

Trustees' Annual Report

5 September 2023 - 4 September 2024



Our trustees are

1. Mr. Donald Anderson - Chair
2. Ms. Morag Smith - Secretary
3. Ms. Ruth Christie - Treasurer
4. Mrs. Celia Smith
5. Dr. Karen Manson
6. Mrs. Averill Dorrat
7. Mrs. Hilde Bardell



Our staff are

Dr. Clair Aldington
Director-Practitioner



Mrs. Amy Colvin
Restorative Practitioner



Ms. Gael Cochrane
Restorative Practitioner



Report summary

1. Space2face worked with 41 clients and participants this year (5 September 2023 - 4 September 2024). This included work with 8 people responsible (offenders) and 10 people harmed (victims/ survivors).
2. Space2face facilitated 2 direct face to face restorative justice meetings during the year (between people responsible and those they had harmed). One of these meetings took place in custody on the Scottish mainland and the other in the community in Shetland.
3. We expanded our work this year into the Scottish mainland and welcomed Gael Cochrane onboard as a new staff member based on the mainland.
4. We facilitated a Boys' Group, our work with the Phenomenal Women's Group continued and we completed staff training in restorative practices with a primary school in Shetland. We also adopted a new logo this year with volunteer time donated by the designer.
5. We gave presentations about our work to the Shetland Community Justice Partnership and elected members of Shetland Islands Council, to Community Justice Partnership leads in the Highlands and Islands area and to the Orkney Community Justice Partnership.
6. From 5 September 2023 - 4 September 2024, Space2face received a total income of £31,397.
7. Grant funding was received from Justice Social Work (Shetland Islands Council), the Shetland Community Benefit Fund, the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund (via Voluntary Action Shetland) and Shetland Islands Council Coastal Communities Fund. Other income was from casework reclaims, fundraising and private donations.
8. Our Coastal Communities funding is enabling us to develop a 'Made to Mend' product range inspired by clients' artwork and co-created with them. This project continues into next year.
9. We were successful in our bid to Community Justice Scotland to deliver funded restorative justice case studies and two pieces of development work. Anonymised feedback from these will be used to inform the Scottish Government's policy making about restorative justice provision in Scotland and, particularly, in island settings.

Introduction to our charity

Space2face is Shetland's restorative practice service. We are delighted to present our eighth annual report as a charity.

Our charitable purposes and objectives (in accordance with OSCR requirements)

Space2face was incorporated as a Scottish Charitable Organisation on 5 September 2016. Space2face is a unique organisation in its merging of art, design and making processes with restorative practices.

Our charitable purposes are :

- ❖ the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science
- ❖ the advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation
- ❖ the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

Our charitable objects for the period of this report were:

The organisation is established for charitable purposes only and, in particular, the objects are:

- ❖ to provide the Shetland community with a Restorative Practices service including providing restorative processes for criminal and non-criminal harm, training and advocacy for restorative approaches.
- ❖ to enable persons harmed, persons responsible for causing harm, their families and communities in Shetland to become involved in Restorative Practices for situations that have affected them of criminal and non-criminal harm.
- ❖ to offer and advance the use of the arts as embedded within Restorative Practices and creative approaches to Restorative Practices.
- ❖ to offer the Shetland community the chance to move forward and heal from criminal and non-criminal harm in a lasting and transformative way.

Our service

Space2face is an independent and confidential trauma informed and person centred service. We work with those harmed through criminal and non-criminal harm. In the context of criminal justice this is called restorative justice and in non-criminal contexts restorative practices. We work within the Scottish Government's definition of restorative justice:

'Restorative justice is a process of independent, facilitated contact, which supports constructive dialogue between a victim and a person who has harmed (whether this be an adult, a child, a young person or a representative of a corporate or other body) arising from an offence or alleged offence.'

(Taken from: [Delivery of restorative justice in Scotland: guidance - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/delivery-of-restorative-justice-in-scotland/guidance/pages/1.aspx))

and also the wider definition of the Restorative Justice Council in the UK:

'Restorative justice brings those harmed by crime or conflict and those responsible for the harm into communication, enabling everyone affected by a particular incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward. This is part of a wider field called restorative practice.'

