



2024/2025

Changing lives through arts



Impact Report



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# WELCOME



It gives me great pleasure to introduce Independent Arts' Annual Report for 2025. This year has been one of both challenge and celebration, as we continue to build on our mission of improving wellbeing and quality of life through the power of creativity.

In October 2024, we welcomed Rosanna Sloan to the role of Chief Executive. She came to us with a wealth of experience and a passion for helping people lead happier, healthier and more fulfilled lives through engaging in arts activities. Working closely with our trustees and staff, Rosie has refined and strengthened our strategy, putting in place the plans and structures that will enable us to direct our services to meet the needs of the Isle of Wight community both now and in future years.

The past twelve months have shown, once again, the vital role that Independent Arts plays. We have continued with our work in care homes and our ever popular weekly "Singabout" sessions. Both activities are aimed at older people.

We have continued to extend our reach and developed innovative programmes, including "Arts Lab", a youth-led programme aimed at young people aged 12 and above, and the "Men's Art Project" aimed at improving mental health by creating a safe space for men to come together and express themselves through creative arts.

We have strengthened partnerships with other creative health organisations, recognising that the best way to serve our island is to work collaboratively, both here and across the UK. Most importantly, we have seen first-hand the positive impact that creativity brings—reducing isolation, building confidence, and fostering connection among people of all ages. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and artists, whose commitment and passion drive everything we do. I would also like to thank our funders, supporters, and partners for their trust and generosity, which enable Independent Arts to continue its essential work.

As Chair of Trustees, I am immensely proud of the organisation's achievements this year and excited for the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we are ensuring that the arts remain accessible, inclusive, and transformative for everyone in our community.

Jacquie Heany  
**Chair of Trustees**



This financial year has been one of review, refinement, and development for Independent Arts—and my first as Chief Executive. Since joining in October I have been deeply impressed by the output and impact the charity makes daily to people's lives on the Island. The programmes we run are essential lifelines focusing on connection, fulfilment and support.

A single day with Independent Arts shows the breadth of our work: three workshops in our Creative Hub that support mental health and wellbeing; two SingAbout groups that bring people together to combat social isolation; four workshops in care homes supporting people living with dementia and disability; and an ArtsLab, workshop which builds confidence, wellbeing, and leadership in young people. Independent Arts truly is a remarkable organisation and a vital service to improve health outcomes for people on the Island.

None of this would be possible without our remarkable team of staff, volunteers, practitioners, our patron and our trustees.

Their talent, passion, and dedication drive everything we achieve to make a difference daily to people's lives.

It has been a joy, this past year, to work on our strategy and direction and build on the excellent foundations that have been established over the last 38 years.

We are now strengthening our connections with the Creative Health sector, we are looking at best practice and innovation in our field to ensure our programmes have the best outcomes for our participants and we are developing projects which explore a range of art forms to continue our excellent reputation for quality and creativity.

This important work depends on the generosity of our funders, businesses, and the public. I am deeply grateful to everyone who has supported us this year - your contribution makes this possible.

Finally, I would like to thank the whole Independent Arts community for making me feel so welcome in my first year. Together, we will continue to make Independent Arts the beating heart of Creative Health on the Isle of Wight.


Rosanna Sloan  
**Chief Executive**

# ABOUT US

**Independent Arts** improves people's health and wellbeing on the Isle of Wight through creative activities enabling people to connect, live well and thrive.

We are a pioneering creative health charity who deliver artistic programmes designed to address the diverse needs of our community, from improving emotional wellbeing to supporting physical health, at every stage of life.

We provide an essential, safe and welcoming space to connect with others and discover your creativity, at our Hub, in Newport, and through our workshops across the Island.



**WE IMPROVE PEOPLE'S HEALTH  
AND WELLBEING ON THE ISLE OF  
WIGHT THROUGH CREATIVE  
ACTIVITIES, ENABLING PEOPLE TO  
CONNECT, LIVE WELL AND THRIVE.**

# WHAT WE DO

## **Creative Health Programmes**

We respond to identified need to co-create a diverse range of creative health programmes.

## **Innovation**

We pioneer, test and lead on new methods of creative health delivery.

## **Bringing People Together**

We create spaces where participants can connect with others, feel welcome, supported and valued and build communities.

## **Everyday Creativity and Wellbeing**

We deliver workshops and events to help people experience the many benefits of creativity for everyday health and wellbeing.

