

**SOUL MARKS TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**31 MARCH 2023**

**Scottish Charity No. SC034403**

**SOULS MARK TRUST**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Trustees and Professional Advisers	2
Trustees' Annual Report	3
Independent Examiner's Report	10
Statement of Receipts and Payments	11
Statements of Balances	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13

## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS**

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Soul Marks Trust
<b>Charity number</b>	SC034403
<b>Principal address</b>	9 Roxburgh Street Edinburgh EH8 9TA
<b>Trustees</b>	Jacqueline Bean Roland Bean Therese Christie Margot Dunnachie Sheila Yarrow Rev. Dr Sandy Forsyth
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Christian Owens BSc BFP FCA 24 Newtongrange Place Newtongrange EH22 4DF
<b>Bankers</b>	The Co-operative Bank plc PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP

## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT Year ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of trustees and professional advisers on page 2.

#### **TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served the charity during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Jacqueline Bean  
Roland Bean  
Therese Christie  
Margot Dunnachie  
Sheila Yarrow  
Rev. Dr Sandy Forsyth

#### **GOVERNING DOCUMENT**

The charity is constituted as a Trust under a Trust Deed dated 9 May 2003.

#### **RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES**

New trustees are identified and recruited through the network of current trustees, staff and supporters on the basis of their relevant skills and experience. New trustees may be appointed by majority decision of a meeting of existing trustees.

#### **PURPOSES**

The Trust was established for the purposes of advancing the Christian religion and advancing the education of the public in the arts, particularly the visual arts. In furtherance thereof, the Trust seeks:

- (a) to encourage greater use of the senses, predominately in the visual arts to express, explore, enjoy, communicate, challenge, influence and inspire faith in God from a Christian perspective and
- (b) to provide professional guidance and training to produce visual art which impacts and stimulates both those who create it and those who encounter it.

#### **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

What better way to start the review of activities and achievements than with a cross section of positive feedback from a selection of course and workshop participants throughout the year. This may give a flavour of how well Dr Carol Marples' work has been received and indicate its importance.

## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS (continued)**

*Thank you all for your companionship and inspiration over the past few months.*

*The course has been invaluable. Thank you, Carol, words cannot do justice for all that you give us each session. Looking forward to the next series!*

*Thank you so much for so beautifully hosting a hope filled Advent space for us all - to experience a heart to heart, spirit to spirit embodiment of Hope with God and one another through listening, noticing, dwelling, creating, encountering, and sharing.*

*There is a depth of sharing sometimes in these workshops that is incredible and yet ordinary at the same time. The Workshops remain an invaluable aid to my prayer life and it's lovely to make new friends in the process. ... this course is truly a blessing.*

*The workshops have been a lifeline especially during the pandemic and now feel a part of normal life that I would hate to lose.*

Coming out of the pandemic, we realized that the reach of online workshops and courses outweighed in some respects the unique feel of in-person sessions which might be inaccessible to some. Since many participants, including those living outside the UK, would be unable to attend events here in Edinburgh we have maintained our digital presence. However, a few students have managed to attend both, including one Methodist minister from Boston, USA who attended the online Contemporary Visual Art and Worship Course and the in-person worship week on Iona.

#### Online Courses and Workshops 2022 and 2023

##### **Art and Prayer Workshops**

The Art and Prayer workshops usually take place once a month during the spring and autumn for a group (Tuesdays) and for individual bookings (Wednesdays) with the addition of an extra Advent workshop in 2022.

The theme, Creation, from the book of Genesis, was explored in the spring and autumn workshops in 2022. Each workshop considered a different day of creation. In 2023 the spring saw a new theme for the Art and Prayer workshops concentrating on 'Women of the Word'.

We are pleased to write that they ran at near or full capacity of eight participants per workshop making a total for the period from April 2022 to March 2023 of 98 attendees.

##### **Retreat Association Conference, Royal Foundation of St Katharine, London, 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June**

Carol was invited by Executive Director of the Retreat Association, Alison MacTier, to be the Artist-in-Residence for the Conference. Carol led two art and prayer workshops, created an installation for the worship environment and worked in collaboration with musician and liturgist Alison Adam (Worship Works and formerly of the Wild Goose Resource Group of the Iona Community), to create an integrated liturgy and worship space. While Carol, Alison and the Retreat Association team were in situ in London, the conference's 80 participants were online. This was a new learning experience for everyone involved.

## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS (continued)**

##### **Contemporary Visual Art and Worship Course (CVAW), University of Glasgow, October 2022 to December 2022**

**CVAW** is an online course consisting of 8 weekly evening classes devised and led by Dr. Carol Marples, enabled by Dr Mark Johnston, Head of Short Courses at Trinity College, University of Glasgow. Carol has been engaged as an Affiliate within the School of Critical Studies and this is the third time she has taught the course through the University, each time being joined, for one evening per term, by guest tutor Revd Peter Gardner, Church of Scotland Minister to the Visual Arts Communities of Glasgow.

The course is for those wishing to explore and develop the role of contemporary visual art in Christian worship. They engage practically, theologically, and creatively through looking, listening, group discussions, practical tasks and reflective work to help expand and cultivate their imaginations, their churches and worship in new ways. The eight students on the course consisted of ordained clergy from a variety of denominations and an artist who is Head of Religious Education at a Church of England School, alongside a mix of lay people. They joined the course from Scotland, England, Sweden and North America.

##### **In Person Workshops 2022**

Slowly and carefully we ventured back into what had been familiar territory a few years ago – in person meetings, workshops, events including:

##### **The Oxford Diocese Clergy Conference (OCC), 7<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022** Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Carol was invited again to lead art workshops for attendees, having led workshops at their 2018 Conference. The organiser, Andrew Anderson Gear, Director of Mission & Ministry for the Diocese of Oxford, wrote this in response to Carol's work:

*It was lovely to work with you again and on behalf of the Conference Planning Group, thank you for all you contributed through your art workshops. The initial feedback from our clergy has been overwhelmingly positive and particularly in terms of the rich variety of our workshops, experienced as being helpful and valued by those who participated – thank you.*

##### **Solas Festival, Errol Perthshire. 17 – 19<sup>th</sup> June: 7 DAYS Installation**

The Solas Festival is an annual midsummer arts festival, that 'strives to exhibit a commitment to equality, justice, beauty and hospitality'. It is associated with Creative Scotland, The Methodist Church, Hope & Anchor, Green Arts Initiative.

Carol exhibited her *7 DAYS* installation at Solas. *7 DAYS* was initially commissioned by and exhibited in the Memorial Chapel of University of Glasgow for COP 26. The artwork consists of seven (1m x 1m) mixed-media textile panels that took the ancient Hebrew text of Genesis, Chapter 1 as its starting point.

##### **Art and Spirituality Summer School, Leith School of Art, Edinburgh, 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022**

Carol devised and led this week-long Art and Spirituality Summer School on the theme of 'Elemental Connections'. It explored our relatedness to Earth, Air, Fire and Water; physical and metaphorical elements used in many religions and spiritual practices. The reflective and mixed media workshop, sought to consider and explore our connections and interconnectedness with these both in and out-with the studio environment. The seven participants were drawn from England and Scotland.

## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS (continued)**

Feedback included:

*Many thanks indeed for a very enjoyable course. Well-structured and paced with lots of variety. I thought it was excellent to structure it and the elements.*

*I almost didn't apply as I didn't think myself an artist, not having done much art since school. The fear/trepidation gave way to a wonder full learning experience. Thank you so much.*

#### **Wild Goose Resource Group (WGRG) Worship Week, Iona, 30<sup>th</sup> July - 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022.**

WGRG, based in Glasgow, is a project of the Iona Community consisting of Jo Love (Resource worker) and Gail Ullrich (Administrator). It was founded 30 years ago to encourage, enable and equip the shaping and creation of new forms of worship that are relevant, contextual and participatory. The annual creative worship week takes place on Iona.

The theme of this creative worship week was 'In the Ongoing': exploring transience, reliance, fragility, and uncertainty. This proved to be a very full-on week with a wide variety of lay and ordained attendees, including one group of Danish Lutheran priests, another of young Texan Baptists, as well as people from many other parts of the world: 45 participants in all.

The workshop was a collaboration between Carol, Jo Love, Dr. Jane Bentley and aided by Dr. Pat Bennet. It was a very fruitful and varied week with a range of different workshops incorporated into the week of liturgy and worship of the Abbey, generating positive feedback overall.

