

NEWHAM POETRY GROUP CIC

Company limited by guarantee

Company Registration Number:

12360903 (England and Wales)

Period of accounts

Start date: 01 January 2022

End date: 31 December 2022

TUESDAY



ACBFZQIR

A06

05/09/2023

#89

COMPANIES HOUSE

NPG CIC Income & Expenses |
Jan 1 2022 - Dec 31 2022

	Description	Income	Expenses
Income			
Total Income	Grants / fundings	87530.53	
Expenses			
Events' cost	Art material - facilitators, Visitors artists' fees - Refreshments - Volunteers expenses		67243.4
Promotional / marketing material	Event cost (Flayers/meet up yearly account/posters/etc)		3823.87
Office equipment		0	
Other expenses	ZOOM year account/ DBS/CRB/CIC/ Public liability insurance		57.23
Equipament		0	
Venue		0	
Transport		0	
UK Corporation Tax			
Advance paid			16406.03

Total Expense	87530.53
Total Income	87530.53
Profit for the Year	0



Sonia Quintero - Director

Dec 31, 2022

UK Balance Sheet Notes - As At 31 December 2022

Audit exemptions

For the year ending in question, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Quintero', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sonia Quintero - Director

Dec 31, 2022

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

- (i) These accounts are the accounts of Newham Poetry Group CIC, a Community Interest Company with primarily social objectives and whose surpluses are principally reinvested on the community.
- (ii) These accounts have been prepared in accordance with IAS/ IFRS and on accruals basis. Income and expenditure are included as they are earned or incurred, rather than as cash is received or paid.
- (iii) The recommendations of the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities have been followed in the preparation of these accounts.

(b) Fund accounting

- (i) The CIC's general fund consists of funds, which the CIC may use for its purposes at its discretion.
- (ii) The CIC's restricted funds are those whose donor has imposed restrictions on the use of the funds, which are legally binding.

(c) Voluntary income

- (i) All voluntary income is included upon receipt.
- (ii) Grants receivable is credited to income immediately upon receipt.

(d) Investment income

Credit is taken for interest when the interest falls due for payment.

(e) Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at their historical cost and are written off through the statement of financial activities.

(f) Administration and Management Cost

Administration expenditure comprises costs incurred in running the CIC. Where applicable, some of these costs have been treated as direct community interest expenditure.

2 Interest receivable and similar income

Bank interest	0.00
---------------	------

3 Fixed Assets and Depreciation:

Fixed assets are only capitalised if they are valued above £100 and have an expected life of more than one year.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

4 Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year

Creditors or Accruals falling due within one year in 2022 were £0

5 Debtors / Prepayments

Other Debtors or prepayments outstanding by the end of the year were £0

6 Share Capital

The company is limited by guarantee.

7 Remuneration of Directors (Trustees)

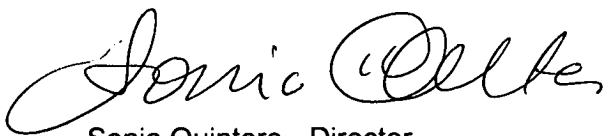
None of the Director received payment this year as a Director, but as project managers or facilitators.

8 Audit exemptions

For the year ending in question, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to company's subject to the small companies' regime.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Quintero', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sonia Quintero - Director

Dec 31, 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income analysis

2022 was a year to consolidate partnerships and expand our activities beyond creative writing, which allowed us to build new connections and explore new creative approaches. For first time we accessed Arts Council grant which was a great achievement and support the grow of the group. We also secure funding for a one-year heritage project that will conclude on October 2023. Our projects had a massive support from residents, local authorities and organisations, It allowed us to establish our profile and develop more projects that impact our community.

Expenditures analysis

- Around 85 % of Newham Poetry House CIC expenditures were spent on running our projects (Refreshments, facilitators, guest poets and artists) and overhead costs to deliver community activities.
- Around 10% of Newham Poetry Group CIC expenditures were spent on financial admi costs.
- 5% of Newham Poetry Group CIC expenditures were spent on volunteering and meetings.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

2022 was a year to group and consolidate Newham Poetry Group in our community. This year we build new partnerships and explore new creative approaches. For instance, Royal Museum Greenwich, University of East London, Queer Newham, REIN and Sarah Bonnell School. NPG promoted social inclusion, community engagement, and residents' well-being, through creative activities that include poetry, creative writing, storytelling, and photography, video marker and music. We use creativity as a tool for self-development, social cohesion, and academic support. Our programmes focused on amplifying marginalised voices offering the majority of the activities to young locals, LGBTQ+, migrants and people from the global majority. Some of our activities were:

Newham LGBTQ+ History Month, Newham Poetry Festival, Newham Show, Newham Word Festival, Black History Month, Newham Heritage and taken part in Newham Citizen Assembly. This year our biggest highlight was the Poetry Festival that attracted massive attention from local newspapers and more than 300 people attended it. where our project; Its shows the great impact our community-led group is having in our residents.