# IMPACT IN NUMBERS



WE SUPPORTED MORE THAN  
**450** PEOPLE WEEKLY  
THROUGH OUR YEARLY  
PROGRAMME.

DELIVERED OVER **3100**  
WORKSHOPS THIS YEAR



CREATIVE HUB

OPEN **6** DAYS  
PER WEEK

DELIVERED  
**453**  
WORKSHOPS

GALLERY



**8** EXHIBITIONS  
THIS YEAR

WELCOMED  
**2361**  
VISITORS



## CARE HOMES

SUPPORTED OVER **500** PEOPLE  
DURING OUR WEEKLY SESSIONS

FACILITATED OVER **1850**  
CREATIVE WORKSHOPS



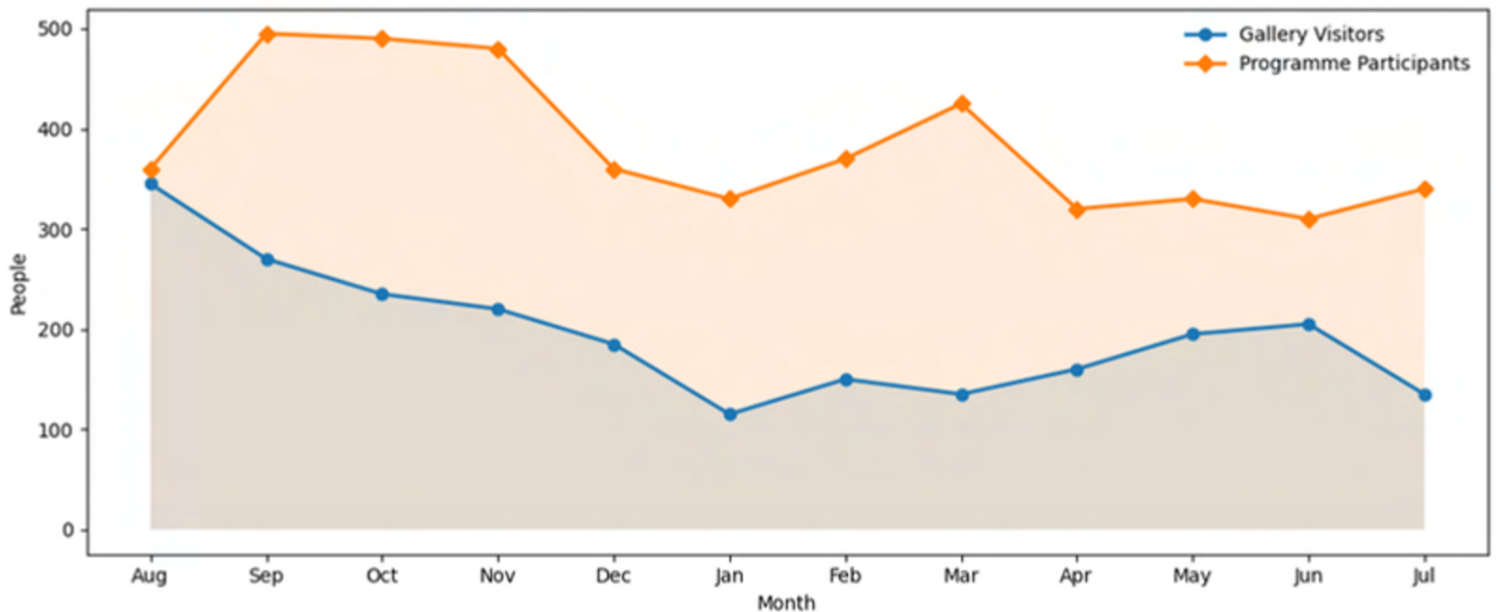
DELIVERED WEEKLY  
SINGING FOR  
WELLBEING SESSIONS  
AT **6** LOCATIONS  
ACROSS THE ISLE OF  
WIGHT ENGAGING  
OVER **180**  
OLDER ADULTS

ENGAGED **42**  
YOUNG PEOPLE IN  
A YEAR-LONG,  
YOUTH-LED  
CREATIVE  
PROGRAMME

DELIVERED **18**  
WORKSHOPS  
FOR HOME-EDUCATED  
FAMILIES

# CREATIVE HUB PROGRAMME

Our Creative Hub is the base and home of Independent Arts. It includes a workshop space, a gallery for exhibiting participants' work, and our office. Located on the high street, the Hub also gives us a visible presence, with window displays for artwork and a small retail offer. We have transformed this empty unit into a vibrant, ever-changing creative space where we deliver workshops designed to improve the lives of Island residents. It is also a safe and welcoming place for visitors—whether they are curious about our work, want to see an exhibition, or simply need a moment to pause while in town. From the Creative Hub, we offer at least fifteen workshops every week, welcoming hundreds through the doors every month.



