THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1106071

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2004-09-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	120 Dukes Avenue Theydon Bois Epping CM16 7HF
Phone	01992812307
Email	Secretary@bgct.org.uk
Website	www.bgct.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. THE ADVANCEMENT OF RELIGION IN PARTICULAR TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE MAJOR RELIGIONS AND FAITH COMMUNITIES IN THE WORLD.2. THE RELIEF OF POVERTY IN THE INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT BY THE PROVISION OF SUCH GRANTS AS THE TRUSTEES SHALL DETERMINE FROM TIME TO TIME, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE WORK AND VISION OF FR BEDE GRIFFITHS

Activities: Making grants to provide social infrastructure, education and care for the young and elderly in Tamil Nadu, South India in and around the Saccidananda Ashram at Shantivanam.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1106071

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT
- India

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£42,535	£44,777	-	-
2023-12-31	£83,325	£53,014	-	-
2022-12-31	£38,324	£43,151	-	-
2021-12-31	£46,658	£62,625	-	-
2020-12-31	£64,684	£69,661	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PIPPA MISTRY-NORMAN	Chair	2014-07-27
Dr Richard Louis Rivers Snooks		2021-06-06
GREVILLE JOHN NORMAN CPFA, AGP		
HITEN ANAND		2017-12-01
Lady Moira Swayne		2023-08-05
Lucie-Jane Lewis MBE		2019-04-27
MARK LYNDON BRADBERRY		
MICHAEL PRUSS		2020-04-05
MRS MARY PRUSS		
Rene Cadet		2020-11-01
Rev SIMON NICHOLAS PAUL		2025-06-21

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1106071

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106071

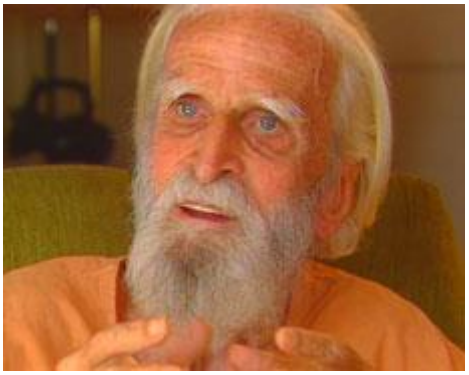
Accounts

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1106071

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2024



Fr Bede Griffiths

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Report of the Trustees	3 – 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12 – 16

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patrons

Adrian Rance-McGregor, BA
Colonel Robert (Bob) Stewart, DSO
Rev Dr Christopher Collingwood MA, BMus, PGCE, MA, PhD, LRSM
Susan Collingwood CertEd, ITEC

Registered and Principal Office

120 Dukes Avenue
Theydon Bois
Epping, Essex
CM16 7HF
Secretary@bgct.org.uk

Bankers

HSBC
Canterbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

Piyush Jasani FCCA
For and on behalf of
PJT and Co, Chartered Certified Accountants
Accountancy House, 90 Walworth Road,
London SE1 6SW

Website

www.bgct.org.uk

The Trustees at the time of the approval of this Report are set out below. They acted for the whole of the year ended 31 December 2024 -

Hiten Anand, BSc	Hon Secretary
Mark Bradberry	
René Cadet	
Lucie-Jane Lewis, MBE	
Philippa Mistry-Norman, BA, Dip	Chair
Greville Norman, BSc(Econ), CPFA, AGP	Hon Treasurer
Rosemary Pruss	
Michael Pruss, BA, MFA	
Dr Richard Snooks	
Lady Moira Swayne	

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is a Charitable Trust governed by a Constitution amended on 21 August 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission, number 1106071.

The governing body of the Trust is the Committee, which comprises from 5 to 11 Trustees, who are elected by the membership for periods of three or four years. At the end of 2024 and at the time of approving this report there were 10 Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared using the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (second edition)'.

Objectives and activities

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust was formed in 2003 and registered with the Charity Commission in 2004 with the following objects, unchanged by the constitution amended in 2016 -

1. The advancement of religion in particular to promote understanding and co-operation between the major religions and faith communities of the world.
2. The relief of poverty in the Indian sub-continent by the provision of such grants as the trustees shall determine from time to time, with particular reference to the work and vision of Father Bede Griffiths.

Father Bede Griffiths was an English Benedictine monk who went to live in Southern India in 1955 "to find the other half of his soul". He lived there for the last 35 years of his life, first helping to establish a Christian ashram in Kerala and then taking over the spiritual leadership of the Saccidananda Ashram (better known as Shantivanam https://www.shantivanamashram.com) near Trichy in Tamil Nadu. He wrote many books and spoke in many parts of the world promoting interfaith understanding and dialogue. As well as being a great spiritual teacher, Father Bede actively supported the poor and destitute in the villages around Shantivanam. Further information about Bede Griffiths is at www.bedegriffiths.com and https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/. Brother Martin, a friend and disciple of Father Bede, suggested that the Trust was formed in Father Bede's name to help projects initiated by the Ashram and by individuals associated with the Ashram.

The Trust fulfils its objects by making grants to charitable projects in India initiated and managed by local people known to the Trustees, and many of the Trust's supporters, in response to the social and economic needs of the most disadvantaged people. The projects are in villages within around 10 miles of the Ashram, called Thannirpalli, Pattavarthi, Veerambur and Inungur. Applications are normally accompanied by a financial statement of income and expenditure of the project in the previous year and/or by audited accounts.

The Trust is supported by members of the Bede Griffiths Sangha, an active community of followers of Father Bede which was founded in 1993 (see https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/), by Chigwell School, by Christ Church in Morningside Edinburgh, by the Rotary Club in Lymington and District and a wider community inspired by the work of the Trust itself and its projects. There is support for the Trust in the UK and in the USA and some other parts of the world.

Achievements and performance

Cumulatively to 31 December 2023

Cumulatively from its formation to 31 December 2023 the Trust had raised £1,114k mostly in donations and gift aid, with a little income from sales, events and interest.

The Trust made grants up to 31 December 2023 to fund the following major infrastructure –

- A home for the destitute elderly
- A tuition centre in a very poor village in which children had previously studied under a street-lamp
- A home near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004.
- Homes constructed from bricks, mortar and tiles to replace homes made of wood and leaves

Achievements and performance (continued)

- An infants' school and a junior school
- A multi-purpose hall located between the infants' and junior schools, used for dining, overflow classes, rehearsals and, by the infants, for taking a nap.

Grants were also made up to 31 December 2023 to contribute towards -

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - Two kindergartens, a day centre for the elderly and two centres training adults in typing, computing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - A tuition centre in a very poor village
  - A centre near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004
  - Infant and junior schools providing teaching in Tamil and English.
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The distribution of milk to the poorest families
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

In July 2020 the Trust launched its new website www.bgct.org.uk containing videos, links to Justgiving and to other relevant sites. The site was developed largely by two of the Trustees and at little cost to the Trust.

Financial Review

The year to 31 December 2024

The Trust has been fortunate in that –

- The projects it supports are 'mature' and had relatively little need in the year for infrastructure grants.
- Most of its income comes from donations and gift aid. Many of the donations are regular.
- Its supporters organise fund-raising events from time to time. In 2024 trustee Lucie-Jane Lewis organised an online auction which raised over £1,600 for a variety of projects and Susie and John Doran organised a coffee morning which raised over £1,300 for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. In 2023 Trustees Mike Pruss, Rene Cadet and Mike's friend, Justin, had run the Long Beach Half-Marathon to raise funds for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.

In 2024 gross income was £42.5k. (2023 - £83.3k.). Total expenditure for 2024 was £44.8k. (2023 - £53.0k.).

Thilaga teaching her class at the Timothy Pruss Memorial School

Fr Pinto of Shantivanam with the residents of its Home for the Elderly

The Trust made or committed grants in 2024 of £44.4k towards the following projects –

Financial Review (continued)

- The running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring operated by the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (£1.0k)
  - Infant and junior schools named in memory of Timothy Pruss and operated by BLESS providing, during the pandemic, home teaching in Tamil and English in groups, for around 155-160 pupils (£27.9k)
- Support for the Saccidananda Ashram and the Home for the Elderly and Tuition Centre it runs (£9.4k)
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly by Ananda Ashram (£3.1k)
- The educational expenses of poor children (£2.9k)

Sr Rose of the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust with children at its Kindergarten

Work at Ananda's farm

Bank charges in the year were £65, the cost of generating charitable income was £59 and governance costs, for Trustees' insurance, were £303.

The Trustees confirm that since the year end they are not aware of any events that would have a material detrimental impact on its position.

Impact

The Trust is undeniably small, averaging a turnover of around £55k pa over approximately 20 years of operation. It has had a disproportionately significant impact on its beneficiaries for the following reasons -

- The Trust has been very efficient in converting donations and other income into projects. Note 2 to the accounts shows that 94.2% of all incoming resources to date has been provided in grants, 0.3% on remitting money overseas and 0.3% spent on the cost of sales with 4.5% remaining in unapplied funds. Only 0.7% of turnover since the Trust's formation has therefore been spent on the administration of the Trust.
- The Trust's purchasing power has been significantly greater in India than it would have been in the UK because costs have continued to be much lower there than in the UK.
- Its beneficiaries are very poor and a relatively small input of resources can produce a disproportionately large enhancement to their lives.

When determining grant allocations, trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In doing so, trustees have been mindful that, as a charity for the relief of poverty, the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is required to satisfy the 'benefit' aspect only. The charity does not have a purpose which is for the benefit of named individuals, whether or not they are poor.

Reserves Policy

The Trust maintains an unrestricted fund and 7 restricted funds. The unrestricted fund is applied to meet both the balance of grants for restricted funds which do not have sufficient cash and expenditure, including grants, for which there is no restricted fund.

The Committee tends to make its final grant-making decisions in March or April and many of its grant payments in April or May, except for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School to which grants are transmitted three or four times a year. The Trust has no commitments to its beneficiaries and, with the exception of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School, makes grants as large as may be using only the cash at its disposal in appropriate funds at the appropriate time. For the past few years the Trust has been in a position where it has needed to ration many grants as compared with grant applications. It does not borrow.

Trustees recognise that donors generally give money so that it can be applied to projects within a relatively short timescale and the Trust has used all, or very nearly all, of the cash in most of its funds by the end of April or May. It is able to do so because it has no staff, very little in the way of support costs and because it receives regular donations, usually monthly, from its supporters to its unrestricted and restricted funds.

The Trust does, however, take a medium-term view of its ability to make grants in the future through a detailed 18-month cash budget, updated each month, which takes into account current cash in its funds and forecasts, given its regular donations, future income on which it can reasonably rely.

At the end of 2024 reserves were £5,073 of which £4,230 was cash-backed (cf £828 at the end of 2023, £91 cash).

Future Plans

Project managers in India are aware of the Trust's reserves and grant-making policy. On whatever scale the Trust can support them, its activities continue to improve the lives of its ultimate beneficiaries.

