and continues to grow and achieve its charitable aims through its continued work with return funders and school partners.

We are pleased to say that we have confirmed continued funding via Youth Music for both 3 years core costs and a further three years funding to continue to roll our sing our story programme across four boroughs to 16 settings per year. We are also funded within this grant for several National Pilots partnering with organisations such as Wild Young Parents in Cornwall and The Sage Gateshead's Loud and Clear programme in Newcastle. We have shared the work of this programme nationally and internationally at conferences and early years music seminars.

We have also been separately commissioned to deliver the work by Haringey Virtual Schools where we work with care-experienced children online and the National Charity Young Lives Vs Cancer where we receive online referrals to make songs with young children being treated for Cancer at Great Ormond St Hospital.

Our Story Lab programme has now finished its 3-year funding and we are in the process of reporting to Paul Hamlyn in the aim of extending this out to more schools in the next three years. An exciting outcome of the project was the work it achieved with its 1to1 intervention sessions. This small part of the overall work has gained a lot of interest from the schools, teachers and beneficiaries that were worked with, and we have commissioned a separate report from Dr Jonathan Barnes for the Sydney De Haan Centre of Arts and Health at Christchurch Canterbury University, which is due later this year which looks at its role and impact on children and Teaching Assistants.

The Story Lab programme was also extended this year with additional funding from Peabody which allowed us to run 32 sessions of digital filmmaking held across two libraries, St Anns and Coombes Croft Library, across two years. Filmmaking sessions took place as a free after-school session for children and families to attend together to explore filmmaking, this again took place in the St Anns Library.

This year's Communication Pod and Forgotten Stories projects toured simultaneously over 10 weeks to 8 new schools across Haringey and Enfield and worked with over 1,035 Children and 48 teachers. This Tour introduced us to the Grove School Haringey which works with students aged 5–19 who have a primary diagnosis of autism. This was a great opportunity to develop our support for these 2 projects and required additional training for the company around access needs, and Makaton signing. We have since adopted this learning across the company more as a whole and are looking to integrate it into all projects going forward.

Another area of success for the tour was that we were offered 3 additional tour venues 2 through the Haringey local Authority in their newly opened family hubs and as part of our new relationship with CPotential.

Our Dancing Together Project has also been renewed by Haringey Community Chest to take us into 2024 working with Welbourne Primary school and running 18 sessions and 3 trainings

In addition to the programmes listed, we are regularly developing work in the community with a focus on family engagement. This year we have been funded by Comic Relief and have developed a programme for under

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

fives and families called Space to Create, working with light and sound environments. We have also been commissioned to partner with a local organisation CPotential who with funding from the national charity Scope have invited us to curate and deliver a year-long programme (23-24) of artistic activity for up to 100 children and their families with movement related disabilities such as cerebral palsy and global delay. We are also developing plans to expand our online song writing work with other London Virtual Schools.

Review:

**Funding**

Our main funders this year have continued to be Paul Hamlyn, Arts Council England, and Local Authorities, with new partners coming from Comic Relief, Peabody, London Funders, Mayor of London and Haringey Giving, and we have received an additional 3 years of funding from Youth Music

In 2023 -24 we are developing our fundraising strategy by employing a freelance fundraiser to focus primarily on trusts and foundation, leaving our Artistic directors more time to develop the bigger long-term projects.

We have already secured 1 year core funding from the Foyle Foundation to support the company's strategic development in 2023-23.

We are working with CPotential disability charity to deliver their 'Creative Club' to their clients and are in discussion to further this project through joint funding bids in the future.

We have been approached by The John Lyons Charity to discuss our work.

**Environmental Sustainability**

At core our carbon footprint remains negligible: we have two full-time staff members. We have small office space and are based inside of a school.

We currently work alongside the schools recycling efforts and are a member of the local scrap projects to (where possible) use recycled materials on all of our projects.

We are signed up to Julies Bicycle and have planned to use the Creative Green Carbon Calculator in planning our tours, in the hope that this will give us a better understanding for future tours of where our most impact is and a better understanding for planning in the future.

We have implemented a yearly environmental staff audit and policy review

Our policy will be linked in our staff and board induction packs.