Over the past year we have expanded the activity at our Creative Hub and now open the space to the public six days a week. We run at least two workshops in the building each day, many of which have grown in size due to demand or because of the benefits experienced by participants.



## Our Creative Hub programme includes:

**Mindful Moments** - weekly wellbeing sessions designed to support participants' mental health through mindfulness-based activities.

Each week is different as we carefully curate a programme of visiting practitioners. The sessions have included mediation, sound baths, painting and breath work.

Mindful Moments allows participants time to pause and step away from the stresses of daily life, often leaving them feeling calmer and uplifted. Due to the popularity and impact of the programme, we expanded the offer to include Mindful Afternoons and Mindful Evenings.

For those who may benefit from further support, the NHS Mental Health Peer Support Team is available after Mindful Moments sessions, giving participants the opportunity to stay, talk and access support in an informal setting.



**BEING HERE HAS BEEN BETTER FOR ME THAN ANYTHING ELSE I'VE TRIED.**

**JUST SPENDING MY TIME DOING SOMETHING CREATIVE HAS CHANGED MY WAY OF THINKING.**

**MINDFUL MOMENTS PARTICIPANT**

**Chess Craft** - an intergenerational workshop open to anyone aged 8+ who wants to learn or play chess. Supported by two practitioners, participants are encouraged to rotate games and play with others of different ages and abilities. The sessions create opportunities for connection across generations. Younger participants often grow in confidence as they play alongside older players, while older participants gain satisfaction from mentoring and supporting others.

Chess Craft attracts a particularly diverse audience within our Creative Hub programme, including a higher proportion of men than many of our other workshops.

**Arts Lab** - an experimental art space for young people aged 12 and over, where participants work with professional artists, explore new art mediums, build a portfolio, and take part in youth social action projects. The sessions also provide opportunities to make friends and develop social connections. Many participants have attended for over two years, during which time we have seen them grow in confidence, develop their artistic practice, and form strong bonds with their peers.

**Move and Groove** - a gentle creative dance workshop designed to improve participants' balance, coordination, and confidence. Primarily attended by people of retirement age and above, the sessions also serve as an important social lifeline, helping participants build friendships and enjoy time together over tea and homemade cake after each workshop.



**Wellbeing Cafe** - designed for participants who may need additional support, attendees include people experiencing different stages of dementia, residents from local care homes, and those living with a range of mental health conditions.

For many participants, regularly attending the group is an important step, as they engage with new activities each week. The consistency of a weekly workshop provides valuable routine, helping participants feel supported, engaged, and connected.

**I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO IF I  
COULDN'T COME HERE, IT'S A GOOD  
CHANGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND I DON'T  
HAVE THE NOISE AND DISTRACTION THAT  
I HAVE AT HOME.  
IT GIVES ME A BREAK.**

**WELLBEING CAFE PARTICIPANT**

**Make and Create** - is an intergenerational drop in creative session open to anyone of school age or older. The workshop brings together primary-aged children and older participants, including those who are retired or living with dementia, to work collaboratively in a social and creative environment.

For older participants who may be geographically distant from their families, the sessions provide an opportunity to connect with younger people, chat, and create together. Due to demand, the programme was expanded to Saturday afternoons to accommodate young families, to further encourage participation across generations.



“THE THING ABOUT THIS GROUP IS AS YOU GET OLDER YOUR FAMILIES GET BUSY AND YOU DON'T GET TO SEE ANYONE AS OFTEN, THAT'S WHAT THIS GROUP IS FOR-IT MAKES PEOPLE FEEL AS IF THEY STILL HAVE A PURPOSE.”

CREATIVE CAFE PARTICIPANT

**Creative Cafe** - is a social creative group that has grown from one session per day to two, in response to participant demand and needs. Attendees range in age from their 30s to their 90s, engaging in a variety of artistic activities each week while enjoying shared conversation, laughter, and a cup of tea.

