

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD
(A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Company No: 01448366

Charity No: 509251

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the year ended 31 March 2024

NICKALLS ACCOUNTANTS LTD
Amble
Northumberland

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

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NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

COMPANY INFORMATION

INCORPORATION:	The company was incorporated under the Companies Act in England and Wales as Northumberland Theatre Company Limited, on 13 September 1979. On 1 April 1994, the company changed its name to NTC Touring Theatre Company Ltd. The registered number is 01448366.
OFFICERS:	Ms G Hambleton (Chair) Mr R Styring Ms K Morrison Mr C Weir Rev J McDermott Mr S Howson Ms J Birkett (appointed 30 April 2023) Ms K Traynor (appointed 30 April 2023) Mr J Donnelly (appointed 30 April 2023) Mr B Hoy (appointed 30 April 2023) Mr PM Harrison (appointed 1 September 2023) Mr LR Matthews (appointed 17 October 2023)
MEMBERS:	Mr B Ellis Cllr J Watson
REGISTERED OFFICE:	The Dovecote Centre Dovecote Street Amble Morpeth Northumberland NE65 0DX
BUSINESS ADDRESS:	The Dovecote Centre Dovecote Street Amble Morpeth Northumberland NE65 0DX
ACCOUNTANTS	Nickalls Accountants Ltd 4 Bridge Street Amble Northumberland NE65 0DR

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The directors submit their annual report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The directors have adopted the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective in January 2019 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Charitable Purpose, Aims and Activities

NTC Touring Theatre Company's charitable aims are to promote, maintain improve and advance education particularly by the production of educational plays and the encouragement of the arts, of drama, dance, music, singing, literature and art.

NTC Touring Theatre Company Ltd.'s mission statement is:

To make professional touring theatre of the highest quality accessible to those communities who are theatrically disenfranchised through geographic, economic, social or transport constraints, theatre which is made in Northumberland for a national audience, theatre which is accessible and relevant, is innovative and entertains with integrity and humour. In addition to provide the highest quality training and support to new and emerging theatre practitioners in the region through on-the-job training opportunities.

Public Benefit

The directors and management are committed to providing a public benefit and have considered the Charity Commission's guidance in this area. The Company's principal business is to make high quality professional theatre accessible to those in theatre-less zones, theatre with a broad appeal, affordable ticket prices and which engages new audiences. Through its training opportunities to provide education and skills in the performing arts to anyone over 18 in the region at no cost.

In addition, this professional training benefits public audiences and the wider community when the trainees enter the profession full time.

In summary, NTC Touring Theatre Company Ltd.'s beneficiaries are appropriate to its aims and the public benefits from its work. Benefits are evidenced and relate directly to its aims. The trustees do not consider that any detriment or harm flows from its work.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England as the Northumberland Theatre Company Limited on 13th September 1979, was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The company name was changed to NTC Touring Theatre Company Limited on 1st April 1994.

The Board of Trustees meet quarterly to review the organisation and discuss action required for the future. The Audit Committee and Employment and Finance Committee meet twice yearly to ensure the smooth running of the organisation. The Building Committee meet as and when as required. The Artistic Director is entrusted with the day-to-day running of the company and is responsible for delivering the services specified.

**NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted their own reviews of major risks to which the Company is exposed and systems have been developed to mitigate these risks:

- Annual review of Strategic risks
- Quarterly review and update of Risk register

Contribution of volunteers

The Charity makes use of volunteers to support its productions in-house and on tour.

Investment Policy

The Trustees are able to invest and deal with monies of the company not immediately required in such manner as they from time to time determine.

Performance and Review

This is covered in a separate report included with these accounts.

Key objectives for 2024 and beyond

- Reopen the Dovecote Centre Cinema
- Expand our room hire
- Seek out potential new funding streams
- Seek new collaborations
- Strengthen links with the local community
- Expand our artistic offering within The Dovecote Centre, eg, promote Art and Music as well as Theatre.
- Seek out capital funding streams to improve facilities within The Dovecote Centre
- Continue to develop staff training plan
- Continue to provide training opportunities for young emerging artists and practitioners within the region.