Leaders will attend training on environmental impact, and it will be a standing item in board meetings.

More widely environmental responsibility will be linked to our social media campaigns throughout the year where we will raise awareness about different issues that may be relevant to our audience, for example supporting children with climate anxiety.

We have entered into a data sharing agreement with Stroud Green School where our office is based.

**Financial review**

In 2022/23 The charity has continued to build back its reserves from the previous post pandemic year and these are now at £116,519.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Reserves Policy**

The company relies on core funding from grant-aiding bodies supplemented by its generation of income from performances, commission fundraising and donations. The policy is to maintain a level of free reserves that would sustain its operation over a three-month period. As at 1 April 2023 this is estimated to be £39,152.

**Restricted and Designated funds**

At present the company has £91,643 Restricted funds.  
It's free reserves are £24,876.

**Risk management**

Financial controls are in place at operational and board level. Budgets are set and approved by the board who also receive quarterly management accounts. Our General Manager, an experienced financial manager and bookkeeper, manages ongoing accounts.

Our accountants are Breckman and Company, the recognised leading chartered certified accountancy firm in the specialised field of accountancy for theatrical organisations of all types and sizes.

We have full Employers and Public Liability insurance, and our assets are insured at £33K, which acts as a cushion in case of Force Majeure.

Core company costs are carefully calibrated in line with income streams, and project costs are always shared with commissioning partners to mitigate potential financial risks.

Our core structures are minimal and appropriately costed and we have free office space in Stroud Green Primary School. This allows us to maximize finance for our artistic output.

As a streamlined core with resources geared towards our creative activities, financial risk increases in periods of project delivery and requires management specific to each project.

**Structure, governance and management**

Groundswell Arts is a charitable company (limited by guarantee) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association First registered as a Not for Profit on 27 August 2010, Groundswell Arts made the step change to become a charity and amended it's Articles on 10 May 2022. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Groundswell Arts obtained charity status on 10 May 2022, changing from a not-for-profit organisation that was established 27 August 2010.

The charity's Board meets on a quarterly basis to review the previous quarter and to make decisions on future matters. All key decisions on company matters are made by the Trustees.

The company has a streamlined and sustainable board structure and management core, which comprises 2 x Artistic Directors, with project-based production support. This allows us to keep core costs to a minimum and dedicate maximum revenue towards the creative for the public benefit.

**Related Parties**

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with Groundswell Arts

Any connection between a trustee with a co-producer, contracted Artist or other worker must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party.

Stroud Green Primary School provides Groundswell Arts with free office space on an ongoing basis.

**Groundswell Arts**  
**(Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Small company exemptions**

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 20 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by



**Matthew Burbidge**  
**Trustee**



**Sarah Crompton**  
**Trustee**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Groundswell Arts**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 10 to 23.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Richard Nelson FCCA  
Breckman & Company Ltd  
Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street  
London W1K 5LH

20 December 2023

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>	<b>2</b>					
Donations and legacies - page 11		21,600		21,600	153,508	153,508
Charitable activities:						
Theatre - page 11		18,025	270,878	288,903	56,655	56,655
Other - page 11	<b>3</b>	4,200	-	4,200	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<u>43,825</u>	<u>270,878</u>	<u>314,703</u>	<u>210,163</u>	<u>210,163</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities:						
Theatre - page 12		28,599	179,235	207,834	234,987	234,987
<b>Total</b>		<u>28,599</u>	<u>179,235</u>	<u>207,834</u>	<u>234,987</u>	<u>234,987</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>	<b>4</b>	15,226	91,643	106,869	(24,824)	(24,824)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		9,650	-	9,650	34,474	34,474
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>13, 14</b>	<u>24,876</u>	<u>91,643</u>	<u>116,519</u>	<u>9,650</u>	<u>9,650</u>