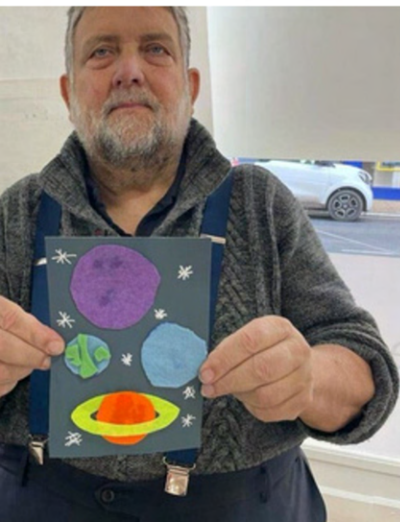
The sessions provide a welcoming space for social connection and creative expression, supporting wellbeing and fostering friendships across generations.

Workshops this year have included; creating doves for a World Peace Day display, paper mosaics delivered by a participant as a skill-share session, and still life fruit drawing for a Harvest Festival themed week!

**Meet & Make** - is an introductory creative workshop designed for participants who may be new to Independent Arts. The sessions provide a small, welcoming environment with simple creative activities, helping participants—particularly those who may feel anxious about attending a new space—feel comfortable and supported. From this starting point, participants can be signposted to other suitable workshops.

The group attracts a wide age range, from mid-20s to mid-90s, often participating together, creating opportunities for intergenerational collaboration and knowledge sharing, all whilst undertaking varied, simple, creative activities.

**Exhibiting** - Artwork created during all Creative Hub workshops have been exhibited in the Creative Hub gallery, as well as in our windows, and community windows. This gives participants and their loved ones opportunities to connect, celebrate, and take pride in their creative achievements. Exhibiting the work creates a tangible outcome of our Creative Hub workshops. The collection has included collage, watercolours, printing, textiles, and mini sculptures.



# SINGABOUT

Since its launch in 2011, Singabout has become a cornerstone of Independent Arts' work, offering accessible, inclusive singing sessions that promote wellbeing and reduce social isolation. There are six Singabout groups that run across the Isle of Wight, engaging an average of 180 participants a week. The majority of attendees are aged over 55, with many living alone, acting as unpaid carers, or living with health conditions.

Sessions are led by a team of four skilled singing practitioners, each bringing their own expertise, enthusiasm, and distinctive style. The approach is deliberately informal - Singabout is not a traditional choir. Instead, sessions create a friendly, non-judgemental space where participants can relax, enjoy themselves, and connect with others through music.

**I'M A CARER AND DON'T LEAVE THE HOUSE TOO OFTEN—COMING HERE IS A REAL LIFELINE. IT SHOULD BE ON PRESCRIPTION!**

**SINGABOUT PARTICIPANT**



Since the project's inception, Independent Arts has championed the concept of "singing for wellness", drawing on research that highlights the benefits of singing for mental health, cognitive function, and emotional resilience. Participants report improvements in mood, reduced stress, and a greater sense of belonging.

For many, Singabout offers far more than just singing—it is a vital opportunity for connection, self-expression, and joy. In the context of an ageing population and rising concerns about loneliness, the programme continues to play an important role in supporting community wellbeing.



# ARTS LAB

Arts Lab is a youth-led programme for young people aged 11-16, supporting youth voice through a creative health approach. The programme provides an open creative space where participants can explore different art forms, develop their ideas, and work with artists across a range of disciplines. By encouraging creative freedom and experimentation, Arts Lab supports young people to build confidence, discover their interests, and develop their individual creative practice.

Since last summer the programme has been supported by the Sovereign Network Group 'I Will' Social Action Fund, which funds youth leadership projects with placemaking outcomes. Participants chose the environment as the focus of their public project, developing the theme 'Save Our Future'. The project helped strengthen friendships within the group and received significant coverage in local online media.



From the spring onwards, the group returned to creative exploration through workshops with guest artists, including Nathan Holt, Adam Gatteril, Debbie Way, Joanne Rigby, Quivers, Noah Johnson, Steve Baxter and the New Carnival Company. Sessions explored areas such as sonic art, sculpture, textiles, costume design and paper construction.

The young people produced a wide range of work, from carnival costumes for Sandown Illuminated Carnival and the Isle of Wight Pride parade, to artworks for our What's On Your Mind public engagement project during Mental Health Awareness Month.