The board would like to thank the staff for their hard work during the year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity commission and it is the company's aspirational aim to have six months reserves to support cessation costs relating to staff and property were the company unable to continue operating. The reserves policy is revisited annually.

**NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Policy for Monitoring and Review

The level of reserves will be monitored along with the on-going financial affairs of the organization on a monthly basis, supplemented by annual reviews to ensure the overall level of reserves continues to meet the needs of the organization.

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the 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 (FRS102) and in accordance with the special provision of part 15 of the companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The above report has been approved by the Directors and signed on it's behalf.



.....
Gillian Hambleton
Company Registration: 01448366

29 April 2024

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

**STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of that year and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts the trustees are required to:

- i. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- iv. state whether applicable statements of recommended practice have been followed;
and
- v. prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue its activities.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in January 2019) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the directors on 29 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Gillian Hambleton
Company Registration: 01448366

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS OF NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's report

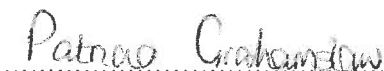
Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's 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.



Mrs P Grahamslaw ACA
Nickalls Accountants Ltd
4 Bridge Street
Amble
NE65 0DR

Date: 29 April 2024

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES				
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>				
Donations and small grants	4,156	-	4,156	5,747
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>				
Trading operations	48,262	-	48,262	60,803
Interest received	33	-	33	18
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>	-	51,455	51,455	58,150
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>52,451</u>	<u>51,455</u>	<u>103,906</u>	<u>124,718</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Costs of generating funds	73,609	53,315	126,924	217,263
Governance costs	4,888	-	4,888	3,954
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>78,497</u>	<u>53,315</u>	<u>131,812</u>	<u>221,217</u>
NET INCOMING/OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS	(26,046)	(1,860)	(27,906)	(96,499)
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>(26,046)</u>	<u>(1,860)</u>	<u>(27,906)</u>	<u>(96,499)</u>
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>				
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	96,904	12,000	108,904	205,403
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>70,858</u>	<u>10,140</u>	<u>80,998</u>	<u>108,904</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

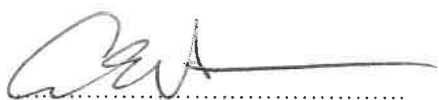
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	108,442	—	108,442	115,762
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors		5,464	-	5,464	7,615
Cash at bank and in hand		9,234	10,140	19,374	30,786
		14,698	10,140	24,838	38,401
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		10,853	-	10,853	9,981
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		112,287	10,140	122,427	144,182
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year		41,429	-	41,429	35,278
NET ASSETS		70,858	10,140	80,998	108,904
TOTAL FUNDS		70,858	10,140	80,998	108,904

For the financial year ended 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No member has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

Directors' responsibilities:

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company

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



Gillian Hambleton
Company Registration 01448366

29 April 2024

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

The company is limited in that every member undertakes to contribute such amount, not exceeding £1, as may be required in the event of the company being wound up while he or she is a member, or within 12 months afterwards, towards the cost of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the company while the contributor was a member.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarized below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in July 2014, applicable UK Accounting Standards, Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable

Investment income is included when receivable

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Funding provided through contractual agreements and performance related grants are recognized as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognized when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating office property costs by floor areas, management and human resources costs by the number of staff, and finance and IT costs by work done.

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on each asset over its effective working life so as to write off that asset to its estimated realizable value. The rates of depreciation charged are:

Freehold Property	2% straight line
Motor Vehicles	20% straight line
Equipment and fixtures	20% straight line

Cashflow Statement

The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained in Financial Reporting Standard 1 from producing a cashflow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

3 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Voluntary income				
Donations and small grants	3,559	-	3,559	5,060
NTC Friends Subscription	597	-	597	687
	<u>4,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,156</u>	<u>5,747</u>
Trading operations				
Box Office Income	18,699	-	18,699	26,475
Premises Hire	1,677	-	1,677	3,360
Theatre Tax Relief	22,992	-	22,992	7,174
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	23,794
Small Claims Refund	4,894	-	4,894	-
	<u>48,262</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,262</u>	<u>60,803</u>
Interest receivable				
Bank interest receivable	33	-	33	18
	<u>33</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>18</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities	<u>-</u>	<u>51,455</u>	<u>51,455</u>	<u>58,150</u>