The notes on pages 15 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**Groundswell Arts****(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income from donations and legacies</b>		
<b>Grants</b>		
Arts Council England	-	54,080
Other grant income	-	98,413
	<u>-</u>	<u>152,493</u>
<b>Donations</b>		
Other donations	-	1,015
In-Kind Support: Stroud Green School	21,600	-
	<u>21,600</u>	<u>153,508</u>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>		
<b>Theatre</b>		
<b>Theatre income</b>		
Fee income	17,775	41,314
Training income	250	3,650
Trust and foundation grants	-	4,126
HMRC Kickstart grants	-	7,565
	<u>18,025</u>	<u>56,655</u>
<b>Project specific funding</b>		
<b>Grants</b>		
GLA Sports Unites Fund	14,242	-
Haringey Council Virtual Schools	6,300	-
Arts Council England	22,000	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	115,913	-
Youth Music	83,887	-
Peabody	15,726	-
Comic Relief (Groundwork)	12,810	-
	<u>270,878</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Theatre Tax Relief (TTR)	4,200	-
	<u>4,200</u>	<u>-</u>

**Groundswell Arts****(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Theatre</b>		
<b>Production/project costs</b>		
Project costs	147,249	127,010
Fees	5,956	25,090
	<u>153,205</u>	<u>152,100</u>
Support costs - page 13	47,708	74,116
Governance costs - page 13	6,921	8,771
	<u>207,834</u>	<u>234,987</u>

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Support and governance costs</b>				
<b>Support costs</b>				
<b>Office overheads</b>				
Rent - in kind	21,600		-	
Rent	-		4,800	
Telephone/ internet	400		434	
Insurance	1,122		1,254	
Repairs/maintenance	151		841	
Depreciation of equipment	1,680		2,146	
	<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
		24,953		9,475
<b>Administration costs</b>				
Directors' remuneration	-		22,080	
Salaries/support staff	18,345		32,922	
Directors' pension costs	-		50	
Staff training	389		1,020	
Staff welfare	-		210	
Website/computer/software	2,253		5,407	
Travel/transport	147		-	
Entertaining	17		-	
Printing/postage/stationery	149		219	
Advertising/marketing	215		2,122	
Subscriptions	65		-	
Sundries	207		434	
	<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
		21,787		64,464
<b>Professional/financial</b>				
Legal/professional	535		36	
HMRC penalties	-		81	
Bank charges	-		60	
	<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
		535		177
Deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets		433		-
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>
		47,708		74,116
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Accountancy	3,000		3,000	
Bookkeeping	3,921		3,411	
Professional/consultancy fee	-		2,360	
	<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
		6,921		8,771
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>
		54,629		82,887
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>

**Groundswell Arts**

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Balance Sheet  
31 March 2023**

		2023		2022	
Notes	£	£	£	£	
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	9		1,919		4,031
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	10	7,027		15,511	
Cash at bank and in hand		110,938		98,074	
		117,965		113,585	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(3,365)		(107,966)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			114,600		5,619
<b>Total assets less current over total assets</b>			116,519		9,650
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>					
Unrestricted funds	13		24,876		9,650
Restricted funds	14		91,643		-
<b>Total charity funds</b>			116,519		9,650

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 20 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by



**Matthew Burbedge**  
Trustee



**Sarah Crompton**  
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. Accounting policies**

**1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

**1.2. Going Concern**

The charity is dependent on the continued support of grant aiding bodies. The trustees believe that the charity will continue to receive this support and accordingly consider that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 1.3. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

#### - Donations and legacies

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

#### - Charitable activities

Theatrical income - income from box office, performance fees and sundry other theatrical income is included in incoming resources in the period in which the relevant show takes place.

Project specific funding - when donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

#### - Donated services and facilities

Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 1.4. Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

##### - Charitable activities

Theatre production costs - costs incurred in production and running of productions toured in the year.

##### - Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to theatre production costs.

##### - Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

#### 1.5. Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.6. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computer Equipment - Straight line over 3 years

#### 1.7. Debtors

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

#### 1.8. Production costs in advance

Costs incurred in respect of a theatre production which opens in the following accounting period, and which are to be paid out of general unrestricted funds, are carried forward at the balance sheet date.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 1.9. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 1.10. Creditors and provisions

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.

#### 1.11. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value, and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### 1.12. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually.

#### 1.13. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

### 2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

### 3. Other income

Other income includes a claim under the Theatre Tax Relief (TTR) scheme, which is available on qualifying pre-production expenditure.