The Trust has a fundraising strategy and intends to hold at least one major fundraising event each year when circumstances permit.

Budgeted expenditure for 2025 based on cash and forecast income is around £46.9k but actual expenditure will depend on what cash is available in applicable funds at the appropriate times. In 2025 the Trustees plan to continue to make grants towards –

- The running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - Nursery and primary schools providing English-medium education for around 155-160 pupils
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

Investment Policy

The Trust has insufficient funds to consider long term investments. The Trust's current policy is to keep any surplus liquid funds in a deposit account with its bankers, HSBC, and to maintain liquidity by regular transfers from the current to the deposit account and vice versa. Around £500 is normally kept in the current account and the remainder in interest-earning deposit account.

Risk Management

The Trustees seek to conduct business within a framework of good governance, prudent financial control and sustainability. In principle, the Trustees believe that the framework suggested by the Charity Commission offers a comprehensive and coherent methodology, and it has been adopted by the Trust.

The Trust therefore considers its major risks under the following categories:

- Governance and management
- Operational risks
- Finance risks
- External risks
- Law and compliance risks

The trustees are concerned that its resources have been able to meet a diminishing proportion of the funds requested by some of the projects it supports and have kept project managers informed of this. The sterling/ Rupee exchange rate continues to be a concern though the Trust has made it clear that this risk is borne by the Indian charities. The Trust has insufficient funds to mitigate exchange rate risk.

Because the Trust allocates grants solely to projects in India and does not employ agents in that region, trustees need to pay particular attention to questions of actual need and the proper expenditure of funds in relation to those needs. Of the risks identified in the risk register, the most challenging therefore are the risk of fraud or error, on the part both of the Trust and of project managers, and the risk of inappropriate use of funds by the projects in India. To mitigate against these risks, the Trust applies due diligence to all its own financial processes and requires the same on the part of the Indian charities by means of a memorandum of understanding with each. Monitoring of expenditure is achieved through an agreed reporting process in combination with face-to-face meetings with project managers when trustees visit India.

The Trustees have insured their liabilities as trustees.

Structure, governance and management

The Trust adopted a formal membership scheme in August 2016. At the time of approving this report, its membership was just over one hundred. Members are kept informed during the year by the circulation of newsletters of which there was one in 2024 and another early in 2025.

Members of the Committee are appointed at Annual General Meetings, usually on the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee's recommendations were based on the Committee's knowledge of the skills, commitment and charities experience of the individual and on the basis of his/ her familiarity with the work of the Trust and the projects it supports.

The AGM held on 31 August 2024 at the offices of ScottFree Films was the Trust's second 'hybrid' AGM. ScottFree provided audio-visual facilities and light refreshments for members attending the meeting in person free-of-charge, for which the Trustees are extremely grateful.

The Trustees met in Committee three times in 2024. There is also consultation amongst the Trustees outside formal meetings, particularly amongst those with specific responsibilities. During 2024 all meetings of the Committee took place online. The Trust's constitution provides for such meetings.

In addition a number of Trustees would normally visit one or more of the projects in India at their own expense at least once a year. The purpose of such visits is partly to satisfy trustees, grantors and donors that the projects are being managed properly and that the outcomes of the projects are generally as agreed with the Trustees when considering applications for funding. No such visit took place during 2020, 2021, 2022 or 2023 because of the pandemic.

The Trust has no staff but it has the considerable continuing commitment and voluntary input of its Officers and other Trustees.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charity's activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and -

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws, and regulations. 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.

Independent Examiner

David Moir was the Trust's Independent Examiner for four years. He stood down Examiner after the examination of the 2023 Accounts. The Trustees are extremely grateful to him for his services to the Trust, free of charge.

Piyush Jasani FCCA of PJT and Co, Chartered Certified Accountants, Accountancy House, 90 Walworth Road, London SE1 6SW was appointed as the Trust's new Independent Examiner on 6 April 2025.

Approved by the Trustees on 6 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by -

Hiten Anand
Trustee and Hon Secretary

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect -

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:	Piyush Jasani	**Date:**	18/07/2025
Name:	Piyush Jasani FCCA for and on behalf of PJT and Co, Chartered Certified Accountants		
Address:	Accountancy House, 90 Walworth Road, London SE1 6SW		

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted income funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from -				
Donations and legacies		4,152	35,025	39,177
Charitable activities		-	-	-
Other trading activities		974	1,383	2,357
Investments		1,001	-	1,001
Other income		-	-	-
Total		6,127	36,408	42,535
Expenditure on -				
Raising funds	6	(59)	-	(59)
Charitable activities	5	-	(44,350)	(44,350)
Other	6	(368)	-	(368)
Total		(427)	(44,350)	(44,777)
Net income/ (expenditure)		5,700	(7,942)	(2,242)
Transfers between funds		(1,466)	1,466	-
Net movement in funds		4,234	(6,476)	(2,242)
Reconciliation of funds -				
Total funds brought forward		838	53,523	54,361
Total funds carried forward		**5,072**	**47,047**	**52,119**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted income funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from -			
Donations and legacies	3,571	77,428	80,999
Charitable activities	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	2,010	2,010
Investments	317	-	317
Other income	-	-	-
Total	3,887	79,438	83,325
Expenditure on -			
Raising funds	(62)	(14)	(76)
Charitable activities	-	(52,635)	(52,635)
Other	(303)	-	(303)
Total	(365)	(52,649)	(53,014)
Net income/ (expenditure)	**3,523**	**26,788**	**30,311**
Transfers between funds	(4,120)	4,120	-
Net movement in funds	(597)	30,908	30,311
Reconciliation of funds -			
Total funds brought forward	1,435	22,615	24,050
Total funds carried forward	**838**	**53,523**	**54,361**

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	Total funds at 31 December	
		2024	2023
		£	£
Current assets -			
Cash at bank and in hand	9	55,228	61,069
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,481	5,692
Total current assets		59,709	66,761
Liabilities -			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(7,590)	(12,400)
Net current assets		52,119	54,361
Total net assets		**52,119**	**54,361**
The funds of the charity -			
Restricted income funds	3	47,046	53,522
Unrestricted funds	3	5,073	839
Total charity funds		**52,119**	**54,361**

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 6 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Philippa Mistry-Norman
Chair

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

		2024	2023
		£	£
Cashflows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	9	(5,841)	40,731
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(5,841)	40,731
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		61,069	20,338
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**55,228**	**61,069**

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

1. Principal accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows, except where indicated below, the standards of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities. The Trustees' policy is that the Trust should adopt best practice. Accordingly the Trustees have decided to account on an accruals basis.

1.2 Fixed assets

The Trust has no fixed assets. Assets of the Trustees, such as computer equipment and use of their homes for meetings, are made available for the benefit of the Trust at no charge.

1.3 Incoming resources

Donations are recognised in the period in which the Trust is entitled to receipt and receipt is probable. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. The Trust received and was advised of no legacies in 2024 or 2023.

1.4 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Constructive obligations are recognised where grants have been approved by the Committee and notified to the Indian charity as being due in the year concerned but, for whatever reason, were not paid in that year.

1.5 Charitable expenditure and basis of allocation of costs

The Trust has no staff, no salaries and its only governance costs related to Trustees' insurance and purchases of software. It also has incurred bank charges in generating voluntary income and in transferring funds to India and, occasionally, in buying goods for sale. These costs are allocated directly to appropriate funds and, being immaterial, are otherwise met from the unrestricted fund.

1.6 Gifts in kind

Voluntary income received by way of donations to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts in kind are included at market value and as resources expended at the same value when distributed, except for time devoted to the Trust or costs incurred by the Trustees for the Trust unless these are reimbursed.

1.7 Fund accounting

The Trust meets its objects almost exclusively by making grants to charities in Tamil Nadu, India. It maintains restricted funds for each of those charities, each of which may have one or more than one purpose and activity. In the latter case the Trust may maintain restricted funds for some of those individual activities as well as for the totality of that charity's activities. A description of the activities of each charity is provided in note 11. Gift aid is, and since the formation of the Trust has been, credited to the same fund as the donations which gave rise to it except where the donor has expressly requested to the contrary. Funds held by the Trust are either -

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

or *Restricted income funds* - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes narrower than the objects of the Trust. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The Trust has no endowment and no designated funds.

1.8 Transfers

All funds are held for the Trust. Transfers may be executed for projects which have been completed but have a remaining surplus. Transfers from restricted funds have taken place only with the donor's consent. Trustees agreed transfers from the unrestricted fund to restricted funds to meet any expenditure in those restricted funds for which there is insufficient restricted income.

1.9 Irrecoverable Value Added Taxation

The Trust is not registered for Value Added Tax. Any irrecoverable Value Added Taxation is aggregated with the expenditure to which it relates.

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

2. Detailed income and expenditure account

	From formation to 31 December 2022	2023	2024	From formation to 31 December 2024	
	£	£	£	£	%
Incoming resources					
From generated funds -					
Voluntary income -					
Gift aid	143,408	7,385	5,559	156,352	13.5%
Donations	874,811	73,614	33,618	982,043	84.9%
Total voluntary income	1,018,219	80,999	39,177	1,138,395	98.4%
Total fund generating activities	10,652	2,010	2,357	15,019	1.3%
Total investment income	2,111	317	1,001	3,429	0.3%
Total from generated funds	1,030,982	83,326	42,535	1,156,843	100.0%
Total incoming resources	1,030,982	83,326	42,535	1,156,843	**100.0%**
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds -					
Costs of voluntary income -					
Bank charges	(1,583)	(76)	(65)	(1,724)	(0.1%)
Fundraising events	(140)	-	(59)	(199)	-
Postage	(171)	-	-	(171)	-
Publicity	(637)	-	-	(637)	-
Total costs of voluntary income	(2,531)	(76)	(124)	(2,731)	(0.2%)
Total costs of goods sold	(3,964)	-	-	(3,964)	(0.3%)
Total investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Total cost of generating funds	(6,495)	(76)	(124)	(6,695)	(0.6%)
Charitable activities -					
Costs of transmitting grants	(3,445)	-	-	(3,445)	(0.3%)
Grants -					
To individuals	(8,144)	-	-	(8,144)	(0.7%)
To organisations	(984,901)	(52,635)	(44,350)	(1,081,886)	(93.5%)
Total grants	(993,045)	(52,635)	(44,350)	(1,090,030)	(94.2%)
Total charitable activities	(996,490)	(52,635)	(44,350)	(1,093,475)	(94.5%)
Governance and other costs -					
Conference software	(72)	-	-	(72)	-
Hire of room	(162)	-	-	(162)	-
Office expenses	(466)	-	-	(466)	(0.1%)
Trustee insurance	(2,714)	(303)	(303)	(3,320)	(0.3%)
Website	(203)	-	-	(203)	-
Other costs	(330)	-	-	(330)	-
Total governance and other costs	(3,947)	(303)	(303)	(4,553)	(0.4%)
Total resources expended	**(1,006,932)**	**(53,014)**	**(44,777)**	**(1,104,723)**	**(95.5%)**
Net income/ expenditure	24,050	30,311	(2,243)	52,119	**4.5%**
Funds b'f	-	24,050	54,361	-	
Funds c'f	**24,050**	**54,361**	**52,119**	**52,119**	**4.5%**

