

Trustee Recruitment Pack



Welcome

Thank you for expressing an interest in becoming a Trustee of Arty-Folks.

2021 was an exciting and challenging point in our life having been awarded a transformative contract to deliver Art for Wellbeing by Warwickshire County Council to people with low to moderate mental health needs. This 2.5yr programme is set to reach +1000 people. Alongside this programme we are also giving longer-term support for people who have struggled with their mental health to move into employment, education or volunteering

2022 will see more face to face delivery within community venues providing local access to reduce social isolation, enable friendships made online to blossom and embed art practice as part of mental wellbeing.

Arty-Folks was formed 26 years ago and has operated continuously since. It is in healthy financial position following careful management and the awards of emergency grants during 2020/21.

Please find below details of the experience and expertise we are seeking to add to our Board and some more information on how we work.

The Board

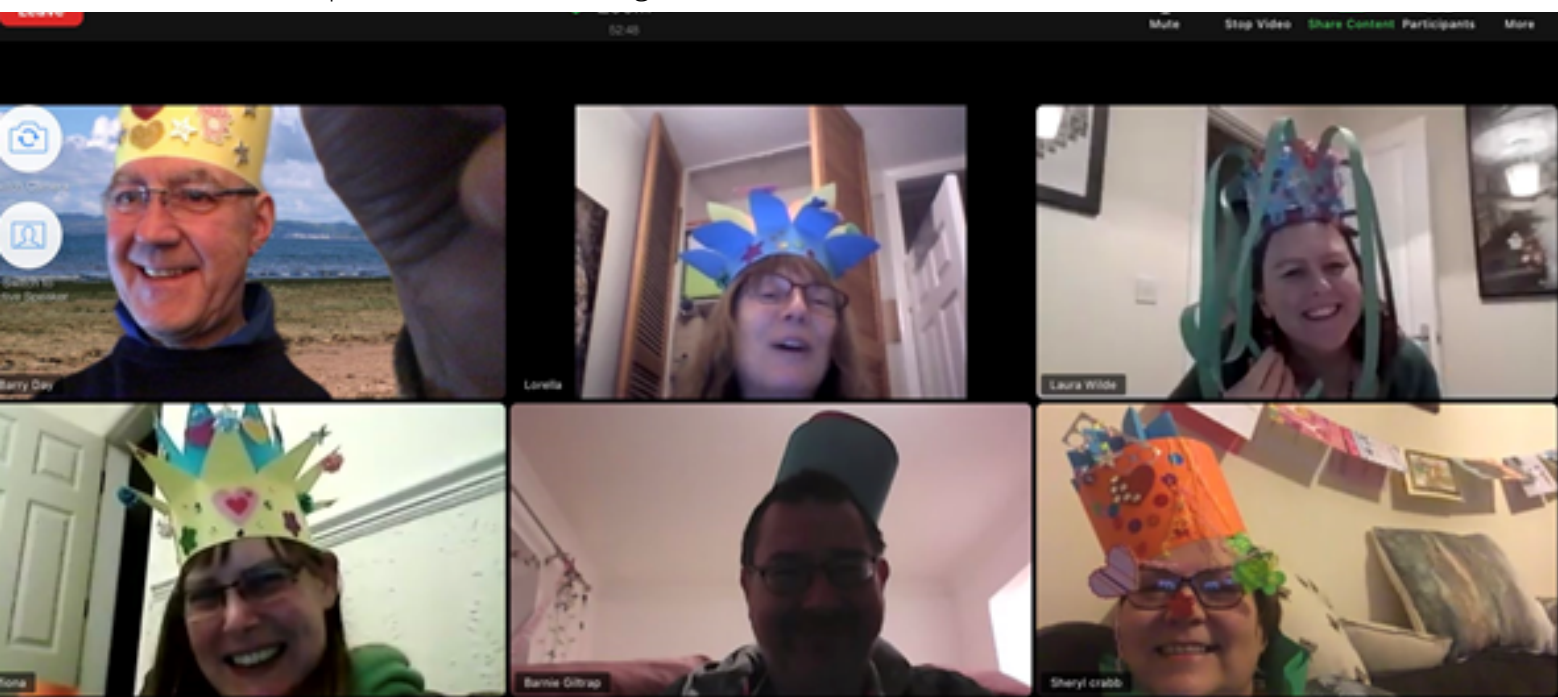
Arty-Folks currently has a Board of five Trustees, led by our Chair, Barry Day, who bring a wide range of skills to the charity. We aim to have at least one service user on the Board and all trustees have the opportunity to join workshops and see our work in practice.