100% of Newham Poetry Group CIC Income was generated from grants.

PROJECTS:

Project	Founder	Comments
LGBTQ History Month	LB Newham	Partnership with Queer Newham
Newham Poetry Festival	Art Council Grant	
Newham Heritage Month	LB Newham	Partnership with Queer Newham
Poetry For All	National Lottery	
Family Poetry sessions	Early years cocoon & UEL	Partnership with Early years cocoon & UEL
Art In The Park	Newham Word Fest - Discover	
Refugee week	National maritime Greenwich	
Mary Renault Commemorative blue plaque	National Heritage Fund	Oct 2022- Nov 2023

Newham Poetry Group CIC
CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

1st January 2022- 31st December 2022
Company Number: 12360903

Newham Poetry Group stakeholders are local communities in the LB Newham, primary and secondary schools, cultural institutions, local grassroots groups and our creative facilitators.

BAME groups

There are several community's led groups in Newham who are dedicated their time and life to keep their traditions alive, share it with British society while struggling with the impact of regeneration and the rise of premises hire prices. We are designing a heritage project to highlight their contribution to London cultural life.

Women and the Cultural Sector

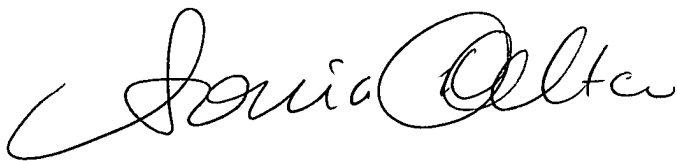
We have carried on to established and strengthen our partnership and relationship with Migration Museum and East End Women's Museum and t in London. This will have led to a joint projects and future partnership.

Refugee and Migrant network.

We have developed more consultation and workshops with diverse migrant and refugee's organisations to broaden our network and expertise in this field to design a training in participatory Creative writing for practitioners working with this target group.

LGBTQ and migrant's communities

We have partnership with Queer Newham and other local group to set up "BORDERLEES" to curated and host workshops around migration, identity and gender's issues as part of the LGBTQ History Month. The LGBTQ community is facing discrimination and homophobia, especially when they are from migrant origins. We are developing an advocacy and campaign strategy using creative writing as tool for communication to raise awareness about the issues that they face.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Quintero', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sonia Quintero - Director

Dec 31, 2022

2022 Projects

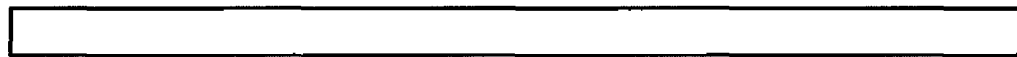
Newham Poetry Festival

Poetry for all • Stratford Park • Sept 24th & 25th



NEWHAM POETRY FESTIVAL

• www.newhampoeetrygroup.com •



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

NEWHAM
POETRY
GROUP

Newham London

LGBTQ History Month



Newham's Pride flag

Stitching our communities together through craftivism



Newham
LGBTQ+
Words

NEWHAM
POETRY
GROUP

Queer
NEWHAM

Made possible with
 Heritage
Fund



Newham Poetry Group and Queer Newham
invite you to the unveiling of a blue plaque
to Mary Renault

Thursday 3rd August, 6pm - 7.30pm
Subco, 49 Plashet Rd, London E13 0QA

Please RSVP to newhampoetrygroup@gmail.com by Friday 28th July

Newham London

SEEDERS  CIRCLE

borderless

CMRB

Creative refugee group

meet-ups ◊ peer support ◊ open conversations

borderless

an initiative by and for LGBTQ+ migrants,
refugees & asylum seekers

Our volunteers



The power of poetry in hard times

BEATRICE WHITE

In a corner of Stratford Park sits a little white bungalow. It is the home of the Newham Poetry Group, a growing community of budding and established poets and poetry enthusiasts. The Poetry House hosts a community café, book swap, and creative writing workshops on Saturday afternoons, and the group also holds poetry sessions on Thursday evenings at Stratford library.