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Costs of generating funds				
Project costs	928	36,411	37,339	88,961
Staffing costs	33,764	16,904	50,668	50,851
Travelling expenses	2,309	-	2,309	1,524
Premises costs	15,972	-	15,972	15,572
Office running costs	4,036	-	4,036	4,436
Consultancy costs	567	-	567	10,857
Repairs and maintenance costs	2,805	-	2,805	18,836
General expenses	808	-	808	1,682
Depreciation	12,419	-	12,419	9,045
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	73,609	53,315	126,924	217,263
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Governance costs				
Professional fees	3,200	-	3,200	2,176
Bank charges	730	-	730	892
Bank interest	958	-	958	986
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	4,888	-	4,888	3,954
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

5. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

During the financial year the company had a maximum of 5 employees and their remuneration was made up as follows:-

	2024 £	2023 £
Salary, pension and national insurance	50,668	50,851
	<hr/>	<hr/>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Property	Motor Vehicles	Equipment and Fixtures	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
As at 1 April 2023	105,717	14,995	35,318	156,030
Additions in the year	4,315	-	784	5,099
As at 31 March 2024	<u>110,032</u>	<u>14,995</u>	<u>36,102</u>	<u>161,129</u>
Depreciation				
As at 1 April 2023	6,030	5,998	28,240	40,268
Charge for the year	2,200	2,999	7,220	12,419
As at 31 March 2024	<u>8,230</u>	<u>8,997</u>	<u>35,460</u>	<u>52,687</u>
Net book value				
As at 31 March 2024	<u>101,802</u>	<u>5,998</u>	<u>642</u>	<u>108,442</u>
Net book value				
As at 31 March 2023	<u>99,687</u>	<u>8,997</u>	<u>7,078</u>	<u>115,762</u>

7. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued Income	-	-
Prepayments	4,924	4,090
Other debtors	540	3,525
	<u>5,464</u>	<u>7,615</u>

8. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

Trade creditors	718	-
Accrued charges	3,200	3,854
Taxes and social security	1,935	1,127
Bounceback Loan	5,000	5,000
	<u>10,853</u>	<u>9,981</u>

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
9. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year		
Bounceback Loan	32,429	35,278
Other Loan	9,000	-
	<u>41,429</u>	<u>35,278</u>

10. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	At 31 Mar 2024
Designated reserves	-	-	-	-	-
Undesignated reserves	96,904	52,451	78,497	-	70,858
	<u>96,904</u>	<u>52,451</u>	<u>78,497</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,858</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	96,904	52,451	78,497	-	70,858

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 Mar 2024
Restricted funds				
The Adderstone Foundation	6,000	1,000	7,000	-
Northumberland County Council	-	5,300	-	5,300
Northumberland County Council	-	1,315	1,315	-
Carroll Savage	-	2,300	2,300	-
1989 Willan Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-
Northern Angel Fund for Berwick	-	1,840	-	1,840
Ray Wind Farm CIC small grants	-	1,450	1,450	-
Sir James Knott Trust	5,000	-	5,000	-
Joseph Strong Fraser Trust	1,000	1,000	1000	1,000
The Arts Council	-	15,000	15,000	-
Hadrian Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	10,000	8,000	2,000
Capheaton Parish Council	-	250	250	-
Amble Town Council	-	500	500	-
The Smith (Haltwhistle & District) Charitable Trust	-	500	500	-
	<u>12,000</u>	<u>51,455</u>	<u>53,315</u>	<u>10,140</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	12,000	51,455	53,315	10,140

NTC TOURING THEATRE COMPANY LTD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11. REMUNERATION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There was no remuneration, or other benefit, paid to the board of directors, or people connected with them, in the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no transactions undertaken by, or on behalf of the company, in which a member of the board of directors or connected person had a material interest, during the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

13. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Company Limited by Guarantee The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

There are currently 12 members of the company (2023 - 11 members)

2023/24 COMPANY REPORT

**NTC TOURING
THEATRE COMPANY
LTD**

**DATE :
31/03/2024**

Lewis Matthews (Louis Roberts),
Artistic Director,
NTC Touring Theatre Company Ltd