3. Summary of fund movements

In the year ended 31 December 2024

Name of fund -	Fund balance at 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	48,412	21,307	(27,900)	-	41,819
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,344	2,870	-	(2,482)	1,732
Ananda Ashram	756	1,375	(3,117)	1,742	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	58	1,563	(1,000)	-	621
Friends of Shantivanam -	2,342	5,609	(9,400)	2,546	1,097
Home for the Elderly	288	646	-	(340)	594
Education	321	3,039	(2,933)	-	427
Total restricted income funds	53,522	36,409	(44,350)	1,466	47,046
Unrestricted fund	839	6,127	(427)	(1,466)	5,073
Total funds	54,361	42,536	(44,777)	-	52,119

In the year ended 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Fund balance at 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	18,688	63,639	(33,916)	-	48,412
Ashrams' social programmes -	504	7,760	-	(6,920)	1,344
Ananda Ashram	756	1,375	(3,065)	1,690	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	113	438	(9,350)	8,858	58
Friends of Shantivanam -	2,092	5,116	(5,359)	492	2,342
Home for the Elderly	327	422	(461)	-	288
Education	134	688	(500)	-	321
Total restricted income funds	22,615	79,438	(52,651)	4,120	53,522
Unrestricted fund	1,435	3,888	(365)	(4,120)	839
Total funds	24,050	83,326	(53,015)	-	54,361

4. Summary of fund balances

At 31 December 2024

Name of fund -	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	46,671	2,048	(6,900)	41,819
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,372	360	-	1,732
Ananda Ashram	620	136	-	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	563	58	-	621
Friends of Shantivanam -	677	420	-	1,097
Home for the Elderly	536	58	-	594
Education	559	558	(690)	427
Total restricted income funds	50,998	3,638	(7,590)	47,046
Unrestricted fund	4,230	843	-	5,073
Total funds	55,228	4,481	(7,590)	52,119

At 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	58,009	2,803	(12,400)	48,412
Ashrams' social programmes -	38	1,307	-	1,345
Ananda Ashram	600	156	-	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	45	13	-	58
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,919	423	-	2,342
Home for the Elderly	147	141	-	288
Education	221	100	-	321
Total restricted income funds	60,979	4,943	(12,400)	53,522
Unrestricted fund	91	748	-	839
Total funds	61,070	5,691	(12,400)	54,361

5. Analysis of grants

In the year ended 31 December 2024

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs attributed to grant-making	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	27,900	-	-	27,900
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	3,117	-	-	3,117
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	1,000	-	-	1,000
Friends of Shantivanam -	9,400	-	-	9,400
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Education	2,933	-	-	2,933
Total restricted income funds	44,350	-	-	44,350
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	44,350	-	-	44,350

In the year the ended 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs attributed to grant-making	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	33,900	-	-	33,900
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	3,065	-	-	3,065
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	9,350	-	-	9,350
Friends of Shantivanam -	5,359	-	-	5,359
Home for the Elderly	461	-	-	461
Education	500	-	-	500
Total restricted income funds	52,635	-	-	52,635
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	52,635	-	-	52,635

6. Analysis of costs not attributed to grant-making

In the year ended 31 December 2024

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges	Trustees' insurance	Events costs	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	-	-	-	-
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	-	-	-	-
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted fund	65	303	59	427
Total funds	65	303	59	427

In the year ended 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges	Trustees' insurance	Events costs	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	14	-	-	14
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	-	-	-	-
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	14	-	-	14
Unrestricted fund	62	303	-	365
Total funds	76	303	-	379

7. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 December	
	2024	**2023**
	£	£
Gift aid receivable from HMRC Charities	4,246	5,457
Prepayments	235	235
	4,481	**5,692**

8. Amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 December	
	2024	**2023**
Constructive obligations	7,590	12,400
	7,590	**12,400**

The obligations at 31 December 2023 and 2024 were grants to the Timothy Pruss Memorial School of which approval had been communicated to the School by 31 December. Payments of them were made in early in the following year.

9. Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities

	2024	**2023**
	£	£
Net income/ (expenditure) as per Statement of Financial Activities	(2,242)	30,311
Adjustments for -		
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	(4,810)	12,000
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors and prepayments	1,211	(1,580)
Net cashflow from operating activities	(5,841)	40,731
Cash balance at the beginning of the year	61,069	20,338
Cash balance at the end of the year	55,228	61,069

10. Related party transactions

No payments were made to Trustees or their families in 2023 or 2024 except on production of vouchers for expenses incurred for the Trust.

A total of £2,562 (£3,165 inc gift aid) was donated in 2024 by Trustees and members of the families of Trustees who had been Trustees for at least a part of the year. The comparative figures for 2023 were £5,154 excluding and £6,330 including gift aid.

11. Analysis of the activities financed by the restricted income funds

Some donations to the Trust are restricted to particular projects, some to the projects of a particular recipient Indian charity and some to more than one charity but not to all. The restricted income funds are layered and 'nested' in the following way -

Timothy Pruss Memorial School	The infrastructure and running costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.
Ashrams' social programmes -	The social programme of Shantivanam, Ananda Ashram and of the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust, each of which also has its own restricted fund -
Ananda Ashram	The year-round provision of milk, eggs, rice and clothing for around 15 elderly people and improvements to the infrastructure of the ashram.
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (SBDT)	The salaries and running costs of SBDT which provides a kindergarten, a centre for the training of adults in tailoring and typing and a day centre for the elderly.
Friends of Shantivanam -	The social programmes, minor infrastructure projects and running costs of Shantivanam including the following, which also has its own restricted fund -
Home for the Elderly	The running costs of a home for the destitute elderly run by Shantivanam.
Education	Educational fees and costs for poor individual students paid to their schools or colleges.

The Trust has been the major funder of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. It is not the sole funder of any of the projects or activities it supports.

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106071

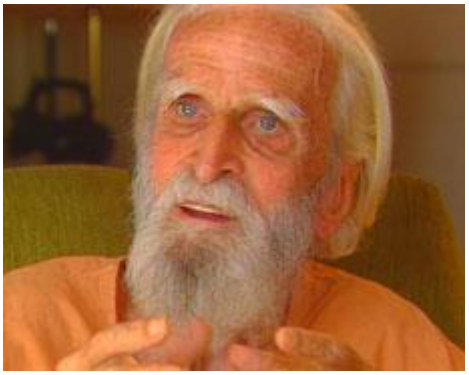
Accounts

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1106071

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023



Fr Bede Griffiths

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Report of the Trustees	3 – 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12 – 16

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patrons

Adrian Rance-McGregor, BA
Colonel Robert (Bob) Stewart, DSO, MP
Rev Dr Christopher Collingwood MA, BMus, PGCE, MA, PhD, LRSM
Susan Collingwood CertEd, ITEC

Registered and Principal Office

120 Dukes Avenue
Theydon Bois
Epping, Essex
CM16 7HF
Secretary@bgct.org.uk

Bankers

HSBC
Canterbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

David Moir

Website

www.bgct.org.uk

The Trustees at the time of the approval of this Report are set out below. They acted for the whole of the year ended 31 December 2023, except as otherwise stated -

Hiten Anand, BSc	From 12 March 2023 Hon Secretary
Mark Bradberry	
René Cadet	
Carolyn Carter, DipMagLaw, JP	Resigned 5 August 2023
Lucie-Jane Lewis, MBE	
Philippa Mistry-Norman, BA, Dip	Chair and to 12 March 2023 Hon Secretary
Greville Norman, BSc(Econ), CPFA, AGP	Hon Treasurer
Rosemary Pruss	
Michael Pruss, BA, MFA	
Dr Richard Snooks	
Lady Moira Swayne	Elected 5 August 2023

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is a Charitable Trust governed by a Constitution amended on 21 August 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission, number 1106071.

The governing body of the Trust is the Committee, which comprises from 5 to 11 Trustees, who are elected by the membership for periods of three or four years. At the end of 2023 and at the time of approving this report there were 10 Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared using the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (second edition)'.

Objectives and activities

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust was formed in 2003 and registered with the Charity Commission in 2004 with the following objects, unchanged by the constitution amended in 2016 -

1. The advancement of religion in particular to promote understanding and co-operation between the major religions and faith communities of the world.
2. The relief of poverty in the Indian sub-continent by the provision of such grants as the trustees shall determine from time to time, with particular reference to the work and vision of Father Bede Griffiths.

Father Bede Griffiths was an English Benedictine monk who went to live in Southern India in 1955 "to find the other half of his soul". He lived there for the last 35 years of his life, first helping to establish a Christian ashram in Kerala and then taking over the spiritual leadership of the Saccidananda Ashram (better known as Shantivanam https://www.shantivanamashram.com) near Trichy in Tamil Nadu. He wrote many books and spoke in many parts of the world promoting interfaith understanding and dialogue. As well as being a great spiritual teacher, Father Bede actively supported the poor and destitute in the villages around Shantivanam. Further information about Bede Griffiths is at www.bedegriffiths.com and https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/. Brother Martin, a friend and disciple of Father Bede, suggested that the Trust was formed in Father Bede's name to help projects initiated by the Ashram and by individuals associated with the Ashram.

The Trust fulfils its objects by making grants to charitable projects in India initiated and managed by local people known to the Trustees, and many of the Trust's supporters, in response to the social and economic needs of the most disadvantaged people. The projects are in villages within around 10 miles of the Ashram, called Thannirpalli, Pattavarthi, Veerambur and Inungur. Applications are normally accompanied by a financial statement of income and expenditure of the project in the previous year and/or by audited accounts.

The Trust is supported by members of the Bede Griffiths Sangha, an active community of followers of Father Bede which was founded in 1993 (see https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/), by Chigwell School and a wider community inspired by the work of the Trust itself and its projects. There is support for the Trust in the UK and in the USA and some other parts of the world.

Achievements and performance

Cumulatively to 31 December 2022

Cumulatively from its formation to 31 December 2022 the Trust had raised £1,031k mostly in donations and gift aid, with a little income from sales, events and interest.

The Trust made grants up to 31 December 2022 to fund the following major infrastructure –

- A home for the destitute elderly
- A tuition centre in a very poor village in which children had previously studied under a street-lamp
- A home near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004.
- Homes constructed from bricks, mortar and tiles to replace homes made of wood and leaves

Achievements and performance (continued)

- An infants' school and a junior school
- A multi-purpose hall located between the infants' and junior schools, used for dining, overflow classes, rehearsals and, by the infants, for taking a nap.

