

The Streams in the Desert Trust

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers	1
Trustees' report	2 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6 - 7
Statement of financial activities	8
Balance sheet	9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 14

**Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

Trustees

Miss H J Mears, Chair
Mrs M J Shephard, Trustee
Mr P Shephard, Trustee
Mr G S Tippen, Trustee

Charity registered number

1043034

Principal office

27 Pirelli Way
Eastleigh
Hampshire
SO50 5GE

Accountants

Scofield & Co
16 Halliwick Gardens
Felpham
Bognor Regis
West Sussex PO22 7JE

Solicitors

Abels
6 College Place
London Road
Southampton
Hampshire
SO15 2XL

Secretary

Mrs M J Shephard

TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of The Streams in the Desert Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

The charity also trades under the name Streams in the Desert.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

THE STREAMS IN THE DESERT TRUST, known as STREAMS IN THE DESERT, was set up in 1994. We are a charity run by committed Christians, dependent upon God for direction and provision. The objects, as stated in the governing document dated 19th December 1994 are:

"for the relief of poverty and those in need including the provision of temporary accommodation amongst the elderly in Israel".

The governing document also states that "Trustees may in their absolute discretion acquire by purchase exchange gift or otherwise freehold or leasehold land and premises for use in connection with the purposes of the charity."

Our area of work is Israel. Our focus is on supporting the poor and needy in Israel, especially providing housing for elderly immigrants from Russia and the former Russian Republics (though not exclusively so). There is a huge need in Israel for affordable housing, with a long waiting list for public housing. Pensioners have to wait ten or more years before anything is available for them.

The pension and benefits received by new immigrants in Israel are insufficient to meet the cost of living independently in reasonable rented accommodation in the private sector.

The vast majority of elderly new immigrants from the former USSR are leaving behind a life of anti-Semitism and extreme poverty where many of them had insufficient pension to put food in their cupboards. There are still many more elderly people wanting to go to Israel, but understandably Israeli officials are reluctant to let them go unless they have a guarantee of somewhere to live. Needy people put a strain on resources, and no-one wants the risk of anyone being out on the streets without a home. This is where STREAMS IN THE DESERT can bridge the gap between concerned officials and an elderly person wanting to make aliya (go to Israel).

STREAMS IN THE DESERT works with its partner organisation in Israel, THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA), which has objectives similar to our own. It is a registered non-profit organisation in Israel, and currently performs the day-to-day running of one home for elderly people. It is financed partly by STREAMS IN THE DESERT. THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA) is in the planning stage of a multi-purpose complex incorporating independent flats, a care home and a nursing home in Israel.

In 2019 the Trustees of STREAMS IN THE DESERT TRUST agreed to provide support for the SABRA Foundation (RA) in Israel, which provides assistance for people of any age in extreme poverty, including Holocaust Survivors and other elderly people. The funds used for this project are given by donors as restricted funds specifically for the SABRA Foundation.

Helen Mears, the founding trustee, acts as executive director for The Open Gateway (RA) and therefore normally spends much time in Israel. However, since the beginning of the pandemic, she has not been able to travel to Israel. Streams in the Desert funds Helen's expenses to and within Israel, on behalf of The Open Gateway (RA). Two other trustees are on the executive board in Israel, and also go to Israel whenever necessary and when possible.

The charity is funded by donations. It is our unanimously agreed but unwritten policy not to make direct appeals for funds, but only to provide information. This is done through speaking engagements, conferences and exhibitions, along with newsletters and prayer bulletins. We believe in the power of prayer, that God is our provider, He is the One who gave the vision and He is the One who will move the hearts of donors to give. As Hudson Taylor said, "Move man, through God, by prayer alone."

The trustees serve for an indefinite period. The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the existing trustees, and this is done by resolution of a meeting of the trustees. Each trustee takes an active interest in all activities, having various necessary skills and understanding which benefit the work.

In setting the charity's programme each year, the trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and prevention and relief of poverty for the public benefit. The trustees always ensure that the programmes the charity undertakes are in line with its charitable objects and aims.

ORGANISATION

The trustees are very sad to report the death of Mrs June Johnson in August 2020. June was an avid supporter since STREAMS IN THE DESERT was founded, and faithfully served as a trustee for 24 years. Her love, care and concern for the work and the individuals we served was much appreciated by all concerned. She is greatly missed.

STREAMS IN THE DESERT is based in England. The Trustees meet several times a year, but are always kept fully informed personally and by telephone, and decisions are made with the agreement of all trustees. Two trustees voluntarily manage the day to day running of the Charity, and any of the trustees may be available for field trips for overseeing the work in Israel.

In 2000 the trustees of STREAMS IN THE DESERT, together with three people resident in Israel, registered STREAMS IN THE DESERT as a non profit organisation in Israel, under the name STREAMS IN THE DESERT (RA). In November 2013 the name was legally changed to "THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA)". It is legally independent of the UK charity, but all trustees are members of the organisation and three of them serve as active board members of THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA) in Israel.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Before any decision is made to further the work, the trustees actively review the major risks and implications to the charity. No major decision is made unless the trustees are in unanimous agreement. The main risk to the charity is that donations will dry up to a level where donations to THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA) are insufficient to meet their commitments. However, THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA) is a separate legal entity and STREAMS IN THE DESERT has no legal requirement to provide funding.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVES FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021

- To maintain communications with the current Israel partner organisation THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA) and oversee the work.
- To give financial assistance to THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA).
- To give financial assistance to the SABRA Foundation (RA)
- To disseminate information to supporters so that they are aware of the progress of projects in Israel, and to increase the number of prayer partners and supporters by reaching out to new groups of people.
- To minimise administrative costs in England in order to release more funds for grants.

ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

1. Maintain communications with the organisations in Israel and monitor the work

Helen Mears was unable to make any field visits to Israel since March 2020, due to the pandemic and travel restrictions. However, communications were maintained with the administrator in Israel and other board members by means of Skype, Signal and Zoom.

2. Grants for THE OPEN GATEWAY (RA), Israel

STREAMS IN THE DESERT donated £12,000 to The Open Gateway (RA) during the term of this financial year.

3. Grants for THE SABRA Foundation (RA), Israel

STREAMS IN THE DESERT donated £19,500 to The SABRA Foundation (RA) during the term of this financial year.

4. Disseminating information to supporters and outreach to new groups of people

Newsletters were sent out during the year, to all our supporters in the UK and overseas. Prayer partners are kept informed of prayer needs by the distribution of the Prayer Focus, published intermittently. This is by email wherever possible, partly to reduce costs and partly for speed.

5. Administrative costs

The Trustees continue to minimise administration costs by doing as much of the work as possible themselves. There were no paid employees during the year of this report.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

- Reserves Policy

A reserve fund of about £40,000 is the target. At present reserves are below this figure.

- Financial Review

Incoming resources amounted to £52,183 (2020 - £52,047). Resources expended amounted to £49,301 (2020- £63,668). The surplus of £2,882 (2020 – deficit of £11,621) was added to the total Fund and a balance of £41,366 was carried forward.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Board of The Open Gateway (RA) in Israel, which includes three of our Trustees, continues with its plan to establish a complex for elderly people which will meet their needs from the independent to the fully dependent. Investigations are currently being made regarding the ownership of a plot of land which could be developed according to official Israeli regulations and our standards of excellence. The ongoing pandemic has greatly slowed any progress.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 8th OCTOBER 2021 and signed on their behalf, by:

Miss H J Mears, Chair

Trustee

**Independent Examiner's
report for the year ended
31 March 2021**

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Streams in the Desert Trust

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's report (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed:

Dated:

2021

G H T Scofield FCCA

Scofield & Co

Chartered Certified Accountants
16 Halliwick
Gardens
Felpham
West Sussex
PO22 7JE

Statement of financial activities
(incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
TOTAL INCOME	2-4	22,996	29,187	52,183	52,047
LESS: TOTAL EXPENDITURE		20,000	29,301	49,301	63,668
Net (expenditure)/income for the year before transfers		2,996	(114)	2,882	(11,621)
Transfers	13	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	13	2,996	(114)	2,882	(11,621)
Total funds at 1 April 2020		3,479	35,005	38,484	50,105
Total funds at 31 March 2021		6,475	34,891	41,366	38,484

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet
As at 31 March 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	£	2020 £
Current assets					
Stocks		429		352	
Debtors	11	5,145		4,322	
Cash at bank		36,242		34,260	
			<u>41,816</u>	<u>38,934</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(450)		(450)	
Net current assets			<u>41,366</u>		<u>38,484</u>
Net assets			<u>41,366</u>		<u>38,484</u>
Charity Funds					
Unrestricted funds	13		34,891		36,338
Restricted Funds			<u>6,475</u>		<u>2,146</u>
Total funds			<u>41,366</u>		<u>38,484</u>

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small entities within the Charities Act 2011, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 8th October 2021 and signed on their behalf, by:

Miss H J Mears, Trustee

Mrs M J Shephard, Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial and Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

1.3 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of receipt.

1.4 Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £250 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures & fittings	- 25% on cost
---------------------	---------------

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Donations	22,996	29,129	52,125	51,305
Voluntary income	22,996	29,129	52,125	51,305

3. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Charity trading income		
Sale of goods	48	364
Fundraising trading expenses		
Cost of sales	29	219
Net income from trading activities	19	145

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Bank Interest and sundry income	10	378

5. Direct costs

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestrict'd Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020
Grant to The Open Gateway RA	-	12,000	12,000	20,000
Expenses in Israel	-	-	-	-
Grants to SABRA (RA)	19,500	-	19,500	18,000
Gift to SABRA (RA)-	500	-	500	-
Total	20,000	12,000	32,000	38,000

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021

6. Support costs

	Total	<i>Total</i>
	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Establishment costs	9,856	<i>11,004</i>
Office expenses and computer	3,550	<i>1,680</i>
Printing postage and stationery	2,594	<i>2,386</i>
Bank charges	553	<i>426</i>
UK Travel, conference and donations	300	<i>208</i>
Travel	-154	<i>7,127</i>
Israel expenses	-108	<i>348</i>
Computer and Internet	231	<i>1,731</i>
	16,822	<i>24,910</i>

7. Governance costs

	Total	<i>Total</i>
	funds	<i>funds</i>
	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Independent Examination fee	450	<i>450</i>
Professional charges	-	<i>-</i>
	450	<i>450</i>

8. Analysis of resources expended by expenditure type

	Other costs	<i>Total</i>
	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Fundraising expenses	-	<i>-</i>
Costs of generating funds	-	<i>-</i>
Charitable activities	28,851	<i>45,218</i>
Governance	450	<i>450</i>
Paid to SABRA (RA)	20,000	<i>18,000</i>
	49,301	<i>63,668</i>

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

9. Net income / (Expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	-	-

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2020 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2020 - £NIL).

No Trustee received reimbursement of travel expenses in the current year. (2020- 2 trustees - £6,182).

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & fittings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	7,583
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	7,583
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	-
At 31 March 2020	-

11. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Gift Aid receivable	5,145	4,322

**12. Creditors:
Amounts falling due within one year**

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals	450	450

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021

13. Summary of funds

	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Carried Forward £
General funds	35,005	29,187	(29,301)	34,891
Restricted Funds	3,479	22,996	(20,000)	6,475
	38,484	52,183	(49,301,)	41,366