"There's no pretention or competitiveness, just a group of people who come together to express themselves, get creative, and be supportive of each other," says Emily, a regular attendee of the group's sessions.

Bristena, who recently released a volume of her own bilingual poetry (in English and Romanian), has been involved with the group for several years. She describes the group as a "very open and welcoming space, with people of all ages and backgrounds."

Hector is one of the group's youngest members. Now a creative media student, he first became involved in the group several years ago, when he was still a child. Speaking about how poetry

can be a source of support for Newham's youth he says "(being young) is a confusing time. I can't speak on behalf of every kid my age, but speaking from experience, things like poetry can serve as a vent, in a creative way."

Some of those who are involved with the group prefer to take a back seat and listen to others, while appreciating poetry and finding ways of making it relevant in their daily lives. Bisi, whose



Tunde (T*) Balogun at the festival

sister Tunde (known as "T") performed at the group's poetry festival in late September, likes to use elements of poetry in her work as a teacher. "It can be a tool, I use it with all ages... you can do a sensory poem, for example."

Achieving a space dedicated to poetry in the shape of the poetry house was the result of many years of effort by the group's members.

"Everything you see here has been done by the community. This space was abandoned and collapsing, so 6 or 7 of us went knocking on doors, saying to the council 'we want this space'," explains Sonia, the founder of the group. Due to their lack of experience, it took 5 tries for their funding application to be successful.

For her, its key mission is to reach out to marginalised communities – migrants, minorities, and the LGBTQ and disabled communities in particular – to be a place where they can be heard and tell their stories. Thanks to this ethos, the group's diversity reflects the diversity of Newham's residents, and many members are from the local area and live in the vicinity of the park.

A therapist by profession, Bristena is keenly aware of the capacity of poetry to be a comfort and a way of coming to terms with difficult realities and emotions, and the power that words can have. For her, poetry, particularly when shared with others can be "a way to stay resourced when terrible things are happening around us, to meet challenges and be resilient."

This was the case for Olimpia, who was sceptical about writing poetry at first but, becoming involved with the group at a time when "I was going through a lot in my personal life and at work – it was really cathartic, a way of releasing everything I had stored inside."

Calu also believes in the power of poetry to support people's mental health and wellbeing, especially in times of crisis such as during the pandemic or in the face of struggles to meet to the cost of living. "There is a lot of isolation," she says, "people need to know it's not just them." Coming together to share poetry is a way to "channel those things and raise awareness of people's day to day struggles... this is what people's lives are made of." ●

Celebrating a rebellious, female Newham author

September 4 was the birthday of Mary Renault, a Newham-born writer of worldwide acclaim that I have been learning about with the help of Newham Poetry Group.

Mary was born in 1905 and christened Eileen Mary Challens at 49 Plashet Road in Dacre Lodge. Mary remembers she "spent hours at the nursery window watching horse drawn trams rattle down Plashet Road towards the City or trundle back to the Stratford Depot".

She visited variety shows at the Stratford Empire Theatre on the Broadway.

Mary wrote her first story about cowboys, whilst sitting in the dining room of her house, which doubled as the waiting room for her father's GP practice which he ran from their home.

When the bombing for the First World War started, Mary was sent to a relative in the country and shortly after went to boarding school where she was awarded a scholarship to study English at St Hugh's College, Oxford.

She was taught by J.R.R. Tolkien, author of Lord of the Rings, where she was encouraged to become an author of historical fiction.

Royalties from her books still flow in, funding an annual essay prize for school children run by St Hugh's College.

Freelance cultural producer **Rosamund Murdoch** has been learning about Newham author Mary Renault.



Her first novel was published in 1939, under her pseudonym Mary Renault, while she was working as a nurse in Oxford. It was here she met and fell in love with Julie Mullard who became her lifelong partner.

In 1948 her book *Return to Night* won an extraordinary £37,000 prize, allowing her and Julie to emigrate to South Africa and live a liberated life free from the constraints of post-war Britain. Mary Renault died in Cape Town in 1983.

Sonia Quintero, director of Newham Poetry Group says, "Mary Renault was a rebellious, open lesbian in a time where it was taboo in British society. She wrote the first British novel to face homosexual love squarely (*The*



Mary Renault and the cover of her book *The Charioteer*

Charioteer). Her books have come to stand as a landmark of gay literature, and we wish to research her life and make sure

she is celebrated in Newham where her life began." Mary Renault's life will be remembered in the project



Picture: COURTESY OF ROSAMUND MURDOCH

Newham LGBTQ+ Words and a Blue Heritage Plaque on her Plashet Road house, now the home of the charity Subco Trust.