Grants were also made up to 31 December 2022 to contribute towards -

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - Two kindergartens, a day centre for the elderly and two centres training adults in typing, computing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - A tuition centre in a very poor village
  - A centre near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004
  - Infant and junior schools providing teaching in Tamil and English for around 250 pupils.
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The distribution of milk to the poorest families
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

In July 2020 the Trust launched its new website www.bgct.org.uk containing videos, links to Justgiving and to other relevant sites. The site was developed largely by two of the Trustees and at little cost to the Trust.

Financial Review

The year to 31 December 2023

The Trust has been fortunate in that –

- Michael Pruss, René Cadet and a colleague and friend of Michael's ran the Long Beach half-marathon in October 2023 to raise funds for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.
- The projects it supports are 'mature' and had relatively little need in the year for infrastructure grants.
- Most of its income comes from donations and gift aid. Many of the donations are regular.

In 2023 gross income was £83.3k. (2022 - £38.3k.). Total expenditure for 2023 was £53.0k. (2022 - £43.2k.). The Trust made or committed grants in 2023 of £52.64k to the following projects –

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring operated by the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (£9.35k)
  - Infant and junior schools named in memory of Timothy Pruss and operated by BLESS providing, during the pandemic, home teaching in Tamil and English in groups, for around 170 pupils (£33.92k)
- Support for the Saccidananda Ashram and the Home for the Elderly and Tuition Centre it runs (£5.82k)
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly by Ananda Ashram (£3.07k)
- The educational expenses of poor children (£0.5k)

Financial Review (continued)

The kindergarten

The Old People's Day Centre

Training in tailoring

The cost of generating voluntary income was £76 and governance costs, for Trustees' insurance, were £303.

The Trustees confirm that since the year end they are not aware of any events that would have a material detrimental impact on its position.

Impact

The Trust is undeniably small, averaging a turnover of around £55k pa over approximately 20 years of operation. It has had a disproportionately significant impact on its beneficiaries for the following reasons -

- The Trust has been very efficient in converting donations and other income into projects. Note 2 to the accounts shows that 93.8% of all incoming resources to date has been provided in grants, 0.4% on remitting money overseas and 0.4% spent on the cost of sales with 4.9% remaining in unapplied funds. Only 0.4% of turnover has therefore been spent on the administration of the Trust.
- The Trust's purchasing power has been significantly greater in India than it would have been in the UK because costs have continued to be much lower there than in the UK.
- Its beneficiaries are very poor and a relatively small input of resources can produce a disproportionately large enhancement to their lives.

When determining grant allocations, trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In doing so, trustees have been mindful that, as a charity for the relief of poverty, the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is required to satisfy the 'benefit' aspect only. The charity does not have a purpose which is for the benefit of named individuals, whether or not they are poor.

Reserves Policy

The Trust maintains an unrestricted fund and 7 restricted funds. The unrestricted fund is applied to meet both the balance of grants for restricted funds which do not have sufficient cash and expenditure, including grants, for which there is no restricted fund.

The Committee tends to make its final grant-making decisions in March or April and many of its grant payments in April or May, except for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School to which grants are transmitted three or four times a year. The Trust has no commitments to its beneficiaries and, with the exception of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School, makes grants as large as may be using only the cash at its disposal in appropriate funds at the appropriate time. For the past few years the Trust has been in a position where it has needed to ration many grants as compared with grant applications. It does not borrow.

Trustees recognise that donors generally give money so that it can be applied to projects within a relatively short timescale and the Trust has used all, or very nearly all, of the cash in most of its funds by the end of

April or May. It is able to do so because it has no staff, very little in the way of support costs and because it receives regular donations, usually monthly, from its supporters to its unrestricted and restricted funds.

The Trust does, however, take a medium-term view of its ability to make grants in the future through a detailed 18-month cash budget, updated each month, which takes into account current cash in its funds and forecasts, given its regular donations, future income on which it can reasonably rely.

At the end of 2023 reserves were £838 of which £91 was cash-backed (cf £1,435 at the end of 2022, £662 cash).

Future Plans

Project managers in India are aware of the Trust's reserves and grant-making policy. On whatever scale the Trust can support them, its activities continue to improve the lives of its ultimate beneficiaries.

The Trust has a fundraising strategy and intends to hold at least one major fundraising event each year when circumstances permit.

Budgeted expenditure for 2024 based on cash and forecast income is around £43k but actual expenditure will depend on what cash is available in applicable funds at the appropriate times. In 2024 the Trustees plan to continue to make grants towards –

- The running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - Nursery and primary schools providing English-medium education for around 175 pupils
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

Investment Policy

The Trust has insufficient funds to consider long term investments. The Trust's current policy is to keep any surplus liquid funds in a deposit account with its bankers, HSBC, and to maintain liquidity by regular transfers from the current to the deposit account and vice versa. Around £500 is normally kept in the current account and the remainder in the deposit account.

Risk Management

The Trustees seek to conduct business within a framework of good governance, prudent financial control and sustainability. In principle, the Trustees believe that the framework suggested by the Charity Commission offers a comprehensive and coherent methodology, and it has been adopted by the Trust.

The Trust therefore considers its major risks under the following categories:

- Governance and management
- Operational risks
- Finance risks
- External risks
- Law and compliance risks

The trustees are concerned that its resources have been able to meet a diminishing proportion of the funds requested by some of the projects it supports and have kept project managers informed of this. The sterling/ Rupee exchange rate continues to be a concern though the Trust has made it clear that this risk is borne by the Indian charities. The Trust has insufficient funds to mitigate exchange rate risk.

Because the Trust allocates grants solely to projects in India and does not employ agents in that region, trustees need to pay particular attention to questions of actual need and the proper expenditure of funds in relation to those needs. Of the risks identified in the risk register, the most challenging therefore are the risk of fraud or error, on the part both of the Trust and of project managers, and the risk of inappropriate use of

funds by the projects in India. To mitigate against these risks, the Trust applies due diligence to all its own financial processes and requires the same on the part of the Indian charities by means of a memorandum of understanding with each. Monitoring of expenditure is achieved through an agreed reporting process in combination with face-to-face meetings with project managers when trustees visit India.

The Trustees have insured their liabilities as trustees.

Structure, governance and management

The Trust adopted a formal membership scheme in August 2016. At the time of approving this report, its membership was just over one hundred. Members are kept informed during the year by the circulation of newsletters of which there were two in 2023.

Members of the Committee are appointed at Annual General Meetings, usually on the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee's recommendations were based on the Committee's knowledge of the skills, commitment and charities experience of the individual and on the basis of his/ her familiarity with the work of the Trust and the projects it supports.

The AGM held on 5 August 2023 at the King's Road branch of Jeroboams was the Trust's first 'hybrid' AGM. Jeroboams provided audio-visual facilities and refreshments for members attending the meeting in person free of charge, for which the Trustees are extremely grateful.

The Trustees met in Committee four times in 2023. There is also consultation amongst the Trustees outside formal meetings, particularly amongst those with specific responsibilities. During 2023 all meetings of the Committee took place online. The Trust's constitution provides for such meetings.

In addition a number of Trustees would normally visit one or more of the projects in India at their own expense at least once a year. The purpose of such visits is partly to satisfy trustees, grantors and donors that the projects are being managed properly and that the outcomes of the projects are generally as agreed with the Trustees when considering applications for funding. No such visit took place during 2020, 2021, 2022 or 2023, because of the pandemic. A visit by BGCT's Treasurer is planned later in 2024.

The Trust has no staff but it has the considerable continuing commitment and voluntary input of its Officers and other Trustees.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charity's activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and -

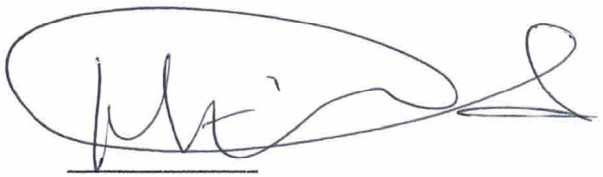
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws, and regulations. 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.

Independent Examiner

David Moir is the Trust's Independent Examiner. He was appointed by the Annual General Meeting on 1 November 2020. He has indicated that he will be standing down as the Independent Examiner after the examination of these Accounts. The Trustees are extremely grateful to him for his services to the Trust, free of charge.

Approved by the Trustees on 8 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by -



Hiten Anand
Trustee and Hon Secretary

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

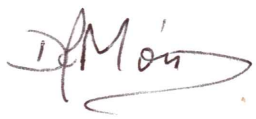
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect -

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 12 July 2024

Name: David Moir

Address: 30 Howard Close, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 1XA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted income funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from -				
Donations and legacies		3,571	77,428	80,999
Charitable activities		-	-	-
Other trading activities		-	2,010	2,010
Investments		317	-	317
Other income		-	-	-
Total		3,887	79,438	83,325
Expenditure on -				
Raising funds	6	(62)	(14)	(76)
Charitable activities	5	-	(52,635)	(52,635)
Other	6	(303)	-	(303)
Total		(365)	(52,649)	(53,014)
Net income/ (expenditure)		3,523	26,788	30,311
Transfers between funds		(4,120)	4,120	-
Net movement in funds		(597)	30,908	30,311
Reconciliation of funds -				
Total funds brought forward		1,435	22,615	24,050
Total funds carried forward		**838**	**53,523**	**54,361**

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted income funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from -			
Donations and legacies	3,727	33,966	37,693
Charitable activities	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	600	600
Investments	31	-	31
Other income	-	-	-
Total	3,758	34,566	38,324
Expenditure on -			
Raising funds	(61)	(3)	(64)
Charitable activities	-	(42,720)	(42,720)
Other	(367)	-	(367)
Total	(428)	(42,723)	(43,151)
Net income/ (expenditure)	**3,330**	**(8,157)**	**(4,827)**
Transfers between funds	(4,229)	4,229	-
Net movement in funds	(899)	(3,928)	(4,827)
Reconciliation of funds -			
Total funds brought forward	2,334	26,543	28,877
Total funds carried forward	**1,435**	**22,615**	**24,050**

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	Total funds at 31 December	
		2023	2022
		£	£
Current assets -			
Cash at bank and in hand	9	61,069	20,338
Debtors and prepayments	7	5,692	4,112
Total current assets		66,761	24,450
Liabilities -			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(12,400)	(400)
Net current assets		54,361	24,050
Total net assets		**54,361**	**24,050**
The funds of the charity -			
Restricted income funds	3	53,522	22,615
Unrestricted funds	3	839	1,435
Total charity funds		**54,361**	**24,050**

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 8 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Philippa Mistry-Norman
Chair

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

		2023	2022
		£	£
Cashflows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	9	40,731	(3,146)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		40,731	(3,146)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		20,338	23,484
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**61,069**	**20,338**

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023

1. Principal accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows, except where indicated below, the standards of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities. The Trustees' policy is that the Trust should adopt best practice. Accordingly the Trustees have decided to account on an accruals basis.