The 7 DAYS installation exhibited in the Iona Community gardens of the MacLeod Centre was integrated into the week's teaching. One participant from North America responded:

*This is a piece that must be experienced in situ, in the outdoors, primarily because it belongs to a different paradigm than traditional art pieces. That is its strength and genius.*

*...As the wind blew I was struck by how it was also blowing the grasses around us and across my skin, and I was brought deeper into the moment, deeper into my existence at this particular place on earth, deeper into my own embodiment as someone breathing in the very wind itself... That brought me into the holiness and sacredness of it all somehow... Thank you for sharing this piece.*

Feedback from the exhibition during the week became pivotal for Carol's paper for the Sacred Arts Symposium later in the year.

#### **In Person Workshops 2023**

##### **Weaving Worship, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023, Fife Presbytery Wellesley Church Centre, Methil, Fife.**

Carol led a morning's workshop on Art and Worship, for the Weaving Worship series run by Rev Bill Hunter. There was a very warm and enthusiastic response to the slide presentation, talk and participative exercises from the approximately 50 participants who had come from all over the Kingdom of Fife to attend.

##### **Morphé Arts Conference, 'There is Hope' Leith School of Art, Edinburgh. 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Morphé supports early career Arts professionals, encouraging critical engagement between Christian faith and contemporary art.

Carol led a practical meditation 'Artists as Prophets of Hope' for over 70 participants following on from the keynote lecture 'From Coping to Hoping: Artistic Strategies for Living in Crisis since 1914' by Dr Deborah Lewer, Senior Lecturer in History of Art at Glasgow University. The lecture and meditation led into an afternoon of workshops on the Conference theme.

## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS (continued)**

##### **Art and Spirituality Day Workshop, 'Small Acts of Transformation' Leith School of Art 11th March 2023.**

This workshop, led by Carol, using simple lino printing techniques, explored how 'changing the world, our environment or ourselves may seem impossible but one small act e.g. one seed planted, a mark made, one protest(er), one prayer, one kindness, one small action repeated, multiplied - individually or collectively - can create transformation.'

12 participants, some Soul Marks regulars and others totally new to our work, enjoyed a very productive and creative day.

#### **Academia**

##### **Sacred Arts Symposium, Art Seeking Understanding Project at Edinburgh University.**

Carol has been one of a group twelve participants: academics – theological and philosophical; poets; visual artists and musicians who have taken part in the monthly meetings of this symposium from July 2021 - 16th March 2023.

As part of the symposium Carol gave a presentation at the September 2022 meeting entitled '7 DAYS: Art and the Sacred'.

Following on in November 2022, *7 DAYS* was installed in the gardens of Holy Rood House, a Centre for Health and Pastoral Care. This was a week, enabled financially by the Sacred Arts Symposium, for Carol to reflect and write a paper as a requirement by the symposium. The paper was published later that month in the online journal, *Transpositions*, of the Institute of Theology, Imagination and the Arts, at St. Andrews University.

'7 DAYS: Art and The Sacred', *Transpositions* article November 2022: <https://www.transpositions.co.uk/7-days-art-and-the-sacred/>

An unexpected outcome of hanging the *7 DAYS* at Holy Rood House was the enjoyment, enthusiasm and interest in the work by the staff, retreatants and visitors to the House. This led Helen Warrick, Chaplain of Holy Rood, to request that the works stayed in the gardens throughout November and into December, particularly for their Advent Garden Day. Guests' responses to the work included poetry, photographs and short films, some of which were posted online or on social media.

Links to the work can still be found on Holy Rood House's website, under their "Learn with us" section.

A second *7 DAYS* project, the BEE Project, was developed in early 2022 in collaboration with artist and beekeeper, Carrie Gooch who tends five hives in apple orchards owned by the Cyrenians <https://cyrenians.scot>. Three new panels were created for this project in line with the previous *7 DAYS* panels. Two were hung in the orchards and one near a hive and over a pond in Carrie's garden with the bottom of each panel immersed in water. They have been documented when time has allowed. The hope is that the moisture would provide the bees with water. This is an ongoing experimental installation connecting art, ecology and theology.



## **SOULS MARK TRUST**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS (continued)**

##### **Other**

##### **St. James the Less Episcopal Church, Leith**

As a member of St James the Less Episcopal Church in Leith, Carol has led workshops and services as well as preaching on occasion. Her work at St James informs, and is assimilated into, Carol's workshops and teaching.