**NTC
TOURING
THEATRE
COMPANY**

'Frankenstein'

Amble Performance and Duns PlayFest, May 2023

Cast: Philip Harrison, Louis Roberts, Alice Byrne
 Director: Gillian Hambleton
 Assistant Director: Louis Roberts
 Writer: Philip Harrison
 Set design: Louis Roberts, Philip Harrison
 Costume Design: Louis Roberts, Philip Harrison, Alice Byrne
 Music: Jacob Harrison
 Stage Management: Cast

This show welcomed back Philip Harrison who appeared in both Jekyll and Hyde and The Wind in the Willows and who also wrote the show. The show also starred NTC Artistic Director Louis Roberts and NTC Associate Director Alice Byrne.

We performed a preview of the show at the Dovecote Centre on Tuesday the 2nd of May and then gave our first official public performance at Duns PlayFest on the 3rd at The Volunteer Hall in Duns.

The festival were delighted with the show and have invited us back to take part in the festival next year. This performance marks our 2nd time at Duns PlayFest and it would appear to be a long standing arrangement.

"Hi Louis,

It was delightful to have your amazing company as part of the festival! We wish you all the best for your tour and look forward to seeing you next year!"

Sara Best, Festival Coordinator.



'Frankenstein'

Durham Fringe Performances

27th and 29th July

Cast: Philip Harrison, Louis Roberts, Michelle Bayly

Director: Gillian Hambleton

Assistant Director: Louis Roberts

Writer: Philip Harrison

Set design: Louis Roberts, Philip Harrison

Costume Design: Louis Roberts, Philip Harrison, Alice Byrne

Music: Jacob Harrison

Stage Management: Cast



This show welcomed back Philip Harrison as The Monster who appeared in both Jekyll and Hyde and The Wind in the Willows and who also wrote the show. It also featured NTC Artistic Director Louis Roberts as Victor Frankenstein. NTC Associate Director Alice Byrne was unable to reprise her role as Elizabeth due to prior commitments with Durham Shakespeare Festival and so Michelle Bayly was cast in the role. This is Michelle's first time working with NTC.

The festival were delighted with the show and have invited us back to take part in the festival next year after a sell out performance on the Saturday evening.



Loved @ntctheatre 's interpretation of Frankenstein. Impressive performances from the cast & a delightfully creepy set-up, with the lighting & the props. I really liked the way they incorporated the mannequins into it. So cool

‘Frankenstein Autumn Rural Tour, 25th August - 6th October. Supported by Arts Council England

Cast: Philip Harrison, Louis Roberts, Michelle Bayly

Director: Gillian Hambleton

Assistant Director: Louis Roberts

Writer: Philip Harrison

Set design: Louis Roberts, Philip Harrison

Costume Design: Louis Roberts, Philip Harrison, Alice Byrne

Music: Jacob Harrison

Stage Management: Cast

NTC were fortunate enough to receive £15,000 Arts Council Funding towards the show (which was a relief!), as well as £1450 from The Community Foundation Tyne and Wear, which enabled us to produce an extended version of the show for a tour during the Autumn. The show welcomed back the same cast as the Durham Fringe production.

However, the extra funding gave us chance to expand the production and explore the themes more thoroughly. It also allowed us to extend the piece from a one-act to a two-act piece for our audiences.

The tour consisted of 23 performances with at least 3 new venues and was unanimously well received by our audiences.



A Christmas Carol rural tour, 1st December - 24th December

Adapted by Stewart Howson from the novella by Charles Dickens.

Cast: Louis Roberts, Melanie Dagg, Dean Logan (Dean replaced by Nathan McGowran due to illness).

Director: Gillian Hambleton

Music: Lucy Desbrow

Costume Design: Louis Roberts & Gillian Hambleton

Set Design: Louis Roberts

NTC produced the show ourselves, using 2 of the actors from last year - Melanie Dagg and Louis Roberts, sadly Nathan McGowran from last year was initially unavailable so we are welcomed back Dean Logan who appeared in 'The Wind in the Willows'.

