

Sticky Fingers Arts

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Sticky Fingers Arts present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Objectives

Aims-

- To advance education and promote the arts for the benefit of children, the beneficiaries primarily, but not exclusively in Northern Ireland.
- Advance education and promote the arts for the benefit of the wider community across Northern Ireland.
- Promote and assist others in the promotion of educational and recreational programmes designed to engage children and the wider community in the arts, and especially those in need as result of adverse social, economic geographical or cultural circumstances and conflict as a result of disability or infirmity.
- Promote and provide quality environmental arts projects and to provide the opportunity and support for children to take the lead in the development of their cities and communities by working with local government, business and the art to create positive regeneration of their local area by engaging in creative and arts-based activity and events.
- Foster international relationships and children's and young people's rights to promote and lobby for statutory agencies at all levels and adhere to UNICEF policies.

The key aim of the organization is to promote and provide quality arts and cultural experiences and opportunities for young children and the wider community. Ensuring our work delivers our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of projects and the program and the outcomes of each element. The review also helps us to ensure our aims, objectives and activities are focused on our stated purpose.

Compliance with Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's statutory public benefit guidance to ensure that activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the charity's aims and objectives as well as providing public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Sticky Fingers Arts has a Board of Trustees not less than 2. All strategic and operational management decisions are the responsibility of the trustees.

Governance

Sticky Fingers Arts is a private company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association.

Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the trustees are elected to serve for a period from one Annual General Meeting to the next.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

Sticky Fingers Arts are now an established children's arts organisation with a reputation for producing and creating high quality professional arts projects locally, nationally and internationally.

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In 2022-23, Sticky Fingers continued to develop the Imaginarium Arts Centre and work with communities across Newry, Mourne and Down as well as establish new partnerships and projects in the Republic of Ireland.

The organisation has continued to thrive with a full program six days per week.

Sticky Fingers aims to create and provide quality and age appropriate arts, cultural and creative play experiences for young children across Northern Ireland. Sticky Fingers will also continue to provide a frontline service to a specific audience (children from 0 to 18 years).

We will continue to deliver a service that no other organisation delivers, provide a service in an area where no other organisation provides a similar service.

The organisation has continued to provide a front-line service to children and young people in the Newry and border area, ensuring that the work with special needs groups continued throughout the year uninterrupted. One to one support program for children with additional needs, education initiatives the Centre and within schools' settings and activity to support children and young people who are struggling with mental health, development delays or family crisis were delivered in partnership with both health and education agencies.

Thankfully 2022 and 2023 was more normal with the venue returning to operating at full capacity.

The reimaged Imaginarium and new extended space has made a considerable difference to the programs that can be offered with more space to deliver more and better arts programs for a wider age range.

By early 2023, we had completed the renovation of the new lobby and the additional new features which brought a completely new chapter to the Imaginarium, including a sensory fully interactive feature for children of mixed ability.

As part of the renovative work, a new workshop was created, "The Adventure lab" a new arts space that has doubled the capacity for both internal and external workshops and has been used by both the Sticky Fingers artistic team and local groups to host activities for all ages.

The additional new features have complimented a new open plan lobby area with an information desk, box office area and a new dedicated entrance to the Imaginarium, allowing ease for flow of visitors to both the imaginarium and café.

The impact of this work, has created greater flexibility in the range of the programs we are now providing and has opened the doors to many new possibilities

In 2022, we also launched a new youth program, to empower young people through creative activity, RESET 2020 is a three-year project and has created two new part time positions funded by the national lottery.

2022 was year of new opportunity as we launched our new strategic plan, working at a grass roots level within the community, building new partnerships while also enhancing existing relationships across different community sectors. The International Children's festival returned with a full program and was the first full edition since Covid where we welcomed international companies back to Newry for a magical program of live theatre, music, puppetry and much more.

A key part of the festival was a one-day cross border conference "Invisible borders" on the arts, children and life in the border counties.

The conference was a success and brought organizations and professionals from both sides of the border to join leading cultural leaders, MPs, MLAs and local government together to explore how collectively communities within the border can work together to inspire change through a creative process.

2022-23 was a successful year where the organization built on existing strengths and explored new opportunities to create new work reaching a wider audience.

The charity continues to be thankful for peoples' wonderful efforts and generosity.

Financial Review

The results for the financial year are set out on page 9 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Income

The charity had total income of £381,657 in 2023 compared to £460,318 in 2022.

Expenditure

During the financial year £360,490 (2022:£425,310) was spent on charitable activities.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £230,810 (2022 - £220,801) and liabilities of £94,353 (2022 - £105,511). The net assets of the company have increased by £21,167.

Reserves Position and Policy

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The reserves policy was agreed following an analysis of the following four factors

- Forecasts for levels of income in future years taking into account the reliability of each source of income and the prospects for opening up new sources.
- Forecasts for expenditure in future years on the basis of planned activity;
- Analysis of any future needs, opportunities, contingencies or risks, the effects of which are not likely to be met out of income if and when they arise; and
- Assessment of the likelihood of each of those needs and risks materialising and the potential consequences of the charity not being able to meet them.

The charity's policy is to maintain a level of free reserves which meets the needs of the Charity both at the current time and for the foreseeable future. Free reserves are its total funds excluding restricted funds, designated funds, or income funds which can only be released by disposing of fixed assets held for charity use. Total reserves at the end of the financial year were £136,457 of which restricted was £54,731 and unrestricted of £81,726.

Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Mr David Hanna

Mrs. Helena Young

Mrs. Tracey McVerry (Resigned 9 March 2023)

Ms. Hilary Good (Resigned 9 March 2023)

The secretary who served during the financial year was:

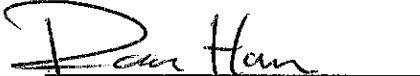
Mrs Grainne Powell

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Sticky Fingers Arts subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 31 January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr David Hanna
Trustee