(Taken from: [What is Restorative Justice?: Restorative Justice Council](https://www.restorativejustice.org/what-is-restorative-justice/))

Restorative practices happen all over the world and follow the same three stage process in whatever context it is delivered; schools, communities, prisons, and workplaces. The three stage process we use is:

Facts - what happened?

Consequences - who was affected?

Future - what needs to happen now to enable all involved to move on from the situation in a safer way?

Anyone can personally refer themselves to Space2face. We can also receive client referrals from the Office of the Children's Reporter, Social Work departments, the emergency services in Shetland, workplaces and schools.

Acknowledgements

Ben Mullan photography and Community Justice Scotland hold the copyright for the images on page 4 and the images with people on page 9. The copyright for the image on the front cover, the image on page 6, the images without people on page 9 and the image on page 1 belongs to Space2face. The copyright for the images of trustees and staff is held by the person in the photograph.

1/ Our unique offer

Space2face is a unique restorative practices service as we combine art, design and making activities with restorative practices. This is because one of the criticisms of restorative practices is that they rely heavily on participants being verbally articulate and being able to sit still for long periods.

Yet, statistically, people who offend and who find themselves in custody have lower than average literacy and language skills when compared with the general population.

Added to this, people who experience four or more traumatic events in childhood (these are known as Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs)¹ are much more likely to either become someone harmed through crime (a victim) or to become a person responsible for causing crime (a perpetrator). This is especially so for violent crime. Experiences of trauma, therefore, are directly related to crime, especially violent crime.



¹ ACEs include abuse in all its forms - sexual, physical, emotional - domestic violence, mental illness, substance and alcohol mis-use, bereavement, parental separation and an incarcerated relative.

We also know from research that trauma is hard to articulate verbally. It is for these reasons that Space2face uses the arts, the designing and making of things, as a form of language - as a way for participants to communicate non-verbally. This non-verbal communication can then lead to a more significant verbal conversation. We believe this makes our service more inclusive and accessible.

Comments from our participants and partners about our use of art:

From a person harmed

'I think doing the artwork in the preparation was really helpful but also it was really helpful for me to see the other person's artwork.'

From a person responsible

'So the artwork that was put up was from a previous meeting, and then obviously it would be looked at, and it would just give the energy and motivation to do the next bit.'

From a Justice Social Worker about a client's Space2face work

'He got a language, I mean a physical language for what he'd done...so he could speak about it now.'

Our work is broadly divided into three areas: casework (after criminal or non-criminal harm has occurred), preventative work and training. We describe these three areas as:

- Restorative casework with individuals.
- Preventative group work and courses.
- Training and advocacy.

We work within the following frameworks and good practice guidelines:

- Restorative Justice Council's *Practitioner Code of Practice*.
- Scottish Government's 2017 *Guidance for the Delivery of Restorative Justice in Scotland*.
- *EU Directive 2012/29/EU* establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime.
- Council of Europe - *Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States concerning restorative justice in criminal matters*

and their subsequent *Venice Declaration on the Role of Restorative Justice in Criminal Matters*.

2/ Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Space2face is a single tier Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our governing document is the organisation's Constitution.

Board of trustees - Trustee recruitment and appointment

We are governed by a Board of trustees. During the year there were seven serving trustees. This is our maximum number of trustees. Space2face is grateful to all the trustees for their commitment, support, and gift of their time. We are also proud that former clients (people harmed through crime) of the project serve as Board members.

Management

Clair Aldington, our Director-Practitioner, continued to co-ordinate and develop the service throughout the year in partnership with the board of trustees.

3/ Achievements and performance

Here are some highlights of our year.

The Mission Wellness and Creativity Centre



We are enjoying having more space following our move to a different room within The Mission, Lerwick, in April 2024. We continued to share our room through subletting to Solstice Digital and then The Compass Centre in the new space.

Comments from clients about our workspace

'To me it's a bright and welcoming environment. And we had our artwork on the walls that we'd done, which was really helpful for me; I thought that was very helpful because it provided a bit of a focus elsewhere that you could look at, and a bit of a talking point too.'

'I think the setting of the room made it a bit easier.'

New logo

We adopted a new logo this year with volunteer time donated by the designer.