##### **Website and Social Media**

Our website and social media sites are constantly updated by Carol who designs and publishes our Soul Marks newsletters throughout the year. These all enable our work to be seen and shared by people around the world. In April 2022 Soul Marks added a 'Donation Button' to the website: <http://www.soulmarks.co.uk/donations/>. Although Soul Marks does depend on our generous donors another significant source of income is from our courses and workshops.

##### **Contract**

The Soul Marks Trust has issued Carol with a new contract and revised job description in our ongoing efforts to maintain best practice.

#### **RESERVES POLICY AND POSITION**

The Trust aims to have working capital sufficient to cover at least six months' expenses. The surplus for the year increased reserves to £21,948 (2022: £19,729) at 12 months' expenses. No use of the restricted "Resources" fund was made during the year.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

This has been a satisfactory year for the Trust financially. Total income for the year was £24,883, which was down by 2% on the previous year. Expenditure was up by 44% on last year. However, we still managed a surplus of £2,219 and our already healthy bank balance increased to £21,948 at 31 March 2023.

Donation income from individuals rose by 10% to £15,249, but on the other hand, income from charitable activities was down by 16% to £9,724. This latter income was spread between Art and Prayer workshops, which accounted for 39%, and commissioned work from other organisations including Glasgow University, the Iona Community and Leith School of Art which accounted for 61%. Income from commissioned work was similar to last year at around £6,000. However, workshop income saw a significant drop of 31% down from £5,517 to £3,793.

The increase in expenditure is almost entirely due to us being able to review and increase Carol's salary during the year and as a result, staffing costs increased by 57%.

**SOULS MARK TRUST**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

**PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The Trust was established twenty years ago in February 2003 and to that end a great celebration is planned in April 2023 – more to follow in next year’s Annual Report.

Carol, as well as being a very competent liturgist, teacher and academic is, of course, an accomplished artist with integrity, curiosity and an open mind. Her artwork is a vital part of all her Soul Marks work, as a resource for teaching and for her own development.

The Trust will continue to enable Carol to use her gifts - academic, teaching, artistic and pastoral to encourage individuals and groups to develop their own creative skills in exploring the Christian gospel in many ways, particularly visually. Soul Marks vision is realized through the wide range of workshops and courses whose importance and quality may be recognised by the regular and returning attendance of participants as well as the continual invitations for Carol to do such work.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



.....

Date: 13 December 2023

Therese Christie

Trustee

## SOULS MARK TRUST

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SOUL MARKS TRUST Year ended 31 March 2023

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 11 to 13.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 as amended. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Christian Owens BSc BFP FCA  
24 Newtongrange Place  
Newtongrange  
EH22 4DF

Date: 13 December 2023

# SOUL MARKS TRUST

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Donations	15,249	-	15,249	13,759	-	13,759
Income from charitable activities	9,634	-	9,634	11,635	-	11,635
Other income	-	-	-	107	-	107
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>24,883</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,883</b>	<b>25,501</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,501</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
<b>Charitable activities:</b>						
Staff costs	20,381	-	20,381	12,996	-	12,996
Project materials & travel costs	1,022	-	1,022	1,168	-	1,168
Computer equipment	135	-	135	227	-	227
Office costs	919	-	919	1,149	-	1,149
Insurance	207	-	207	199	-	199
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>22,664</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,664</b>	<b>15,739</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,739</b>
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>9,762</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,762</b>

# SOUL MARKS TRUST

## STATEMENT OF BALANCES

As at 31 March 2023

<b>FUNDS RECONCILIATION</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>2023 Total £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>2022 Total £</b>
Cash at bank						
Brought forward	18,498	1,231	<b>19,729</b>	8,736	1,231	<b>9,967</b>
Surplus for the year	2,219	-	<b>2,219</b>	9,762	-	<b>9,762</b>
<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>20,717</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>21,948</b>	<b>18,498</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>19,729</b>
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>						
Gift Aid recoverable			<b>1,428</b>			<b>1,361</b>
			<b>1,428</b>			<b>1,361</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Accrued expenses			<b>78</b>			<b>24</b>
			<b>78</b>			<b>24</b>

Approved by the Trustees on 13 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
**Therese Christie**  
Trustee

# **SOUL MARKS TRUST**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **Year ended 31 March 2023**

### **1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 as amended.

### **2. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF FUNDS**

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

There is one restricted fund for the production of resources.

### **3. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

No remuneration has been paid nor expenses reimbursed during the year (2022: £nil) to any Trustee or any person connected with a Trustee.

No Trustee or person connected with a Trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the Trust during the year.