

## **Report of the Chair/trustees 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**The purposes of the charity are:**

To manage the network of artists and crafters in Dundrum and surrounding areas;

To deliver creative programmes and events in the village and surrounding areas;

To establish a weekly book corner in the village;

To reduce isolation and develop social opportunities for the local community and the surrounding local areas;

To provide opportunity for skills development, capacity building and learning for the local community and the surrounding area; and

To advance the health and wellbeing of the local community and the surrounding areas through all aspects of the arts.

In accordance with our governing document, during the past year we have facilitated art classes, drop in community art sessions, space for local artists to work from, a series of textile classes funded by Down Arts, public art to be displayed within the village, an informal book club, a poetry club, a weaving workshop, yoga and tai chi classes and monthly open mic sessions to highlight and give platform to our local performing artists and of course our very strong weekly yarn group who provide our village with colourful displays and provide much needed items for the homeless and premature babies. We have worked with other groups within the village to launch the second village festival for many years within Dundrum on 6th July 2024.

None of this would have been possible without our dedicated committee members to whom we give our sincere thanks and gratitude.

We are in the process of recruiting younger dynamic volunteers on to our board of trustees and will be on hand to support them in the initial stages of handover.

We have exciting times ahead. Our aim is:

- to continue to provide and expand all aspects of creative arts to the community in our shared space;

- To relieve social isolation;

- To raise the profile of creative talent within our area;

- To be environmentally aware;

- To work with other groups;

- To increase the number of active members;

To focus on engaging in more fundraising events, which will not only help to provide financial stability to our organisation but will also continue to raise our public profile. Such events will encourage cohesive gatherings within the village and positive social connection for our members.

*Rosemary McManus.*

Rosemary McManus

Chair Trustee

30th.July.2024