

APPENDIX 1



Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2022	To	31	03	2023

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Reference and administration details

Charity name
Other names charity is known by
Registered charity number
Charity's principal address

Adventure Circus SCIO
Adventure Circus
SC050825
Unit 7
Kilda Place
Perth
Postcode PH1 3RL

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Jane Moncrieff	Chairperson		
2	Margaret-Anne Lawrie	Treasurer		
3	Gemma Simpson	Secretary		
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

APPENDIX 1

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 10 March 2021.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Trustees are recruited and appointed from within the members of Adventure Circus

Objectives and activities

Charitable Purposes

Adventure Circus is Perth's Circus, founded in 2015, gaining SCIO status in 2021. The charitable objectives of Adventure Circus are as follows

- 4.1 The advancement of education
- 4.2 the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science
- 4.3 the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

Education and training

The biggest programme we offer is weekly tuition in aerial arts, with regular taught classes in silks, trapeze, hoop, rope, sling and cloud. We also teach ground based skills such as hula hoop, juggling, poi spinning and acrobalance. Classes are for ages 6 to 14 years, and 14+(adults). We also compliment circus skills training with flexibility, fitness and yoga classes. We charge participation fees for aerial classes, and strive to secure funding/fundraise so that students can take part at no additional cost in our fitness and flexibility classes, and have a sliding pay scale for participation in acro and prop manipulation classes.

We also work with partner groups such as schools, charities or local organisations to provide 'have a go sessions' either at our facility, or out in the community to encourage participation in circus arts. We also host our own 'family fun day' to raise awareness of circus in our local community.

Our instructors are supported to attend training courses, workshops and other continued professional development opportunities throughout the year.

Performance

Students and instructors are encouraged to perform their skills throughout the year. We do with via three showcase opportunities - a spring show, a summer show and a Christmas show. It is our normal practise to organise an annual theatre show at Perth College UHI (currently in abeyance due to Covid-19). We have a touring show that visits local care homes and we seek opportunities to create indoor and outdoor theatre shows. In addition to this, we take bookings from private

community groups and private companies wanting to hire performers for their events. Income generated from all of these activities support our charitable aims.

Facilities

We co-lease a warehouse unit facility where all of our aerial classes take place. We also hire space from Riverside Church, Perth where we host our spring and Christmas showcase events and our floor based classes (prop manipulation / flexibility).

Our facilities are fit for purpose except they lack adequate heating infrastructure. We generate income from our unit by renting out a room for personal training services.

Circus network

We are involved in raising awareness of circus arts nationally and are well connected to aerial dance and circus schools across Scotland and the UK. Where possible we attend sector gatherings and contribute to discussions about the future direction of circus.

APPENDIX 1

Achievements and performance

Achievements 2022-2023

Following on from a breakthrough first year as a SCIO, Adventure Circus has continued to go from strength to strength, growing our reputation as prominent social circus in Scotland.

Without further lockdowns, we ran our full education programme through to the end of our financial year, March 2023. It was the first year that our first wave of young students who had been with us since the very beginning of Adventure Circus flew the nest to head off to University. We are looking forward to welcoming them all back at Carnival and classes when they are home visiting family and friends. We are pleased that they have all kept up their circus skills training, either with us or in their University city.

We are very grateful to our teaching team of Jo, Suzie, Darren, Emma B, Emma H, Graeme, Lorna, Kym, Jocelyn and Darcey and Gemma who have all contributed so much of their time and skills to our busy education programme.

We have 27 classes a week and continue to operate from Kilda Place, Riverside Church and also North Muirton Community Centre (yoga). We were especially grateful to the Women's Fund for Scotland and to Live Active Sport for supporting our wellbeing classes throughout 2022-23. We are also grateful to receive support from Perth and Kinross Council to run food insecurity school holiday programmes in summer and October.

We also received funding from Clubs In Crisis (a pandemic response fund) to deliver sessions to people with autism in partnership with the One Stop Shop, and we also were able to visit Fairview School to deliver sessions to children with learning, sensory and physical disabilities.

In 2021 we created a new event called 'Carnival' which was a three day camping experience at the home of one of our students. The event was a huge success and feedback suggested that we needed to do the event again. Our 2021 venue was perfect for a small gathering with kind weather, but this is Scotland so we started to look for a venue that had indoor capacity and landed on Badaguish in Aviemore. After a lot of planning, we had a group of 45 head north at the end of July to enjoy a huge variety of circus skills led by volunteer instructors and we hosted two shows. Success was such that we have booked to return again in 2023.

Funding to support our work and support financial stability was a huge focus throughout the year. We were successful in a number of ways and are grateful to all funders:

- March 2022: Women's Fund for Scotland supported participation for women
- March 2022: PKC Common Good Fund supported DragonFyre
- April 2022: Arnold Clark Community Fund supported DragonFyre
- May 2022: Blairgowrie Young Philanthropy funding supported our general activities

- June 2022: PKC Food Insecurity Funding supported our holiday programme
- July 2022: PKC Volunteer Upskill Fund supported us to buy safety equipment
- October 2022: We were accepted as a Co-op local cause
- December 2022: Live Active Sport supported our Yoga sessions for 2023-2024
- January 2023: PKC Warm Spaces funding supported the purchase of heaters
- March 2023: Stagecoach Group funding supported the upgrade of our electrics
- March 2023: PKAVS awarded us Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Funding for 2023-2024
- March 2023: PKC funding for Gie It Laldy 'Girls in Sport' event for 2023-2024

Performance and fundraising events

We kicked off the year with an instructor/student showcase on 2 April 2022 fundraising to help support refugees coming to Perth from Ukraine, displaced because of the war. We had a great turn out for our cabaret style show and raised £766 which was donated to the PKAVS minorities community hub.