1.2 Fixed assets

The Trust has no fixed assets. Assets of the Trustees, such as computer equipment and use of their homes for meetings, are made available for the benefit of the Trust at no charge.

1.3 Incoming resources

Donations are recognised in the period in which the Trust is entitled to receipt and receipt is probable. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. The Trust received and was advised of no legacies in 2023 or 2022.

1.4 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Constructive obligations are recognised where grants have been approved by the Committee and notified to the Indian charity as being due in the year concerned but, for whatever reason, were not paid in that year.

1.5 Charitable expenditure and basis of allocation of costs

The Trust has no staff, no salaries and its only governance costs related to Trustees' insurance and purchases of software. It also has incurred bank charges in generating voluntary income and in transferring funds to India and, occasionally, in buying goods for sale. These costs are allocated directly to appropriate funds and, being immaterial, are otherwise met from the unrestricted fund.

1.6 Gifts in kind

Voluntary income received by way of donations to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts in kind are included at market value and as resources expended at the same value when distributed, except for time devoted to the Trust or costs incurred by the Trustees for the Trust unless these are reimbursed.

1.7 Fund accounting

The Trust meets its objects almost exclusively by making grants to charities in Tamil Nadu, India. It maintains restricted funds for each of those charities, each of which may have one or more than one purpose and activity. In the latter case the Trust may maintain restricted funds for some of those individual activities as well as for the totality of that charity's activities. A description of the activities of each charity is provided in note 11. Gift aid is, and since the formation of the Trust has been, credited to the same fund as the donations which gave rise to it except where the donor has expressly requested to the contrary. Funds held by the Trust are either -

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

or *Restricted income funds* - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes narrower than the objects of the Trust. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The Trust has no endowment and no designated funds.

1.8 Transfers

All funds are held for the Trust. Transfers may be executed for projects which have been completed but have a remaining surplus. Transfers from restricted funds have taken place only with the donor's consent. Trustees agreed transfers from the unrestricted fund to restricted funds to meet any expenditure in those restricted funds for which there is insufficient restricted income.

1.9 Irrecoverable Value Added Taxation

The Trust is not registered for Value Added Tax. Any irrecoverable Value Added Taxation is aggregated with the expenditure to which it relates.

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023

2. Detailed income and expenditure account

	From formation to 31 December 2021	2022	2023	From formation to 31 December 2023	
	£	£	£	£	%
Incoming resources					
From generated funds -					
Voluntary income -					
Gift aid	137,910	5,498	7,385	150,793	13.5%
Donations	842,616	32,195	73,614	948,425	85.2%
Total voluntary income	980,526	37,693	80,999	1,099,218	98.6%
Total fund generating activities	10,052	600	2,010	12,662	1.1%
Total investment income	2,080	31	317	2,428	0.2%
Total from generated funds	992,658	38,324	83,325	1,114,307	100.0%
Total incoming resources	992,658	38,324	83,325	1,114,307	**100.0%**
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds -					
Costs of voluntary income -					
Bank charges	(1,519)	(64)	(76)	(1,659)	(0.1%)
Fundraising events	(140)	-	-	(140)	-
Postage	(171)	-	-	(171)	-
Publicity	(637)	-	-	(637)	-
Total costs of voluntary income	(2,467)	(64)	(76)	(2,607)	(0.2%)
Total costs of goods sold	(3,964)	-	-	(3,964)	(0.4%)
Total investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Total cost of generating funds	(6,431)	(64)	(76)	(6,571)	(0.6%)
Charitable activities -					
Costs of transmitting grants	(3,445)	-	-	(3,445)	(0.4%)
Grants -					
To individuals	(8,144)	-	-	(8,144)	(0.7%)
To organisations	(942,181)	(42,720)	(52,635)	(1,037,536)	(93.1%)
Total grants	(950,325)	(42,720)	(52,635)	(1,045,680)	(93.8%)
Total charitable activities	(953,770)	(42,720)	(52,635)	(1,049,125)	(94.2%)
Governance and other costs -					
Conference software	-	(72)	-	(72)	-
Hire of room	(162)	-	-	(162)	-
Office expenses	(466)	-	-	(466)	(0.1%)
Trustee insurance	(2,419)	(295)	(303)	(3,017)	(0.3%)
Website	(203)	-	-	(203)	-
Other costs	(330)	-	-	(330)	-
Total governance and other costs	(3,580)	(367)	(303)	(4,250)	(0.4%)
Total resources expended	**(963,781)**	**(43,151)**	**(53,014)**	**(1,059,946)**	**(95.1%)**
Net income/ expenditure	28,877	(4,827)	30,311	54,361	**4.9%**
Funds b'f	-	28,877	24,050	-	
Funds c'f	**28,877**	**24,050**	**54,361**	**54,361**	**4.9%**

3. Summary of fund movements

In the year ended 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Fund balance at 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	18,688	63,639	(33,916)	-	48,412
Ashrams' social programmes -	504	7,760	-	(6,920)	1,344
Ananda Ashram	756	1,375	(3,065)	1,690	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	113	438	(9,350)	8,858	58
Friends of Shantivanam -	2,092	5,116	(5,359)	492	2,342
Home for the Elderly	327	422	(461)	-	288
Education	134	688	(500)	-	321
Total restricted income funds	22,615	79,438	(52,651)	4,120	53,522
Unrestricted fund	1,435	3,888	(365)	(4,120)	839
Total funds	24,050	83,326	(53,015)	-	54,361

In the year ended 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Fund balance at 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	21,723	25,866	(28,901)	-	18,688
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,225	2,034	-	(2,755)	504
Ananda Ashram	706	1,375	(3,910)	2,585	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	413	462	(2,691)	1,929	113
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,856	3,616	(5,850)	2,470	2,092
Home for the Elderly	236	463	(371)	-	327
Education	384	750	(1,000)	-	134
Total restricted income funds	26,543	34,566	(42,723)	4,229	22,615
Unrestricted fund	2,334	3,757	(427)	(4,229)	1,435
Total funds	28,877	38,323	(43,150)	-	24,050

4. Summary of fund balances

At 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	58,009	2,803	(12,400)	48,412
Ashrams' social programmes -	38	1,307	-	1,344
Ananda Ashram	600	156	-	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	45	13	-	58
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,919	423	-	2,342
Home for the Elderly	147	141	-	288
Education	221	100	-	321
Total restricted income funds	60,979	4,943	(12,400)	53,522
Unrestricted fund	91	748	-	839
Total funds	61,070	5,691	(12,400)	54,361

At 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	16,830	2,258	(400)	18,688
Ashrams' social programmes -	231	273	-	504
Ananda Ashram	600	156	-	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	55	58	-	113
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,669	423	-	2,092
Home for the Elderly	270	58	-	328
Education	21	113	-	134
Total restricted income funds	19,676	3,339	(400)	22,615
Unrestricted fund	662	773		1,435
Total funds	20,338	4,112	(400)	24,050

5. Analysis of grants

In the year ended 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs attributed to grant-making	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	33,900	-	-	33,900
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	3,065	-	-	3,065
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	9,350	-	-	9,350
Friends of Shantivanam -	5,359	-	-	5,359
Home for the Elderly	461	-	-	461
Education	500	-	-	500
Total restricted income funds	52,635	-	-	52,635
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	52,635	-	-	52,635

In the year the ended 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs attributed to grant-making	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	28,900	-	-	28,900
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	3,910	-	-	3,910
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	2,690	-	-	2,690
Friends of Shantivanam -	5,850	-	-	5,850
Home for the Elderly	370	-	-	370
Education	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total restricted income funds	42,720	-	-	42,720
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	42,720	-	-	42,720

6. Analysis of costs not attributed to grant-making

In the year ended 31 December 2023

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges	Trustees' insurance	Conference software	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	14	-	-	14
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	-	-	-	-
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	14	-	-	14
Unrestricted fund	62	303	-	365
Total funds	76	303	-	379

In the year ended 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges	Trustees' insurance	Conference software	Total
	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	1	-	-	1
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	1	-	-	1
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	1	-	-	1
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	3	-	-	3
Unrestricted fund	61	295	72	428
Total funds	64	295	72	431

7. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 December	
	2023	**2022**
	£	£
Gift aid receivable from HMRC Charities	5,457	3,877
Prepayments	235	235
	5,692	**4,112**

8. Amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 December	
	2023	**2022**
Constructive obligation	12,400	400
	12,400	**400**

The obligation was a grant for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School of which approval had been communicated to the School by 31 December 2023. Payment of it was made by 6 February 2024.

9. Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities

	2023	**2022**
	£	£
Net income/ (expenditure) as per Statement of Financial Activities	30,311	(4,827)
Adjustments for -		
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	12,000	400
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors and prepayments	(1,580)	1,281
Net cashflow from operating activities	40,731	(3,146)
Cash balance at the beginning of the year	20,338	23,484
Cash balance at the end of the year	61,069	20,338

10. Related party transactions

No payments were made to Trustees or their families in 2022 or 2023 except on production of vouchers for expenses incurred for the Trust.

A total of £9,102 (£11,378 inc gift aid) was donated in 2023 by Trustees and members of the families of Trustees who had been Trustees for at least a part of the year. The comparative figures for 2022 were £5,154 excluding and £6,330 including gift aid.

11. Analysis of the activities financed by the restricted income funds

Some donations to the Trust are restricted to particular projects, some to the projects of a particular recipient Indian charity and some to more than one charity but not to all. The restricted income funds are layered and 'nested' in the following way -

Timothy Pruss Memorial School	The infrastructure and running costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.
Ashrams' social programmes -	The social programme of Shantivanam, Ananda Ashram and of the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust, each of which also has its own restricted fund -
Ananda Ashram	The year-round provision of milk, eggs, rice and clothing for around 15 elderly people and improvements to the infrastructure of the ashram.
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (SBDT)	The salaries and running costs of SBDT which provides a kindergarten, a centre for the training of adults in tailoring and typing and a day centre for the elderly.
Friends of Shantivanam -	The social programmes, minor infrastructure projects and running costs of Shantivanam including the following, which also has its own restricted fund -
Home for the Elderly	The running costs of a home for the destitute elderly run by Shantivanam.
Education	Educational fees and costs for poor individual students.

The Trust has been the major funder of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. It is not the sole funder of any of the projects or activities it supports.