Staff

Clair attended the European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ) biennial conference in Tallinn, Estonia, in May 2024 the theme of which was *JUST TIMES: Restorative Justice Responses in Dark Times* at which she co-facilitated a workshop about restorative justice and systemic racism. This was undertaken as part of her membership of the EFRJ's Working Group on Hate, Polarisation and Violent Extremism. Throughout the year Clair also served as a member of Community Justice Scotland's national RJ in prison protocol working group and continued to co-facilitate and work as an artist with an international restorative circle group in cases of political violence. She is a member of the Scottish Restorative Justice Research and Practitioners' Networks. Clair's participation in these groups is aside from Space2face and part of her wider freelance practice but her learning from these experiences benefits Space2face.

Amy attended a two day online Complex and Sensitive training delivered by RJC training in February 2024. Clair and Amy also attended an online artist session facilitated by GAADA, Shetland, on 4 September 2024. At Space2face we value professional development sessions in both restorative as well as in creative practices.

We were delighted to welcome Gael Cochrane into the team at the beginning of September 2024. She works for Space2face in mainland Scotland as well as joining online meetings with clients. She is registered as an Advanced Restorative Practitioner with The Restorative Justice Council and serves as a member of Community Justice Scotland's national RJ in prison protocol working group. Additionally, Gael is a member of the Scottish Restorative Justice Forum, the Scottish Restorative Justice Research Network and the European Forum of Restorative Justice's Trainers' Committee and Working Group on Gender Based Violence.

Our staff undertook quarterly supervision throughout the year. As our staff work freelance for the organisation, their training and registration processes are undertaken in their own time. We are grateful to them.

Restorative casework

With people responsible

During the year we worked with 8 people responsible. This included continued work with 2 existing cases, 3 new referrals from Justice Social Work. These were for people responsible for causing harm and post their sentencing.

With people harmed

We worked with 10 people harmed throughout the year.

Workplace

These figures include 1 workplace case which continued from last year. This involved work with 2 individuals.

Restorative outcomes

Space2face facilitated 2 direct face to face restorative meetings during the year. One of these meetings took place in custody on the Scottish mainland and the other in the community in Shetland. The remaining clients continued to work with us into the following year.

Preventative groups and courses

Help or Harm? Creative anger management course.

In addition, we received 1 privately funded case for our *Help or Harm? Creative anger management course* and we continued to work with a Justice Social Work client on the same course from the previous year.

Phenomenal women's group



Our Phenomenal Women's Group was established during 2022 in response to an increase in female referrals to Justice Social Work. The group is run in partnership with Justice Social Work. As part of this partnership the group has provided a placement for a social work student each year.

Following our successful funding application to the Communities Health and Wellbeing Fund the group recommenced meeting regularly from January 2024. In addition to our 4 regular participants the group was joined by 3 new members this year. The group chose to work to the theme of 'mend' and was inspired by the life and work of female artists and activists using mending themes in their work. The name of the group is taken from Maya Angelou's poem *Phenomenal woman*.

Boys' group

We facilitated a group involving 5 young men aged between 13 and 15 years old who were referred to us through Children and Families Social Work. The group ran from January to May 2024 and we met at the end of the day - partly in school time and partly in the boys' own time. We looked at male artists and designers who made work from their own experiences of harm, challenge and involvement with the justice system. The group then made creative work in response.

Training, advocacy and partnership working

Hamnavoe Primary School

During the year we completed the final training session of our Introduction to Restorative Practices training course with 9 staff at Hamnavoe Primary School. 74% of the staff thought the training was 'Excellent', 21% 'Very Good' or 'Good' and 5% 'Adequate'.

Community Justice Partnerships and Community Justice Scotland

Clair and Amy gave a presentation about restorative practices and Space2face's work to the Shetland Community Justice Partnership and elected members of Shetland Islands Council in October 2023. Additionally, presentations were made by Clair to Community Justice Partnership leads in the Highlands and Islands area during December 2023 and to the Orkney Community Justice Partnership in July 2024. These latter two presentations were about the potential for expanding our work further afield.

We continued to work on two restorative justice case studies and began work on a further case funded by Community Justice Scotland as part of a national project to provide information on restorative justice practice to the Scottish

Government. In addition, Community Justice Scotland agreed to fund two pieces of development work with Space2face which included developing our work in Orkney.