**910 VISITORS CAME TO  
SEE THE ARTS LAB  
EXHIBITIONS STAGED IN  
OUR PUBLIC GALLERY  
AND DISPLAYED IN OUR  
MAIN WINDOWS.**



# WORKSHOPS FOR WELLBEING

Our Workshops for Wellbeing programme brings creative activities directly into residential care settings across the Island, supporting some of our most vulnerable older residents. Delivered by talented freelance artists, these workshops provide meaningful opportunities for creative expression, helping to improve wellbeing, encourage social connection, and support both mental and physical health.

Around 70% of people living in residential care are living with dementia, and many others experience long-term health conditions or physical impairments. Limited mobility, frailty, and cognitive decline can significantly affect quality of life, often leading to loneliness and depression. Creative activity offers a vital way to engage residents, stimulate memories, and provide moments of joy and connection.

This year we delivered more than 1,850 workshops, creating over 16,500 meaningful engagements with participants. Sessions included visual arts, creative writing, movement, music, singing and reminiscence.



# Workshops

Process-led short and longer-term individual and group projects. Sessions aimed to stimulate memory and senses by providing recognisable stimuli and an immersion into colour and texture.

Memory therapy stimulated by the exploration of photographs, objects, and music from our memorabilia collection. Sessions aimed to make memories matter by providing space for sharing personal stories and by doing so, to help improve participant's cognition and mood.

Reminiscence

Visual Arts

Movement

on offer include:

Music

Gentle seated activity using music and interactive resources, such as parachutes. Sessions aimed to encourage physical movement, interaction with others, and to spark self-expression.

A range of musical activities and entertainment. Sessions aimed to evoke memories, encourage self-expression and to collectively celebrate special events, including birthdays. Sessions aimed to improve memory, breathing, movement, and confidence.



# SINGING FOR BREATHING

**Singing for Breathing** - is a six-week course designed to support lung health and help manage anxiety related to breathing. The programme is particularly beneficial for people living with conditions such as COPD or Long COVID. Participants are encouraged to attend all six sessions where possible, as the course follows the structured approach set out in the Singing for Lung Health programme developed by Asthma + Lung UK.

Many participants choose to repeat the course due to the benefits they experience, and some go on to join our SingAbout groups for longer-term participation, continuing to build confidence, improve breathing techniques, and enjoy the social and wellbeing benefits of singing together.

WHAT A BIG DIFFERENCE  
SINGING FOR BREATHING HAS  
MADE TO MY HEAD AND  
PHYSICALLY, I FEEL BETTER THAN I  
HAVE IN YEARS!

SINGING FOR  
BREATHING PARTICIPANT

THE SESSION AND TECHNIQUES I'VE  
LEARNT HAVE MADE ME FEEL  
MORE CONFIDENT AND HELPED ME  
GAIN SOME CONTROL  
OF MY CONDITION.

SINGING FOR BREATHING PARTICIPANT





# EARTH STAR

Earth Star was a partnership programme funded by National Landscapes, delivered between January and August as part of our ArtsEd project for home-educating families with children aged 8-14.

The programme brought together three partners: Creative Ways Outdoors, Independent Arts, and StoneCrabs Theatre. It formed part of the wider Discovering Landscapes initiative, encouraging Islanders to explore the countryside and coastline cared for by National Landscapes. Spending time outdoors can reduce stress and anxiety, improve mood, and foster a sense of connection and belonging.



**15**

**CHILDREN & PARENT/CARER PLACES  
OFFERED ACROSS FOUR  
6 WEEK PROGRAMMES**

**34 PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED** ↪  
**24 CREATIVE WORKSHOPS &  
4 SITE VISITS**

**433**

**VISITORS ATTENDED  
THE EXHIBITION**

The project used a thematic creative approach, giving participants a loose framework to explore ideas with support from lead artist and creative producer Joanne Rigby. Activities explored wayfinding and migration, with children creating memory maps of their environments and daily journeys.

Site visits to the countryside and water meadows of Carisbrooke and Clatterford also explored the built heritage of the landscape. Working with sound artist Noah Johnson, participants created imagined landscapes using recorded and collected sounds, exploring the traces and echoes landscapes retain from the past.

# ARTS ED

ArtsEd is a programme for home-educating families with children aged 8-14, funded by the Isle of Wight Council Early Help Supporting Families fund. The programme delivered 42 morning workshops for 62 children and their parent/carers, with nature-based creative themes linked to the National Landscapes Discovering Landscapes programme. Feedback from families helped shape the workshops, with field trips and activities adapted in response to their experiences and needs.