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106071

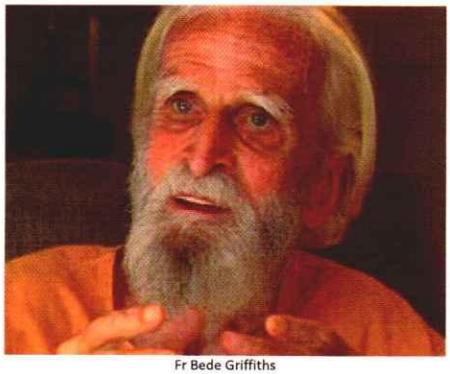
Accounts

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1106071

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2022



Fr Bede Griffiths

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Report of the Trustees	3 – 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12 – 16

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patrons

Adrian Rance-McGregor, BA
Colonel Robert (Bob) Stewart, DSO, MP
Rev Dr Christopher Collingwood MA, BMus, PGCE, MA, PhD, LRSM
Susan Collingwood CertEd, ITEC

Registered and Principal Office

120 Dukes Avenue
Theydon Bois
Epping, Essex
CM16 7HF
Secretary@bgct.org.uk

Bankers

HSBC
Canterbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

David Moir

Website

www.bgct.org.uk

The Trustees at the time of the approval of this Report are set out below. They acted for the whole of the year ended 31 December 2022, except as otherwise stated -

Hiten Anand, BSc	From 12 March 2023 Hon Secretary
Mark Bradberry	To 12 June 2022 Chair
René Cadet	
Carolyn Carter, DipMagLaw, JP	To 22 January 2023 Minute Secretary
Lucie-Jane Lewis, MBE	
Philippa Mistry-Norman, BA, Dip	To 12 June 2022 Hon Secretary, from 12 June 2022 Chair
Greville Norman, BSc(Econ), CPFA, AGP	Hon Treasurer
Rosemary Pruss	
Michael Pruss, BA, MFA	
Dr Richard Snooks	

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is a Charitable Trust governed by a Constitution amended on 21 August 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission, number 1106071.

The governing body of the Trust is the Committee, which comprises from 5 to 11 Trustees, who are elected by the membership for periods of three or four years. At the end of 2022 and at the time of approving this report there were 10 Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The financial statements have been prepared using the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (second edition)'.

Objectives and activities

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust was formed in 2003 and registered with the Charity Commission in 2004 with the following objects, unchanged by the constitution amended in 2016 -

1. The advancement of religion in particular to promote understanding and co-operation between the major religions and faith communities of the world.
2. The relief of poverty in the Indian sub-continent by the provision of such grants as the trustees shall determine from time to time, with particular reference to the work and vision of Father Bede Griffiths.

Father Bede Griffiths was an English Benedictine monk who went to live in Southern India in 1955 "to find the other half of his soul". He lived there for the last 35 years of his life, first helping to establish a Christian ashram in Kerala and then taking over the spiritual leadership of the Saccidananda Ashram (better known as Shantivanam https://www.shantivanamashram.com) near Trichy in Tamil Nadu. He wrote many books and spoke in many parts of the world promoting interfaith understanding and dialogue. As well as being a great spiritual teacher, Father Bede actively supported the poor and destitute in the villages around Shantivanam. Further information about Bede Griffiths is at www.bedegriffiths.com and https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/. Brother Martin, a friend and disciple of Father Bede, suggested that the Trust was formed in Father Bede's name to help projects initiated by the Ashram and by individuals associated with the Ashram.

The Trust fulfils its objects by making grants to charitable projects in India initiated and managed by local people known to the Trustees, and many of the Trust's supporters, in response to the social and economic needs of the most disadvantaged people. The projects are in villages within around 10 miles of the Ashram, called Thannirpalli, Pattavarthi, Veerambur and Inungur. In January or February each year the project managers in India submit an application to the Committee for grants for their financial year commencing in April, common to all Indian charities. Applications are normally accompanied by a financial statement of income and expenditure of the project in the previous year and/or by audited accounts.

The Trust is supported by members of the Bede Griffiths Sangha, an active community of followers of Father Bede which was founded in 1993 (see https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/), by Chigwell School and a wider community inspired by the work of the Trust itself and its projects. Support for the Trust is largely but not exclusively in the UK and there are organisations named after Fr Bede in the USA and many parts of Europe.

Achievements and performance

Cumulatively to 31 December 2021

Cumulatively from its formation to 31 December 2021 the Trust had raised £992.7k mostly in donations and gift aid, with a little income from sales, events and interest.

The Trust made grants up to 31 December 2021 to fund the following major infrastructure –

- A home for the destitute elderly
- A tuition centre in a very poor village in which children had previously studied under a street-lamp
- A home near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004.
- Homes constructed from bricks, mortar and tiles to replace homes made of wood and leaves

Achievements and performance (continued)

- An infants' school and a junior school
- A multi-purpose hall located between the infants' and junior schools, used for dining, overflow classes, rehearsals and, by the infants, for taking a nap.

Grants were also made up to 31 December 2021 to contribute towards -

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - Two kindergartens, a day centre for the elderly and two centres training adults in typing, computing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - A tuition centre in a very poor village
  - A centre near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004
  - Infant and junior schools providing teaching in Tamil and English for around 250 pupils.
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The distribution of milk to the poorest families
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

In July 2020 the Trust launched its new website www.bgct.org.uk containing videos, links to Justgiving and to other relevant sites. The site was developed largely by two of the Trustees and at little cost to the Trust.

Financial Review

The year to 31 December 2022

The Trust has been fortunate in that –

- Michael Pruss and two friends had run the Long Beach marathon in October 2019 to raise funds for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School and some of those funds were carried forward into 2022.
- The projects it supports are 'mature' and had relatively little need in the year for infrastructure grants.
- Most of its income comes from donations and gift aid. Many of the donations are regular.

In 2022 gross income was £38.3k. (2021 - £46.7k.). Total expenditure for 2022 was £43.2k. (2021 - £62.6k.). The Trust made grants in 2022 of £42.72k to the following projects –

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring operated by the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (£2.69k)
  - Infant and junior schools named in memory of Timothy Pruss and operated by BLESS providing, during the pandemic, home teaching in Tamil and English in groups, for around 170 of its pupils (£28.90k)
- Support for the Saccidananda Ashram and the Home for the Elderly and Tuition Centre it runs (£6.22k)
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly by Ananda Ashram (£3.91k)
- The educational expenses of poor children (£1.00k)

Financial Review (continued)

The kindergarten

The Old People's Day Centre

Training in tailoring

The cost of generating voluntary income was £64 and governance costs, for Trustees' insurance and conference software, were £367. Because the AGM was held online in 2022, no costs were associated with it.

The Trustees confirm that since the year end they are not aware of any events that would have a material detrimental impact on its position.

Impact

The Trust is undeniably small, averaging a turnover of around £55k pa over approximately 19 years of operation. During 2022, and around the time of the 2022 AGM, the Trust passed a significant milestone in having raised since its formation more than £1m – far in excess of what was thought possible at the outset. It has had a disproportionately significant impact on its beneficiaries for the following reasons -

- The Trust has been very efficient in converting donations and other income into projects. Note 2 to the accounts shows that 96.3% of all incoming resources to date has been provided in grants, 0.4% on remitting money overseas and 0.4% spent on the cost of sales with 2.3% remaining in unapplied funds. Only 0.6% of turnover has therefore been spent on the administration of the Trust.
- The Trust's purchasing power has been significantly greater in India than it would have been in the UK because, despite higher inflation in India than in the UK, costs have continued to be much lower there than in the UK.
- Its beneficiaries are very poor and a relatively small input of resources can produce a disproportionately large enhancement to their lives.

When determining grant allocations, trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In doing so, trustees have been mindful that, as a charity for the relief of poverty, the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is required to satisfy the 'benefit' aspect only. The charity does not have a purpose which is for the benefit of named individuals, whether or not they are poor.

Reserves Policy

The Trust maintains an unrestricted fund and 7 restricted funds. The unrestricted fund is applied to meet both the balance of grants for restricted funds which do not have sufficient cash and grants for which there is no restricted fund.

The Committee tends to make its final grant-making decisions in April and many of its grant payments in April or May, except for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School to which grants are transmitted quarterly. The Trust has no commitments to its beneficiaries and usually makes grants as large as may be using only the cash at its disposal in

appropriate funds at the appropriate time. For the past few years the Trust has been in a position where it has needed to ration many grants as compared with grant applications. It does not borrow.

Trustees recognise that donors generally give money so that it can be applied to projects within a relatively short timescale and the Trust has used all, or very nearly all, of the cash in most of its funds by the end of April or May. It is able to do so because it has no staff, very little in the way of support costs and because it receives regular donations, usually monthly, from its supporters to its unrestricted and restricted funds.

An acknowledged consequence of this policy is that the Trust's ability to make grants in 2023, for instance, will be heavily dependent on donations, fundraising and gift aid in the months after April of 2022 and during the first four months of 2023.

The Trust does, however, take a medium-term view of its ability to make grants in the future through a detailed 18-month cash budget, updated each month, which takes into account current cash in its funds and forecasts, given its regular donations, future income on which it can reasonably rely.

At the end of 2022 reserves were £1,435 of which £662 was cash-backed (cf £2,334 at the end of 2021, £1,550 cash).

Future Plans

Project managers in India are aware of the Trust's reserves and grant-making policy. On whatever scale the Trust can support them, its activities continue to improve the lives of its ultimate beneficiaries.

The Trust has a fundraising strategy and intends to hold at least one major fundraising event each year when circumstances permit.

Budgeted expenditure for 2023 based on cash and forecast income is around £40.95k but actual expenditure will depend on what cash is available in applicable funds at the appropriate times. In 2023 the Trustees plan to continue to make grants towards –

- The running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - Nursery and primary schools providing English-medium education for around 175 pupils
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

Investment Policy

The Trust has insufficient funds to consider long term investments. The Trust's current policy is to keep any surplus liquid funds in a deposit account with its bankers, HSBC, and to maintain liquidity by regular transfers from the current to the deposit account and vice versa. Around £500 is normally kept in the current account and the remainder in the deposit account.

Risk Management

The Trustees seek to conduct business within a framework of good governance, prudent financial control and sustainability. In principle, the Trustees believe that the framework suggested by the Charity Commission offers a comprehensive and coherent methodology, and it has been adopted by the Trust.

The Trust therefore considers its major risks under the following categories:

- Governance and management
- Operational risks
- Finance risks
- External risks
- Law and compliance risks

The trustees are concerned that its resources have been able to meet a diminishing proportion of the funds requested by some of the projects it supports and have kept project managers informed of this. The sterling/ Rupee exchange rate continues to be a concern though the Trust has made it clear that this risk is borne by the Indian charities. The Trust has insufficient funds to mitigate exchange rate risk.

Because the Trust allocates grants solely to projects in India and does not employ agents in that region, trustees need to pay particular attention to questions of actual need and the proper expenditure of funds in relation to those needs. Of the risks identified in the risk register, the most challenging therefore are the risk of fraud or error, on the part both of the Trust and of project managers, and the risk of inappropriate use of funds by the projects in India. To mitigate against these risks, the Trust applies due diligence to all its own financial processes and requires the same on the part of the Indian charities by means of a memorandum of understanding with each. Monitoring of expenditure is achieved through an agreed reporting process in combination with face-to-face meetings with project managers when trustees visit India.

The Trustees have insured their liabilities as trustees.

Structure, governance and management

The Trust adopted a formal membership scheme in August 2016. At the time of approving this report, its membership was just over one hundred. Members are kept informed during the year by the circulation of newsletters of which there was one in 2022.