The advice and guidance of the Board has steered the charity through challenging times over the last 2 years. The small staff team have needed their support and have been hugely grateful for it.

Whilst the Board monitors financial performance as well as operational metrics, day-to-day execution of operational plans is delegated to employed and remunerated managers who are generally invited to meetings to update the Board.

The Board is scheduled to meet 6-8 times per year, with agendas and papers issued in advance for consideration by Trustees. Board Meetings are held by Zoom on a weekday evening and typically last 1.5 hours.

We believe trusteeship should be rewarding and fun!



Trustee Role

Trustees are crucial to our success as a charity. The role is essentially strategic with Trustees focusing on the overall direction of the organisation and monitoring performance.

To enrich the overall board's knowledge and experience we would welcome a range of skills and experience including:

- A professional in Coventry or Warwickshire who can use their knowledge of local networks to widen our reach
- NHS or Mental Health & wellbeing background
- Understanding of health and social issues and local community access
- Fundraising to support our grant applications / tendering in corporate world
- Knowledge of HR, particularly recruitment as we grow our team
- Marketing, IT

Trustee Terms

All trustees must have:

- An understanding and belief of the vision and aims for Arty-Folks and the potential for art to enrich people's lives and help them maintain their mental health.
- An appreciation of the responsibilities and role of a trustee and willingness to work alongside a small team.
- The capacity to think strategically and contribute to decision-making.
- Effective communication skills.
- Sufficient time to commit to the Board meetings.

[Essential trustee](#) has good guidance on the role of a charity trustee.

- Trustees are normally appointed for 4 years and may be re-appointed.
- Board members are not paid a salary, fee or any other remuneration or benefit by the Charity, except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.
- Appointment is made following the procedures and any restrictions in the charity's governing documents and in accordance with the Charities Act and best practices set out by the Charity Commission.
- The Charity has purchased Trustee Indemnity Insurance.
- All Trustees must declare interests likely to give rise to a conflict of interest between a Trustee's duty to act solely in the interests of the Charity and any other interest (direct or indirect) and to conform to the Code of Conduct.

All Trustees will be welcomed with an induction pack and offered trustee training.

Arty-Folks - Introduction

Arty-Folks was founded on 5th November 1995 by a user of mental health services who felt disempowered by his diagnosis, 'managed' by the medical profession, and written off by society in collaboration with a community artist. Arty-Folks believe that most mental distress is caused by life experiences and circumstances often outside the person's control.

The first workshop on 25th April 1996 was funded by a small start-up grant from Coventry Health Promotion and Arty-Folks has offered an uninterrupted service since. 25 years later, Arty-Folks has a huge amount to celebrate.

Charitable Objects

The objects of Arty-Folks are 'to relieve persons living with mental health conditions or suffering emotional distress by assisting such persons to realise their full potential and lead fulfilling lives through the provision of visual arts and wellbeing related activities.' The area of benefit is the City of Coventry and Warwickshire.



ART FOR MENTAL WEALTH

we inspire people to rebuild their lives
through the visual arts and peer support

Our Mission

To inspire people with mental ill health, through the creative process, to regain self-belief and take control of their personal journey to recovery alongside their peers.

Our Vision

People in Coventry and Warwickshire will feel empowered to take care of their mental health and realise their potential.

Our Aims

Reduce social isolation and loneliness

- People feel anchored in the community and enjoy being part of social networks
- *Inspire people to achieve stability and self-manage their mental health conditions*

- People are able to maintain a healthy life-style

Unlock people's creativity for self-drive to live fulfilling lives

- People are self-confident and ready to live self-motivated and productive lives

Build resilience for social, community, and economic engagement

- People will enjoy embarking on their vocational choices

Promote greater understanding of mental health illnesses and challenge the associated stigma

- People will understand mental ill health as a normal occurrence in life that can affect anyone at any point in their lives.



Service Users

- We support people 18+ of working age in Coventry and Warwickshire struggling with:
- Diagnosed conditions such as depression, anxiety, OCD, psychosis, PTSD, schizophrenia, eating and other personality disorders.
- Self-diagnosed mental distress and who will not contact mental health services fearing prejudice and the stigma that comes with a diagnosis.
- Assessed as below the threshold of support by statutory services but who are unable to function without support.
- On sick leave and at risk of escalating mental ill health and developing more complex needs
- Discharged from mental health hospitals and lacking support to rebuild their lives.
- With long-term and complex mental health conditions they are struggling to self-manage.