

**THE GUATEMALAN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION**  
**Reg Charity No 1105241**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**



	Year ended 31 August 2024			Year ended 31 August 2023		
	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance £
<b>Fundraising</b>						
Regular donations (ALDEA)	8,898	18,104	-9,207	8,171	14,359	-6,189
Regular donations (Los Patajos)	4,449	8,284	-3,835	4,085	7,032	-2,947
Special Appeal 2024 (2023)	6,626	0	6,626	5,822	0	5,822
Specific fundraising Aldea	1,615	0	1,615	110	0	110
Christmas card fundraising	779	177	602	906	310	596
Fundraising for Bursary Fund	574	950	-376	465	400	65
Other donations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid (see note below)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>22,940</b>	<b>27,515</b>	<b>-4,575</b>	<b>19,560</b>	<b>22,102</b>	<b>-2,542</b>
<b>Events</b>						
GFA Cultural weekend - 2024 (2023)	1,826	1,848	-22	0	310	-310
Wellbeing Hub	0	0	0	94	180	-86
	<b>1,826</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>-22</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>-396</b>
<b>Publications</b>						
Calendar	1,016	693	323	1,391	753	638
			0			0
	<b>1,016</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>1,391</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>638</b>
<b>Membership</b>						
Subscriptions	2,295	270	2,025	2,320	270	2,050
Bank and other interest	62	0	62	15	0	15
Newsletter, Mailings, & Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>2,357</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>2,087</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>2,065</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>28,139</b>	<b>30,325</b>	<b>-2,187</b>	<b>23,380</b>	<b>23,615</b>	<b>-235</b>
Balance b/fwd 01/09/23			11,080			11,315
Deficit /surplus for the year			- 2,187			- 235
<b>Balance c/fwd 31/08/24</b>			<b>8,893</b>			<b>11,080</b>
Bank current account			6,208			8,428
Bank deposit account			2,685			2,652
			<b>8,893</b>			<b>11,080</b>

Note: Gift Aid claims of £4,597 in the period (2023: £3,500) have been allocated to the specific fundraising they relate to.

Approved by the Trustees on 5th February 2025 and signed on their behalf:

SR Moore



# THE GUATEMALAN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION

Reg Charity No 1105241

## **Treasurer's Report on the Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

The Accounts have been examined and signed by our Independent Examiner – Jo Benoy, CIPFA, and her report is attached. Comments on the accounts are below.

### ***Receipts***

**Total receipts** in the year were £28,139, an increase of 20% on the previous year. However part of this was due to receipts from the 2023 Special Appeal spilling into the current year. Without these additional receipts (£1,808) the increase would have been 8%. The largest element of receipts was fundraising for our Guatemalan charities, which accounted for £22,940, through a combination of regular donations and specific fundraising campaigns. Regular donations were £13,347, including Gift Aid, and increased by 9%. Specific fundraising campaigns raised a further £9,594, mostly from the 2024 Special Appeal, but as covered above included £1,808 from the 2023 Special Appeal.

The 2024 Cultural Weekend was held in Bristol in March and again the new format was very successful. The weekend was largely self-funding.

The balance of receipts came from membership subscriptions and the annual GFA calendar which was again popular and made a profit of £323 (2023: £638), although this does not include donations made when ordering the calendar of £270.

### ***Payments***

**Total payments** in the year were £30,325, an increase of 28% on the previous year (£23,615), largely due to the timing of payments to our Guatemalan charities.

**Outgoing Donations** to our Guatemalan charities were £26,388, an increase of 23% on last year, partly due to the additional payments from the 2023 campaign being made in September 2024 (£3,920). In total we distributed £18,104 (2023: £14,359) to our first designated charity, Aldea, and £8,284 (2023: ££7,032) to the second charity Los Patajos, two schools in Jocotenango. The Aldea figure includes some specific donations for that charity; all other donations are split two thirds to Aldea and one third to Los Patajos. Over the last 20 years, the GFA has now sent over £415,000 to organisations in Guatemala which is something we can all be proud of.

Overall the **deficit** of receipts over payments for the year was £2,187 (2023: deficit £235).

### ***Bank Balances***

Bank balances totalled £8,893 as at 31 August 2024 (2023: £11,080). Last year's balances were higher than normal as they included the additional fundraising paid out in September.

### ***Bursary and Oasis Funds***

The GFA has set up two Bursary Funds to support young adoptees travelling back to Guatemala and attending GFA events in the UK. Two travel bursaries were paid in the year and at 31 August the Travel Bursary stood at £4,733 and the Event Bursary at £369. In addition we hold a total of £337 from the money donated following the closure of OASIS, which is used to fund talks and activities on inter-country adoption.

### ***General Financial Position***

The GFA's financial position continues to be sound. We maintain reserves of approximately £3,000 to cover general running costs and special payments, as well as £5,439 for the Bursary and Oasis funds.

Sarah Moore, Treasurer

4<sup>th</sup> February 2025



Registered Charity Number 1105241

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Guatemalan Families Association

I report on the accounts of the Association for the 12 months ended 31 August 2024.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- To 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 Commissioners. 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 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### 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 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have 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.

Name: Jo Benoy

Address: 22 St Margaret's Drive, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4LW

Date: 15.03.25