We were excited to welcome Laura Wylie, the Restorative Justice Lead for Scotland, to Shetland in May 2024. During her time with us Laura interviewed participants in the Community Justice Scotland funded restorative justice case studies about their experiences of working with Space2face and their restorative justice process more widely. This anonymised feedback will be used to inform the Scottish Government's policy making about restorative justice provision in Scotland.

Violence Against Women and Girls' Partnership

Space2face continued to be a member of the Violence Against Women and Girls' Partnership. Space2face values partnership working in this way and supporting the development and improvement of services for people harmed through domestic and sexual violence.

Coastal Communities - 'Made to mend' product range

In November 2023 we were awarded Coastal Communities funding through Shetland Islands Council towards a pilot project to develop a Space2face product range. We hope this will eventually be available for sale. We see this as an imaginative way that reflects our creative-restorative ethos to raise funds to support our work. The artwork is created through clients' processes with us. With their formal consent their artwork is then worked up into a final design through a co-creative process between them and us. We then contract local artists/makers (where possible) to create the final product prototypes. The project is ongoing.

This is a T-shirt co-created with a former client based on his artwork that represented each stage of his restorative justice preparatory work.



In conclusion, Space2face received referrals into our work strands above from the Justice Social Work, Children and Families Social Work and Workforce Development teams of Shetland Islands Council, NHS Shetland and self-referrals. This involved our service directly engaging with 41 clients and participants throughout the year of this report.

This is some of their feedback:

From people harmed

'My main point from the beginning was really just to humanise the whole situation and make it feel like it wasn't such a big thing that I couldn't get over. It's definitely done that for me, and I feel much calmer as a person now.'

'It was better than approaching the situation by myself - I realise now how badly that could have gone wrong.'

'For something that was so traumatic to me, that it felt like a big ask, but it was what I was reaching for, and it just exceeded expectations, and I really feel as if I've been able to... I don't know if closure or move on would be right, but maybe move on is the better way, rather than maybe holding a grudge. But at the same time, I no longer need to give energy to it.'

'It was a pleasant surprise on my part to know that this person wanted to engage in the process to get some closure.'

'Clair and Amy used an art-based approach, or offered an art-based approach, which was really, really helpful for me because I think the meetings could have been quite stilted and become quite procedural question and answer, so the art really helped me.'

'I found painting was a really good way of getting myself to open up and come out of my filter - what am I thinking, how am I feeling? Because it's so easy to cover up how you are feeling.'

From people responsible

'To understand and think more clearly about how I engage in certain situations.'

'So I would say it would be better to enjoy the process of what it's for and not expect too much. But at the same time, it is massively beneficial to you, the other parties involved.'

'I think this process will give a lot of people the opportunity to be heard when they haven't been before, and that was always a massive thing for me because I never felt like I could have been.'

'Doing that final meeting, I think it allowed quite a lot of closure for the parties involved.'

'I don't think there was a session where I didn't actually feel proud and happy afterwards.'

'The help I had during the preparation meetings couldn't have been any better, honestly.'

From a participant in our *Help or Harm? Creative Anger management course*

'I think in general I'm calmer and more lightsome about the house...I think I've reflected more on my behaviours and hopefully can take my new strategies forward.'

From the partner of a course participant

'It has helped me to be able to be open with him and understand how I feel. I understand him more.'

From a Justice Social Worker about the course

'Clients who have completed the Anger Management Course report real change in their thinking and consequent behaviour as a result of completing the course and describe the course as both thought provoking and practically effective.'

From school staff about the way the training has influenced their work

'Hopefully work towards a consistent whole school approach. More confidence and strategies to deal with conflict. Stronger teamwork.'

'Think creatively about how to make this funny and engaging for all pupils.'

'Confidence in my approach to dealing with conflict.'

'I will be more aware of the impact I have during conflict resolution.'

'Hopefully encourage more fairness and inclusivity.'

'Increased knowledge and confidence in using restorative practices.'

'More patience and understanding with children when trying to resolve disputes.'

4/ Trustee activity

The Space2face board of trustees met 7 times throughout the year with an additional special trustees meeting in January 2024. The trustees' AGM was held on 1 May 2024. This was online and in person at the Mission in Lerwick.

Space2face retained its membership of Voluntary Action Shetland (VAS), and as a registered data controller with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), in line with GDPR requirements. Regular updates on our website and activity on our social media were maintained. Our facebook page currently has 280 'followers' (up 6 from last year) and 268 page 'likes' (up 8 from last year).