Members of the Committee are appointed at Annual General Meetings, usually on the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee's recommendations were based on the Committee's knowledge of the skills, commitment and charities experience of the individual and on the basis of his/ her familiarity with the work of the Trust and the projects it supports.

The Trust's AGM 2022 was held online successfully and without cost on 12 June 2022. At that meeting Mark Bradberry retired as the Trust's Chair and Philippa Mistry-Norman took over the role, retiring as the Trust's Hon Secretary.

The Trustees meet formally at least three times a year and in fact met four times in 2022 but there is also frequent consultation amongst the Trustees outside formal meetings, particularly amongst those with specific responsibilities. During 2022 all meetings of the Committee took place online. The Trust's constitution provides for such meetings.

In addition a number of Trustees would normally visit one or more of the projects in India at their own expense at least once a year. The purpose of such visits is partly to satisfy trustees, grantors and donors that the projects are being managed properly and that the outcomes of the projects are generally as agreed with the Trustees when considering applications for funding. No such visit took place during 2020, 2021 or 2022, because of the pandemic.

The Trust has no staff but it has the considerable continuing commitment and voluntary input of its Officers and other Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charity's activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and -

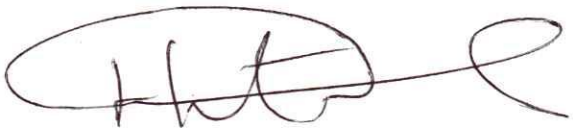
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws, and regulations. 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.

Independent Examiner

David Moir is the Trust's Independent Examiner. He was appointed by the Annual General Meeting on 1 November 2020.

Approved by the Trustees on 22 January 2023 and signed on their behalf by -



Hiten Anand
Trustee

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect -

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: D J Moir **Date:** 16 May 2023

Name: David Moir

Address: 30 Howard Close, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 1XA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted income funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from -				
Donations and legacies		3,727	33,966	37,693
Charitable activities		-	-	-
Other trading activities		-	600	600
Investments		31	-	31
Other income		-	-	-
Total		3,758	34,566	38,324
Expenditure on -				
Raising funds	6	(61)	(3)	(64)
Charitable activities	5	-	(42,720)	(42,720)
Other	6	(367)	-	(367)
Total		(428)	(42,723)	(43,151)
Net income/ (expenditure)		3,330	(8,157)	(4,827)
Transfers between funds		(4,229)	4,229	-
Net movement in funds		(899)	(3,928)	(4,827)
Reconciliation of funds -				
Total funds brought forward		2,334	26,543	28,877
Total funds carried forward		**1,435**	**22,615**	**24,050**

For the year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted income funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income and endowments from -				
Donations and legacies		4,873	40,237	45,110
Charitable activities		-	-	-
Other trading activities		-	1,545	1,545
Investments		3	-	3
Other income		-	-	-
Total		4,876	41,782	46,658
Expenditure on -				
Raising funds	6	(2)	-	(2)
Charitable activities	5	-	(62,330)	(62,330)
Other	6	(293)	-	(293)
Total		(295)	(62,330)	(62,625)
Net income/ (expenditure)		**4,581**	**(20,548)**	**(15,967)**
Transfers between funds		(6,267)	6,267	-
Net movement in funds		(1,686)	(14,281)	(15,967)
Reconciliation of funds -				
Total funds brought forward		4,020	40,824	44,844
Total funds carried forward		**2,334**	**26,543**	**28,877**

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	Total funds at 31 December	
		2022	2021
		£	£
Current assets -			
Cash at bank and in hand	9	20,338	23,484
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,112	5,393
Total current assets		24,450	28,877
Liabilities -			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(400)	-
Net current assets		24,050	28,877
Total net assets		**24,050**	**28,877**
The funds of the charity -			
Restricted income funds	3	22,615	26,543
Unrestricted funds	3	1,435	2,334
Total charity funds		**24,050**	**28,877**

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 22 January 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Philippa Mistry-Norman
Chair

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

		2022	2021
		£	£
Cashflows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	9	(3,146)	(15,633)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(3,146)	(15,633)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		23,484	39,117
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**20,338**	**23,484**

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2022

1. Principal accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows, except where indicated below, the standards of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities. The Trustees' policy is that the Trust should adopt best practice. Accordingly the Trustees have decided to account on an accruals basis.

1.2 Fixed assets

The Trust has no fixed assets. Assets of the Trustees, such as computer equipment and use of their homes for meetings, are made available for the benefit of the Trust at no charge.

1.3 Incoming resources

Donations are recognised in the period in which the Trust is entitled to receipt and receipt is probable. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. The Trust received and was advised of no legacies in 2022 or 2021.

1.4 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Constructive obligations are recognised where grants have been approved by the Committee and notified to the Indian charity as being due in the year concerned but, for whatever reason, were not paid in that year.

1.5 Charitable expenditure and basis of allocation of costs

The Trust has no staff, no salaries and its only governance costs related to Trustees' insurance and purchases of software. It also has incurred bank charges in generating voluntary income and in transferring funds to India and, occasionally, in buying goods for sale. These costs are allocated directly to appropriate funds and, being immaterial, are otherwise met from the unrestricted fund.

1.6 Gifts in kind

Voluntary income received by way of donations to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts in kind are included at market value and as resources expended at the same value when distributed, except for time devoted to the Trust or costs incurred by the Trustees for the Trust unless these are reimbursed.

1.7 Fund accounting

The Trust meets its objects almost exclusively by making grants to charities in Tamil Nadu, India. It maintains restricted funds for each of those charities, each of which may have one or more than one purpose and activity. In the latter case the Trust may maintain restricted funds for some of those individual activities as well as for the totality of that charity's activities. A description of the activities of each charity is provided in note 11. Gift aid is, and since the formation of the Trust has been, credited to the same fund as the donations which gave rise to it except where the donor has expressly requested to the contrary. Funds held by the Trust are either -

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

or *Restricted income funds* - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes narrower than the objects of the Trust. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The Trust has no endowment and no designated funds.

1.8 Transfers

All funds are held for the Trust. Transfers may be executed for projects which have been completed but have a remaining surplus. Transfers from restricted funds have taken place only with the donor's consent. Trustees agreed transfers from the unrestricted fund to restricted funds to meet any expenditure in those restricted funds for which there is insufficient restricted income.

1.9 Irrecoverable Value Added Taxation

The Trust is not registered for Value Added Tax. Any irrecoverable Value Added Taxation is aggregated with the expenditure to which it relates.

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2022

2. Detailed income and expenditure account

	From formation to 31 December 2020	2021	2022	From formation to 31 December 2022	
	£	£	£	£	%
Incoming resources					
From generated funds -					
Voluntary income -					
Gift aid	130,856	7,054	5,498	143,408	13.9%
Donations	804,559	38,057	32,195	874,811	84.9%
Total voluntary income	935,415	45,111	37,693	1,018,219	98.8%
Total fund generating activities	8,507	1,545	600	10,652	1.0%
Total investment income	2,077	3	31	2,111	0.2%
Total from generated funds	945,999	46,659	38,324	1,030,982	100.0%
Total incoming resources	945,999	46,659	38,324	1,030,982	**100.0%**
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds -					
Costs of voluntary income -					
Bank charges	(1,517)	(2)	(64)	(1,583)	(0.2%)
Fundraising events	(140)	-	-	(140)	-
Postage	(171)	-	-	(171)	-
Publicity	(637)	-	-	(637)	-
Total costs of voluntary income	(2,465)	(2)	(64)	(2,531)	(0.2%)
Total costs of goods sold	(3,964)	-	-	(3,964)	(0.4%)
Total investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Total cost of generating funds	(6,429)	(2)	(64)	(6,495)	(0.6%)
Charitable activities -					
Costs of transmitting grants	(3,343)	(102)	-	(3,445)	(0.4%)
Grants -					
To individuals	(8,144)	-	-	(8,144)	(0.8%)
To organisations	(879,953)	(62,228)	(42,720)	(984,901)	(95.5%)
Total grants	(888,097)	(62,228)	(42,720)	(993,045)	(96.3%)
Total charitable activities	(891,440)	(62,330)	(42,720)	(996,490)	(96.7%)
Governance and other costs -					
Conference software	-	-	(72)	(72)	-
Hire of room	(162)	-	-	(162)	-
Office expenses	(466)	-	-	(466)	(0.1%)
Trustee insurance	(2,125)	(294)	(295)	(2,714)	(0.3%)
Website	(203)	-	-	(203)	-
Other costs	(330)	-	-	(330)	-
Total governance and other costs	(3,286)	(294)	(367)	(3,947)	(0.4%)
Total resources expended	**(901,155)**	**(62,626)**	**(43,151)**	**(1,006,932)**	**(97.7%)**
Net income/ expenditure	44,844	(15,967)	(4,827)	24,050	**2.3%**
Funds b'f	-	44,844	28,877	-	
Funds c'f	**44,844**	**28,877**	**24,050**	**24,050**	**2.3%**

3. Summary of fund movements

In the year ended 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Fund balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund balance at 31 December 2022 £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	21,723	25,866	(28,901)	-	18,688
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,225	2,034	-	(2,755)	504
Ananda Ashram	706	1,375	(3,910)	2,585	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	413	462	(2,691)	1,929	113
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,856	3,616	(5,850)	2,470	2,092
Home for the Elderly	236	463	(371)	-	328
Education	384	750	(1,000)	-	134
Total restricted income funds	26,543	34,566	(42,723)	4,229	22,615
Unrestricted fund	2,334	3,757	(427)	(4,229)	1,435
Total funds	28,877	38,323	(43,150)	-	24,050
		-	-		

In the year ended 31 December 2021

Name of fund -	Fund balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund balance at 31 December 2021 £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	36,630	29,894	(44,801)	-	21,723
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,155	2,264	-	(2,194)	1,225
Ananda Ashram	740	1,375	(4,217)	2,808	706
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	205	502	(3,667)	3,373	413
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,716	6,044	(8,184)	2,280	1,856
Home for the Elderly	150	547	(461)	-	236
Education	228	1,156	(1,000)	-	384
Total restricted income funds	40,824	41,782	(62,330)	6,267	26,543
Unrestricted fund	4,020	4,876	(295)	(6,267)	2,334
Total funds	44,844	46,658	(62,625)	-	28,877

4. Summary of fund balances

At 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Cash at bank and in hand £	Other current assets £	Amounts falling due within one year £	Net assets at 31 December 2022 £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	16,830	2,258	(400)	18,688
Ashrams' social programmes -	231	273	-	504
Ananda Ashram	600	156	-	756
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	55	58	-	113
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,669	423	-	2,092
Home for the Elderly	270	58	-	328
Education	21	113	-	134
Total restricted income funds	19,676	3,339	(400)	22,615
Unrestricted fund	662	773		1,435
Total funds	20,338	4,112	(400)	24,050

At 31 December 2021

Name of fund -	Cash at bank and in hand £	Other current assets £	Amounts falling due within one year £	Net assets at 31 December 2021 £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	18,617	3,106	-	21,723
Ashrams' social programmes -	914	311	-	1,225
Ananda Ashram	550	156	-	706
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	355	58	-	413
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,130	726	-	1,856
Home for the Elderly	178	58	-	236
Education	190	194	-	384
Total restricted income funds	21,934	4,609	-	26,543
Unrestricted fund	1,550	784		2,334
Total funds	23,484	5,393	-	28,877

5. Analysis of grants

In the year ended 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions £	Grants to individuals £	Support costs attributed to grant-making £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	28,900	-	-	28,900
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	3,910	-	-	3,910
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	2,690	-	-	2,690
Friends of Shantivanam -	5,850	-	-	5,850
Home for the Elderly	370	-	-	370
Education	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total restricted income funds	42,720	-	-	42,720
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	42,720	-	-	42,720

In the year the ended 31 December 2021

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions £	Grants to individuals £	Support costs attributed to grant-making £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	44,750	-	51	44,801
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	4,200	-	17	4,217
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	3,650	-	17	3,667
Friends of Shantivanam -	8,167	-	17	8,184
Home for the Elderly	461	-	-	461
Education	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total restricted income funds	62,228	-	102	62,330
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	62,228	-	102	62,330

The support costs attributed to grant-making in 2021 consist entirely of bank charges relating to grant payments. In 2022 grants were paid through a Foreign Exchange company.