Participants explored a range of creative mediums and were introduced to the work of local, national, and international artists. Families also received learning resources to extend activities at home, with some contributing ideas and materials to enrich the sessions.



Demand for ArtsEd has been high, with waiting lists throughout the year. Running the programme in six-week blocks has enabled us to offer places to new families regularly.

Participants exhibited their work in our gallery and created a large-scale diorama for a public window display overlooking St James's Square. Families highlighted the rarity of opportunities for home-educated children to display their work publicly, and many visited the exhibition together to celebrate their achievements.

The programme has also supported some young people to transition back into formal education, with seven participants moving on to primary, secondary, or college education after taking part.

# FINDING FOLK

Finding Folk is a year-long commissioned programme running in three Sovereign Network supported living sites. The programme is aimed at isolated older residents, bringing them together for light creative sessions and conversations that foster friendship and connection. Sessions take place monthly in the communal lounge spaces, enabling less mobile residents and those facing other barriers the greatest opportunity to attend.

The project looks at Island folklore, and draws on traditions of storytelling and story sharing in much the same way as the folk tales of the past were passed down through word of mouth, chatter and anecdote. Sessions are led by mixed media artist Lou Elliot, potter Kirsty Hayler and 3D artist Debbie Way.



**IT HAS CERTAINLY CHANGED  
MY LIFE. I HAVE MADE NEW  
FRIENDS... THANK YOU  
INDEPENDENT ARTS FOR  
GIVING ME A NEW  
LEASE OF LIFE.**

**FINDING FOLK PARTICIPANT**

Bringing people together and creating connections between people through creativity is a prominent strand of our work, and this commissioned partnership project has been a great opportunity for us to build on this valuable community provision beyond the hub setting.

Residents have said how much they're enjoying the continuity of the project and really look forward to the monthly gatherings.

This programme will run until January 2026.

# MENS ART PROJECT

The Men's Art Project (MAP) began in January 2025 to provide men with a supportive space to connect and explore creativity. Recognising that men can often face barriers to emotional expression and engagement with the arts, the project was designed as an inclusive opportunity to take part in creative activity.

The arts offer a powerful means of self-expression and can support mental health, emotional resilience, and social connection. Through the project, participants have been encouraged to reflect, share experiences, and grow both individually and as a group.

The name reflects themes of wayfinding and personal journeys. Over the past six months the group has met weekly at Downside Community Centre, working with professional artists Julian Winslow, Paul Armfield, and Steve Baxter.



Participants have explored a range of mediums including watercolour, suminagashi, wire sculpture, lino printing, photography, and sculpture.

Funded by the Baring Foundation, MAP has delivered artist-led sessions that build confidence, develop skills, and encourage meaningful connections. Participants report a greater sense of belonging, improved confidence, and increased willingness to try new things.

The first year culminated in a public exhibition showcasing the group's work and celebrating the supportive community formed through the project.



**IT'S BEEN A REALLY WONDERFUL JOURNEY SO FAR, WE'VE LAUGHED A LOT AND HAD SOME REALLY BEAUTIFUL MOMENTS OF CREATIVE, PURPOSEFUL SILENCE.**

**MAP PARTICIPANT**





# GALLERY

Throughout the last year we have developed our window displays offering window space to more community groups, local schools and artists. In our main gallery space we staged programme exhibitions from: Arts Lab, Arts Ed, Workshops for Wellbeing, our Men's Mental Health Project and the Isle of Wight VI Form fashion and foundation art students. In June our gallery space was transformed into a catwalk runway for the college fashion student's launch of their Nocturnal Couture collection. Invited families and friends packed the gallery to capacity and the hub space played host to a post event drinks party.

Whilst our main windows programme typically expands the content from the gallery exhibitions, the windows are also used for seasonally themed exhibitions at Christmas, and in the spring, and summer too. These seasonal displays are typically co-created by our staff and volunteers, and by participants in their weekly workshops.



A collection of work produced by young participants exploring a variety of public art mediums, ahead of designing and producing their own public place-making art work.

JULY - SEPT

SEPT - NOV



**Archive Sale -**  
A showcase of work being offered for sale from our workshops and projects archive.



JAN - MARCH

**Textiles Retrospective -**  
An archive display of work produced by participants in our workshops from 2018-2025.

DEC



Seasonal displays, with items made by our participants being offered for sale in our retail space.