Volunteers/Restorative Ambassadors

We were delighted to welcome aboard two new volunteers in April 2024 who are now Restorative Ambassadors for the charity. We value their skills, expertise and the gift of their time to the charity.

5/ Financial review

Our work strands this year were funded in the following four ways: 1) on a case by case basis following Space2face providing estimates for the work, 2) through grants, 3) through donations from private individuals and 4) from fundraising activities.

Income

From 5 September 2023 - 4 September 2024, Space2face received a total income of £31,397.

Table 1
Income and expenditure

Income	£ 2022-2023	£ 2023-2024	£	Expenditure	£ 2022-2023	£ 2023-2024
Internal grant funding (Shetland) - <u>Restricted</u>	6,054	10,097		Memberships - VAS and ICO	105	268
External grant funding (UK)	-	-		Administrative / Office costs - IT, phone, website, materials & refreshments.	1,086	1,251
Reclaimed fees and expenses	7,521	16,897		Freelance casework, travel, project management	12,558	25,897
Donations (private individuals)	1,717	1,866		Insurance	714	772
Fundraising	609	719		Fundraising projects	-	420
The Mission (rental income)	1,652	1,771		Rent and utilities	3,744	3,251
Misc.	81	46		Misc.	50	69
<u>TOTAL Income</u>	<u>17,634</u>	<u>31,397</u>		<u>TOTAL expenditure</u>	<u>18,257</u>	<u>31,929</u>
<u>Deficit</u>			= <u>532</u>			
<u>Brought forward from previous year</u>			<u>7,942</u>			
<u>TOTAL carried forward</u>			<u>7,410</u>			
<u>Notes</u>						
Memberships Expense "doubled" in the year because it includes 2 years worth of VAS membership / accounts examination fees.						
Income from The Mission is only for rent received and does not actually include reallocated overheads, as per last year's numbers.						
Fundraising project for Amy to attend sensitive + complex additional restorative justice training.						

Our main sources of income for this year were restricted funding of £10,097 and reclaimed fees and expenses totalling £16,897. Restricted funding was received from Justice Social Work (Shetland Islands Council), Shetland Community Benefit Fund, Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and Shetland Islands Council Coastal Communities Fund. Casework reclaims were from contracts with Children and Families Social Work (Shetland Islands Council), Community Justice Scotland, NHS Shetland and private clients. Training reclaims were from Workforce Development (Shetland Islands Council).

In addition, Space2face is indebted to the individuals who continue to make ongoing monthly contributions which this year totalled £1,866. We are also grateful to the many others who supported and contributed a total of £719 as a result of our Quiz night in the Lerwick Boating Club on 28th December 2023, a fundraising lunch generously organised by the Justice Social Work team on 6 December 2023 and other fundraising activities. Other income was from sub-letting our Mission client/office space and reclaimed overheads from client contracts of £1,771 and miscellaneous income of £46.

Expenditure

For the same period, the total expenditure was £31,929.

This sum includes memberships of £268 to the ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) and VAS (Voluntary Action Shetland), administrative costs of £1,251, freelance casework fees and expenses of £25,897, insurance of £772, rent and utilities of £3,251, fundraising costs of £420 and miscellaneous costs of £69.

This left a deficit for the year of -£532. A sum of £7,942 was brought forward from the previous financial year leaving £7,410 to be carried over to the following financial year.

6/ Future plans

We will continue to build on our partnerships with Justice Social Work, Children and Families Social Work and the Shetland Community Justice Partnership locally and with Community Justice Scotland nationally. In particular, to develop the Space2face model in other areas and to lead the Phenomenal Women's group towards self-direction/ autonomy in a meaningful and supportive way. We also want to continue to develop our relationships locally with Police Scotland, Victim Support and the partners within the Violence Against Women and Girls' Partnership. In particular, to work with the latter to develop survivor led restorative justice referral pathways for survivors of sexual harm and domestic abuse. We also hope to further

improve our website and social media presence, and to develop a Space2face product range based on our clients' artwork. Some of these strands of work will require funding applications which we are currently researching.

7/ Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Print name:

Donald Anderson

Position:

Chair

Sign name:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, enclosed within a rectangular box.

Date:

1 April 2025