Lucy Desbrow very kindly offered to do the music for free to keep costs down and the show was designed by the cast with the assistance of Gillian Hambleton.

The show was re-directed and performed in traverse (on two sides) to give it a more immersive feel, and more sound and lighting was added.

The show was incredibly well received by audiences however it was not without it's problems. Sadly, Dean Logan was forced to step down from the tour after suffering a seizure on the 17th of December after the Sherburn performances. Fortunately for NTC, Nathan from last year was able to step back into the role, having just finished panto.

We re-rehearsed the show and he stepped in after a day's rehearsals, which was quite a remarkable achievement.

Dean has since recovered from his seizure and is doing well, although was understandably frustrated at the whole situation. NTC agreed to pay Dean his wage in full for the production as the incident was beyond his control.



"Brilliant performance last night at Capheaton Village Hall, A Christmas Carol was the perfect way to start our Christmas.

Always a great night with such talented people."

- Audience Feedback, Capheaton Village Hall.

Upcoming shows for 2024/25



The Dovecote Centre

The Dovecote centre has continued to grow as a community hub for Amble throughout 2023/24 and we now have several regular room hires: Baby Bloom Classes, Northumberland Inclusive Health Services, Tiny Talk Baby Group and Boogie Bounce Fitness classes.

The Amble Cinema Club



Working alongside NTC Trustee Jim Donnelly, NTC have been running our monthly Cinema club showing a varied selection of movies throughout the year, with average attendance between 30-40 and steadily rising.

Dovecote Street Arts

NTC have been working alongside Dovecote Street Arts CIC. A social enterprise startup founded by local artists Jim Donnelly and Luke McTaggart to provide a wide array of events such as:



The Dovecote Street Show

The Dovecote Street Show was a survey exhibition of painting, printmaking, photography and sculpture from across Northumberland and the wider North East, right in the centre of Amble.

The exhibition ran until the 1st -28th of May and was experienced by over 900 people. We are hopeful that we may be able to gain some funding to have a permanent exhibition space in the centre all year round.



‘Crits’ at The Dovecote Centre

Taking place from 7-9pm, these sessions offer the chance for artists, professional and amateur alike, to come together along with interested members of the community to discuss their work in a positive and supportive setting.



Portraiture Workshops



Cultural Assembly Meetings

***“Are you an Artist, Creative Freelancer or Cultural Professional?
Do you think there is a gap in arts development in Northumberland?
Do you want to make your voice heard in a meaningful way?”***



“These meetings focus on key issues, such as studio, workshop and exhibition space, as well as on professional development opportunities and local authority support. There will be the chance for all attendees to speak about, amend and vote on resolutions addressing each of these topics. The outcomes will be compiled into a report, subject to review from attendees, that will then be made publicly available and used to raise awareness amongst the region’s cultural and political leaders. We will also be using this meeting as an opportunity to collect demographic information about the culture sector that can support future funding applications.

In conclusion...

“It has been a challenging but ultimately very rewarding year. We were fortunate enough to once again receive support from Garfield Weston, Arts Council England and several other Trusts and Foundations,

By supporting our core and artistic costs, their funding has allowed NTC's staff to continue the vital administrative and creative work that supports engagement with the arts in our underserved communities. With regards to our touring audiences, we hope our productions continue to encourage intergenerational audiences to come together, and we are optimistic that events at our community hub 'The Dovecote Centre' will continue to allow the local community to engage with creative activity, increase community cohesion, establish local economies and by engaging with volunteers to deliver these performances and activities, increase residents' skills sets. Long term, such activities can regenerate neighbourhoods, and lead to improved physical and mental well-being among residents.

In terms of challenges for the coming year, NTC requires core funding to enable us to continue to build on the success of our recently updated and more sustainable business plan and our adaptive resilience. Funding from very generous Trusts and Foundations who recognise the importance of NTC's work has allowed us to continue to provide artistic content for our audiences but we are aware that this is an ongoing process for the longer term sustainability of NTC.

NTC would like to thank all of our Trustees, Volunteers, Funders and audiences for another fantastic year!

We look forward to what 2024/25 will bring!

Many thanks and kind regards,

Lewis Matthews,

Artistic Director.

NTC Touring Theatre Company Ltd