## Annual Care Homes Exhibition

- Celebrating creative work produced by residents throughout the year as part of our care home delivery programme.



NOV - JAN

MARCH - MAY



**ArtsEd - Programme Exhibition -**  
A showcase of work produced by children attending our home education programme, and inspired by four of the Island's National Landscapes sites.



**Arts Lab - Programme Exhibition.** A display of work produced by young participants working with Island artists and exploring different cross disciplinary mediums.

MAY - JUNE

JUNE



**Nocturnal Couture -**  
IOW VI Form College fashion students, catwalk show.

**Summer window display -**  
Seasonal summer flowers and strawberries inspired installation.



JULY

JUNE - AUG

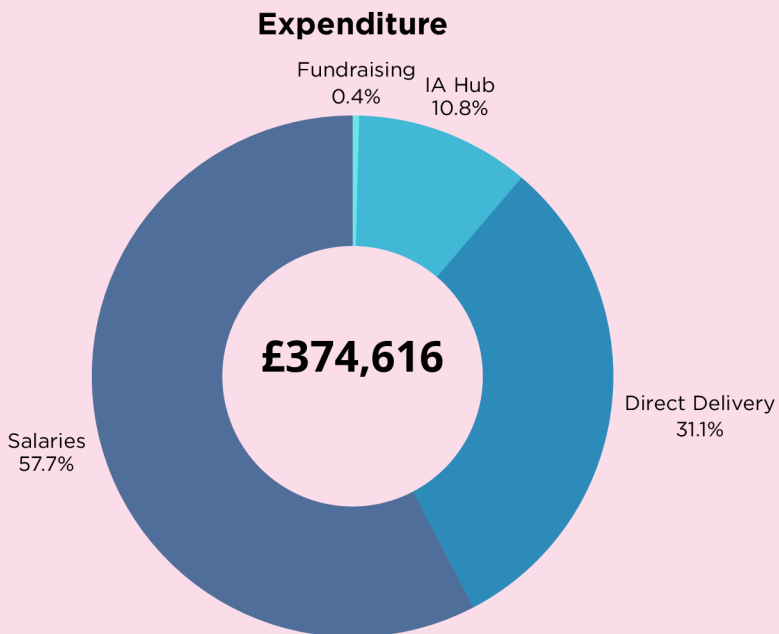
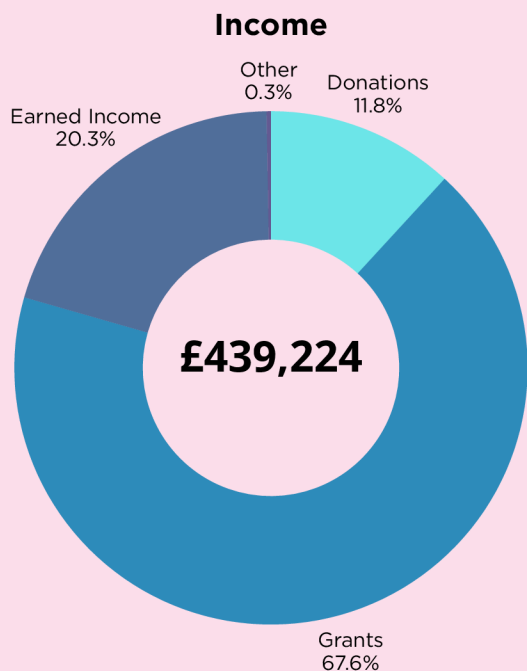


**MAP (Men's Art Project)** collected works produced by participants in workshops led by Island artists.



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Our total income has grown this year due to the generous support of new programmes and therefore new funders to Independent Arts. This financial year has been one of resilience and careful stewardship for our charity. We have maintained a stable financial position while continuing to deliver high quality creative health projects across the Island.



Looking ahead, our priority is to strengthen the charity's financial resilience by growing our earned income. This will enable us to leverage match funding for projects that directly respond to identified needs and remain aligned with our charitable purpose. At the same time, we are reviewing and enhancing our Fundraising Strategy to navigate the increasingly competitive landscape for grant funding, which continues to be, and will remain, our primary source of income.

# FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

Our work this year has been made possible through the commitment and generosity of our funders and supporters. Their support has enabled us to deliver everything you see in this Impact Report - reaching communities across the Island to improve people's health and wellbeing through creative activities enabling people to connect, live well and thrive.