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/perths-adventure-circus-delight-high-26692104>

Following on, our 'Bring Me Sunshine' Care home tour commenced, with 9 visits to care homes between April and June 2022. We also visited Kinross Primary School to deliver workshops and perform Bring Me Sunshine.

In June 2022 we were booked to be part of 'Gie it Laldy' an Active Schools event to encourage S3 girls not engaged in sport to try activities, and Gemma, Jo and Phoebe (S6 pupil) performed at the event to open and close proceedings.

We held a family fun day in July 2022 with a challenge to raise funds for a defibrillator which was a huge success. Fundraising was done by a performance of 'Bring Me Sunshine', followed by family have a go sessions, and a sponsored silk climb, with students young and old scaling the silks over and over again 269 times, to reach the height of Ben Nevis. £2000 was raised and the defibrillator is now installed and registered on the circuit. Staff and students then had the chance to attend life saving heart start defib training.

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/family-fun-day-helps-perths-27548504>

We had opportunities for students and instructors to perform at our summer Carnival (July 2022), with a Friday evening show for students and Saturday evening for instructors. As the Carnival site is also open to the public, the show welcomed additional guests from Badaguish too!

With the absence of our regular theatre shows at Perth College, and after stumbling across the story of the 'Legend of the Kinnoull Hill Dragon' we turned our attention to creating a large scale outdoor theatre show, featuring: puppetry, spoken word, acrobatic and fire performance. Thanks to funding from Event Scotland, Perth and Kinross Council, and many other smaller supporters, our large cast and volunteer team performed four shows to almost 400 audience members in November 2022. A schools resource was also devised by Suzie and shared to teachers across Perth and Kinross to allow them to explore the local legend through watching Dragonfyre (we professionally filmed the event), and through creative writing, arts and crafts and physical skills. Plans are in place to raise funding to bring the legend back to life in November 2023.

<https://www.adventurecircus.org/dragonfyre>

In December 2022 we supported our Edinburgh friends at the CXCampbell Christmas Cabaret with Gemma, Jo and Suzie performing at this event for a second time. We ended 2022 with our family festive fun day and cabaret show at Riverside Church. Fundraising at this event was to support our return to making theatre shows in 2024.

Although not a show, in October 2022 and February 2023 we worked alongside Lightpress Design and Media to host circus 'photoshoots' which give students a chance to test their creativity and poise and help us to raise funds for our ongoing activities. We also worked in partnership with the Auchterarder Picture House to host a site specific photoshoot in a 1920s cinema, that closed in the 1960s and is going to be restored to it's full glory in the near future.

Gemma, Suzie, Jo and Emma H travelled to Wales in March 2023 to be part of the No Fit State devised 'Circus Village' where they took part in a three day intensive course, 'working with a director'. Linked with Fireza Guidi, our team joined with a group of artists from all over the UK to share skills, learn from Fireza and finally perform in a show in the No Fit State big top, for Circus Village participants and tutors.

Financial review

In the first year of operating as a SCIO, the priority was to first ensure all operating and employment costs were covered, and then to generate a reserve to safeguard the long term operation of the circus, to support specific priorities and enable us to address any unexpected financial challenges. This was achieved and the reserves further strengthened in year two (2022-2023). We have one employee who is the part time Managing Director and also an instructor. All other instructors and support staff are contracted on a freelance basis.

We pay 50% of the rental costs of Unit 7, Kilda Place, PH1 3RL to Phoenix Allstars Cheerleaders and for the time we use Riverside Church, we are invoiced on an hourly basis.

The majority of our income is generated from the class fees we receive, which funds 100% of our employee and freelance instructor costs, as well as our rent and ongoing equipment maintenance costs. We own all of the circus equipment we use outright.

Funding applications are ongoing throughout the year, and contribute towards equipment and facility improvements, participation projects and community events.

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity are exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

This strategy comprises:

An annual review of the risks the charity may face

The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan

The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

One of the main risks post pandemic is financial risk and so the creation and maintenance of a reserves policy for the charity is key. This policy is detailed below. The other risks acknowledged and under constant consideration are health and safety in relation to all of our activities, affecting trustees, staff, freelance contractors, volunteers and our audience members.

Thanks

The Trustees would like to extend thanks to all instructors, volunteers and our loyal students who make Adventure Circus such a vibrant circus and one we are honoured to be part of.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Trustees have reviewed the need for reserves and aim to achieve a minimum level of free reserves of £12,000 which represents three months overheads and winding up costs.

In 2022-2023 Trustees have designated restricted reserves and surplus as follows

- £26,250 restricted grant funding for projects in 2023-2024
- £2,743 towards our free reserves (£9,257 in 2021-22)
- £1,742 towards ongoing facility improvements and project development in 2023-2024

Therefore, our target figure of £12,000 as defined in our reserves policy has been met.

Details of any deficit

N/A

Donated facilities and services (if any)

N/A

APPENDIX 1

Other optional information

Future Plans

Adventure Circus will build upon the strength of the new education structure it has in place, will continue to support the development of instructors and will continue to seek and grow opportunities to perform for local audiences. The biggest challenge that we face is advance notice that our facility rent is increasing by 33% from 1 April 2023. Funding and fundraising to support those goals and our rising facility costs will be ongoing.

On a positive note, from 1 April 2023 we plan to have in place a new administrative system using Microsoft Office for all of our functions (previously we used Google Drive) and have the support of two part time administrators who will manage youth and adult class bookings. We will also be installing new lighting, heating and insulation to enhance our training space, as well as improving our kitchen area, renewing the carpet flooring and adding a door into our lounge area to improve the warmth and aesthetics of our facility communal areas.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Jane Moncrieff	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	
Date	05/12/2023	