From Colombia to Stratford, it's poetry in motion

MICHELLE HARRIS

Tucked away in Stratford Park you'll find the Old Pavilion which is now home to the Newham Poetry Group. Running every Saturday since 2016, the Group was founded by University of East London student Soni Quintero.

Soni started the group soon after moving to Newham. She says, "I grew up in Colombia and I'll always remember the Poetry House there for it played a big part in my com-

munity. I was surprised to find there wasn't an active poetry group here in Newham, so I wanted to create a similar space here where residents would feel welcome to share their love for not only poetry, but also community."

Newham is rich in diversity with ethnic minorities making up half of its population. There are more challenges, but there are also more opportunities.

Speaking on what poetry means to the people who live and work in Newham, Soni says, "For some poetry is therapy, an academia or even a cognitive process, but for me the poem is a way of connecting with others. It's about sharing about poetry, it has its own language."

The poetry group continued to run throughout lockdown, finding their new normal via Zoom. This presented some accessibility challenges for some members.



Newham is...
By Charlynn Bryan

Sometimes things get stuck
The mixer goes off
But a shake stirs thing up.
Creating a juice
That is sweet to taste!

"I was determined to keep our group going to provide a much-needed outlet," says Soni. Even when people didn't have access to computer links, the group kept in touch. "We have tried to maintain contact through calls and social media in order to check in and extend our kindness any way we can."

Soni focused her studies on the role of poetry in the community and although Newham is one of London's poorest areas she hopes in future people will connect Newham with the creative talent in the Borough.

"Three poets in the group have went on to publish their work including myself," she says. "The Borough is rich in new literature and talent so it's important that we support and acknowledge those people to help combat the statistics."

It's no surprise poetry has found its place in the Borough once again, for Newham has a history of poetry dating back as far as the 18th century. The famous poet Gerald... was home to the Doo Revolver... Zephaniah. To join the Newham Poetry Group contact Soni via NewhamPoetryGroup@gmail.com to access their Zooming Poetry now running every Tuesday online 6-7.30 until further easing of government guidelines. ●



I didn't know about Newham
Newham is a direct translation of the motto of East Ham's Latin...

Blue plaque for Mary the rebellious

On 3 August a blue plaque will be unveiled in Plaistow to honour Mary Renault a rebellious, open lesbian in a time when it was taboo in British society.

Her book *The Charioteer* impacted a wider population of the LGBTQ+ as



Image via www.curtisbrown.co.uk

well as contributing to a change in our society. She was born and lived at 49 Plashet Road in Dacre Lodge, E13.

However, she is not known in Newham, there is no record of her work and there is no celebration of her legacy. Newham Poetry Group has been running a weekly LGBTQ+ book club at Stratford Library since November 2022 inviting people to read and discuss her books.

Born in 1905, she wrote the first British novel to face homosexual love squarely. *The Charioteer* has come to stand as a landmark of gay literature. Mary Renault Commemorative Plaque unveiling will take place on Thursday 3 August, 6pm at Subco, 49 Plashet Rd, E13 OQA
newhampoetrygroup.com

From
ica E
calls
The
indej
enqu

Brin
sites
The
gram
disus
lar co
around
parcel

CIC 34**Community Interest Company Report**

For official use
(Please leave blank)

*Please
complete in
typescript, or
in bold black
capitals.*

**Company Name in
full**

Newham Poetry Group CIC

Company Number

12360903

Year Ending

31/12/22

(The date format is required in full)

Please ensure the company name is consistent with the company name entered on the accounts.

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

(N.B. A Filing Fee of £15 is payable on this document. Please enclose a cheque or postal order payable to Companies House)

PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a description of how they have benefited the community.

A social audit report covering these points is attached

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company's stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.

A social audit report covering these points is attached.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

PART 3 – DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, "There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed" (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that "no remuneration was received" below.

No remuneration was received.

PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that "no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made" below.

No Transfer of assets other than full consideration has been made.

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 5 – SIGNATORY (Please note this must be a live signature)

(DD/MM/YY)

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed

Date

15/08/22

Please note that it is a legal requirement for the date format to be provided in full throughout the CIC34 report.

Applications will be rejected if this information is incorrect.

Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

Ms Sonia Quintero

423 Katherine Road

Forest gate, London

newhampoetrygroup@gmail.com Tel

DX Number

DX Exchange

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales: Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ
DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4th Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139
Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38
Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)