We are profoundly grateful to the trusts and foundations whose continued support underpins our work, and to the individuals whose donations make new opportunities possible. Together, their contributions allow us to reach more people, pioneer new creative health programmes, and create lasting impact through the arts.



**Hampshire & Isle of Wight**  
Wildlife Trust



**Isle of Wight**  
Council



**Isle of Wight**  
National  
Landscape



# FUNDRAISING

**We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts over the past year.**



We were once again proud to be the associated charity of the Wight Proms Festival, a highlight in the Island's cultural calendar. This year, we were thrilled to run nightly raffles throughout the festival, raising an incredible £10,000 to support our work. Such a fantastic achievement would not have been possible without the generosity of local Island businesses who kindly donated prizes, and the many festival-goers whose support and enthusiasm made the raffles a huge success.

**The Garlic Farm**

**Isle of Wight Distillery**

**Cowes Gallery**

**Goddards Brewery**

**Rapanui**

**Isle of Wight Tomatoes**

**Isle of Wight Mushroom Culture**

**Wooldridge Interiors**

**House of Cowes**

**Joli of Cowes**

**Vivus interiors**

We were also incredibly fortunate to be chosen as a supported charity by the Wight Strollers during their wonderful production of Sweet Charity. Their generosity and dedication to helping local causes is truly inspiring, and thanks to their hard work and the amazing support of their audiences, we were presented with a very generous donation of £1,500.

We are deeply grateful for this contribution, which will make a real difference to the work we do.



Each year, we are proud to receive the generous support of the Fairest Isle Festival, whose commitment to the arts greatly enriches our work. This year, they hosted a wonderful series of workshops dedicated to early music, offering participants a unique opportunity. It was an inspiring and enjoyable day to be part of, helping not only to raise awareness of Independent Arts but also vital funds to support our ongoing projects.



Through our Big Give Christmas Campaign, we are delighted to share that we raised an incredible £4,000 in donations, which was then matched by the Big Give and our generous match funder, ShareGift. This brought the total to an amazing £8,000 to support our work. We are truly grateful to everyone who donated during the campaign and over the last year. A special thank you goes to the wonderful individuals who make regular monthly donations—your ongoing support makes such a lasting difference.

# OUR TEAM

**Our achievements this year are a direct reflection of the dedication, talent, and passion of our incredible team - staff, trustees, volunteers, practitioners and ambassadors alike. We are deeply grateful for their commitment, which has made our impact possible.**

## Staff:

Rosanna Sloan  
Kerry Tindall  
Nicola Ward  
Ralph Ridler  
Matt Hitt  
Kerry Weston  
Ali Atkinson  
Polly Zanardi  
Debbie Way  
Sarah Moore  
Joanne Rigby  
Evie Clarke  
Sarah Colwell

## Ambassador:

Mike Christie

## Practitioners:

Alan Springate  
Anna Newton  
Annie O'Bree  
David Healy  
Noah Johnson  
Debbie Way  
Fany Bahchevanska  
Glenn Koppany

Hanna Nixon  
JC Grimshaw  
Kathy Grimshaw  
Jessica Ong  
John Shirley  
Julian Winslow  
Kirstie Hayler  
Lou Elliott

Lucia Para  
Maria Hayter  
Mel Burrows  
Merlyna Johnson  
Pete Richmond  
Philip Fryer  
Polly Zanardi  
Rick Pearson



## Trustees:

Jacquie Heany  
Graham Barnetson  
Josie Pook  
Jodie Jones  
Brian Marriott  
Monica Ogilvy-Morris

Jonathan Bean  
Leah Rice  
Louise Elliott  
Gary Peace  
Esme Bates

## Volunteers:

Andrew Buckman  
Angela Luckett  
Barbara Gouldson  
Bella Cuoghi-Smith  
Bev Bennet  
Brenda Sampson  
Carly Francis  
Christine Ainsworth  
Christine Torrington  
Chooi Greenfield  
Dave Smith  
Dawn Johnson  
Dawn Tearle  
Jean Cotton  
Jo Cox  
John Plumbly  
Kate Pritchett

Kim Filby  
Linda Smith  
Marie Jervis  
Meg Hierons  
Melissa Penn  
Norma Pearce  
Peter Richmond  
Rebecca Dignum  
Sally Hyde  
Sharon Tate  
Sue Dixon  
Sue Goodall  
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Changing lives through arts



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