	2023 £	2022 £
Theatre Tax Relief	4,200	-
	4,200	-

**Groundswell Arts**

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

<b>4. Net income (/expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,680	2,146
Deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	433	-
Independent examiner's remuneration - independent examination	3,000	3,000
	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
<b>5. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses</b>		
<b>Remuneration</b>		
Trustees' emoluments	-	22,080
Pension contributions	-	50
	<u>-</u>	<u>22,130</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>22,130</u>
<b>6. Staff costs and numbers</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Staff costs</b>		
Salary costs	18,066	22,080
Pension costs	-	50
	<u>18,066</u>	<u>22,130</u>
	<u>18,066</u>	<u>22,130</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2022 - £nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £18,066 (2022 - nil).

**Staff numbers**

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Support/production	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 7. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £nil (2022 - £50).

#### 8. Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

#### 9. Fixed assets - tangible assets

#### Computer Equipment

	£
<b>Cost</b>	
1 April 2022	12,109
Disposals	(576)
	11,533
31 March 2023	11,533
<b>Depreciation</b>	
1 April 2022	8,078
Disposals	(144)
Charge for year	1,680
	9,614
31 March 2023	9,614
<b>Net book values</b>	
31 March 2023	1,919
31 March 2022	4,031

#### 10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,200	7,430
Other debtors	50	107
Production costs in advance	356	-
Prepayments and accrued income	4,421	7,974
	7,027	15,511

**Groundswell Arts**

**(Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

<b>11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	-	1,000
Corporation tax payable	-	7
Accruals	3,365	106,959
	<u>3,365</u>	<u>107,966</u>
	<u><u>3,365</u></u>	<u><u>107,966</u></u>

**12. Limited by guarantee**

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2023 there were 5 members.

<b>13. Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Brought forward</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Outgoing resources</b>	<b>Carried forward</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General fund	9,650	43,825	(28,599)	24,876
	<u>9,650</u>	<u>43,825</u>	<u>(28,599)</u>	<u>24,876</u>
	<u><u>9,650</u></u>	<u><u>43,825</u></u>	<u><u>(28,599)</u></u>	<u><u>24,876</u></u>

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

14. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	115,913	(80,958)	34,955
Youth Music	-	83,887	(52,737)	31,150
Peabody	-	15,726	(6,886)	8,840
Comic Relief (Groundwork) - Space to Create	-	12,810	(8,217)	4,593
Arts Council England	-	22,000	(14,020)	7,980
Haringey Council Virtual Schools (HVS)	-	6,300	(2,175)	4,125
GLA Sports Unites Fund	-	14,242	(14,242)	-
	-	270,878	(179,235)	91,643

#### **Paul Hamlyn Foundation**

To support our Story Lab Project focuses on digital literacy and storytelling for children aged 2-11 years, using animation and green screen apps alongside art and drama techniques to bring learning alive. The programme is currently running in five Haringey schools, supporting teacher development, 1-1 learning interventions and family programmes and reaching 900 children and 70 parents/carers per year.

#### **Youth Music**

To Support our Sing Our Story Programme a bespoke song-writing programme delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories. To date we have created over 3000 unique songs for families in this programme.

#### **Peabody**

To Support our Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance.

Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

#### **Comic Relief (Groundwork) - Space to Create**

To support our Space to create project a programme for under fives and families, working to create light and sound environments, using mixed material recycling, UV, paint and musical instruments. Space to create explore creativity through a sensory environment.

#### **Arts Council England**

To support our Communication Pod and Forgotten Stories tour to nurseries & primary schools, The Communication Pod is designed for the early year's foundation stage, its is a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling..

Forgotten Stories is a theatrically led interactive project for primary aged children. Designed to capture children's imagination, Forgotten Stories encourages a sense of exploration, research and deduction which inspires children's creative and persuasive writing.

## Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### Haringey Council Virtual Schools (HVS)

To support the Haringey Virtual Schools, online adaptation of our Sing Our Story project working with care-experienced children, their carers and social workers to create a personalised bespoke song, through an online platform.

#### GLA Sports Unites Fund

To Support our Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance.

Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

#### 15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	1,919	-	1,919
Net current assets	22,957	91,643	114,600
	24,876	91,643	116,519

#### 16. Related party transactions

There were no additional related party transactions in the year.