6. Analysis of costs not attributed to grant-making

In the year ended 31 December 2022

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges £	Trustees' insurance £	Conference software £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	1	-	-	1
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	1	-	-	1
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	1	-	-	1
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	3	-	-	3
Unrestricted fund	61	295	72	428
Total funds	64	295	72	431

In the year ended 31 December 2021

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges £	Trustees' insurance £	Conference software £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	-	-	-	-
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	-	-	-	-
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted fund	2	293	-	295
Total funds	2	293	-	295

7. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 December	
	2022	2021
	£	£
Gift aid receivable from HMRC Charities	3,877	5,166
Prepayments	235	227
	4,112	**5,393**

8. Amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 December	
	2022	2021
Constructive obligation	400	-
	400	**-**

The obligation was a grant for a Christmas lunch at the Timothy Pruss Memorial School of which approval was communicated to the School. Payment of it was deferred until early 2023.

9. Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income/ (expenditure) as per Statement of Financial Activities	(4,827)	(15,967)
Adjustments for -		
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	400	(1,450)
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors and prepayments	1,281	1,784
Net cashflow from operating activities	(3,146)	(15,633)
Cash balance at the beginning of the year	23,484	39,117
Cash balance at the end of the year	20,338	23,484

10. Related party transactions

No payments were made to Trustees or their families in 2021 or 2022 except on production of vouchers for expenses incurred for the Trust. The total of such expenses in 2022, for conferencing software, was £72 and in 2021 for website software, £184. Expenses incurred by Trustees and others for the work of the Trust which were not reimbursed are not accounted for.

A total of £5,154 (£6,330 inc gift aid) was donated in 2022 by Trustees and members of the families of Trustees who had been Trustees for at least a part of the year. The comparative figures for 2021 were £7,961 excluding and £9,941 including gift aid.

11. Analysis of the activities financed by the restricted income funds

Some donations to the Trust are restricted to particular projects, some to the projects of a particular recipient Indian charity and some to more than one charity but not to all. The restricted income funds are layered and 'nested' in the following way -

Timothy Pruss Memorial School	The infrastructure and running costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.
Ashrams' social programmes -	The social programme of Shantivanam, Ananda Ashram and of the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust, each of which also has its own restricted fund -
Ananda Ashram	The year-round provision of milk, eggs, rice and clothing for around 15 elderly people and improvements to the infrastructure of the ashram.
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (SBDT)	The salaries and running costs of SBDT which provides a kindergarten, a centre for the training of adults in tailoring and typing and a day centre for the elderly.
Friends of Shantivanam -	The social programmes, minor infrastructure projects and running costs of Shantivanam including the following, which also has its own restricted fund -
Home for the Elderly	The running costs of a home for the destitute elderly run by Shantivanam.
Education	Educational fees and costs for poor individual students paid to their schools or colleges.

The Trust has been the major funder of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. It is not the sole funder of any of the projects or activities it supports.

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106071

Accounts

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1106071

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2021

Fr Bede Griffiths

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Report of the Trustees	3 – 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12 – 16

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patrons

Adrian Rance-McGregor, BA
Colonel Robert (Bob) Stewart, DSO, MP
Rev Dr Christopher Collingwood MA, BMus, PGCE, MA, PhD, LRSM
Susan Collingwood CertEd, ITEC

Registered and Principal Office

120 Dukes Avenue
Theydon Bois
Epping, Essex
CM16 7HF
Secretary@bgct.org.uk

Bankers

HSBC
Canterbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

David Moir

Website

www.bgct.org.uk

The Trustees at the time of the approval of this Report are set out below. They acted for the whole of the year ended 31 December 2021, except as otherwise stated -

Hiten Anand, BSc	
Mark Bradberry	Chair
René Cadet	
Carolyn Carter, DipMagLaw, JP	Minute Secretary
Lucie-Jane Lewis, MBE	
Philippa Mistry-Norman, BA, Dip	From 6 June 2021 Hon Secretary
Greville Norman, BSc(Econ), CPFA, AGP	Hon Treasurer and to 5 June 2021 Hon Secretary
Rosemary Pruss	
Michael Pruss, BA, MFA	
Dr Richard Snooks	Appointed as a Trustee 6 June 2021

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is a Charitable Trust governed by a Constitution amended on 21 August 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission, number 1106071.

The governing body of the Trust is the Committee, which comprises from 5 to 11 Trustees, who are elected by the membership for periods of three or four years. At the end of 2021 and at the time of approving this report there were 10 Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The financial statements have been prepared using the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (second edition)'.

Objectives and activities

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust was formed in 2003 and registered with the Charity Commission in 2004 with the following objects, unchanged by the constitution amended in 2016 -

1. The advancement of religion in particular to promote understanding and co-operation between the major religions and faith communities of the world.
2. The relief of poverty in the Indian sub-continent by the provision of such grants as the trustees shall determine from time to time, with particular reference to the work and vision of Father Bede Griffiths.

Father Bede Griffiths was an English Benedictine monk who went to live in Southern India in 1955 "to find the other half of his soul". He lived there for the last 35 years of his life, first helping to establish a Christian ashram in Kerala and then taking over the spiritual leadership of the Saccidananda Ashram (better known as Shantivanam https://www.shantivanamashram.com) near Trichy in Tamil Nadu. He wrote many books and spoke in many parts of the world promoting interfaith understanding and dialogue. As well as being a great spiritual teacher, Father Bede actively supported the poor and destitute in the villages around Shantivanam. Further information about Bede Griffiths is at www.bedegriffiths.com and https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/. Brother Martin, a friend and disciple of Father Bede, suggested that the Trust was formed in Father Bede's name to help projects initiated by the Ashram and by individuals associated with the Ashram.

The Trust fulfils its objects by making grants to charitable projects in India initiated and managed by local people known to the Trustees, and many of the Trust's supporters, in response to the social and economic needs of the most disadvantaged people. The projects are in villages within around 10 miles of the Ashram, called Thannirpalli, Pattavarthi, Veerambur and Inungur. In January or February each year the project managers in India submit an application to the Committee for grants for their financial year commencing in April, common to all Indian charities. Applications are normally accompanied by a financial statement of income and expenditure of the project in the previous year and/or by audited accounts.

The Trust is supported by members of the Bede Griffiths Sangha, an active community of followers of Father Bede which was founded in 1993 (see https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/), by Chigwell and Prince's Mead Schools and a wider community inspired by the work of the Trust itself and its projects. Support for the Trust is largely but not exclusively in the UK and there are organisations named after Fr Bede in the USA and many parts of Europe.

Achievements and performance

Cumulatively to 31 December 2020

Cumulatively from its formation to 31 December 2020 the Trust had raised £946.0k mostly in donations and gift aid, with a little income from sales, events and interest.

The Trust made grants up to 31 December 2020 to fund the following major infrastructure –

- A home for the destitute elderly
- A tuition centre in a very poor village in which children had previously studied under a street-lamp
- A home near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004.
- Homes constructed from bricks, mortar and tiles to replace homes made of wood and leaves

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Achievements and performance (continued)

- An infants' school and a junior school
- A multi-purpose hall located between the infants' and junior schools, used for dining, overflow classes, rehearsals and, by the infants, for taking a nap.

Grants were also made up to 31 December 2020 to contribute towards -

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - Two kindergartens, a day centre for the elderly and two centres training adults in typing, computing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - A tuition centre in a very poor village
  - A centre near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004
  - Infant and junior schools providing teaching in Tamil and English for around 250 pupils.
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The distribution of milk to the poorest families
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

In July 2020 the Trust launched its new website www.bgct.org.uk containing videos, links to Justgiving and to other relevant sites. The site was developed largely by two of the Trustees and at little cost to the Trust.

Financial Review

The year to 31 December 2021

The year 2021 was, of course, unusual as the Covid19 pandemic continued both in the UK and India. The increasing number of fundraising activities planned by Trustees and members such as coffee mornings, dinners, jumble sales, quizzes, walks and climbs had to be postponed or cancelled. The Trust is, however, very fortunate in that –

- Michael Pruss and two friends had run the Long Beach marathon in October 2019 to raise funds for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School and some of those funds were carried forward into 2021.
- The projects it supports are 'mature' and had relatively little need in the year for infrastructure grants.
- The majority of its income comes from donations and gift aid. Many of the donations are regular.

Home tutoring

Students saying Hello

Open air tutoring

Photos taken during the pandemic

Financial Review (continued)

In 2021 gross income was £46.7k. (2020 - £64.7k.). Total expenditure for 2021 was £62.6k. (2020 - £69.7k.). The Trust made grants in 2021 of £63.68k to the following projects, of which £1.45k had been committed and expensed in 2020 –

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring operated by the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (£3.65k)
  - Infant and junior schools named in memory of Timothy Pruss and operated by BLESS providing, during the pandemic, home teaching in Tamil and English in groups, for around 170 of its pupils (£46.20k)
- Support for the Saccidananda Ashram and the Home for the Elderly and Tuition Centre it runs (£8.63k)
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly by Ananda Ashram (£4.20k)
- The educational expenses of poor children (£1.00k)

Food distribution by Ananda Ashram

Students at the Timothy Pruss Memorial School being screened for high temperatures

playing together after 19 months of school closure

Photos taken during the pandemic

The cost of generating voluntary income was £2 and governance costs, for Trustees' insurance were £294. Because the AGM was held online in 2021, no costs were associated with it.

The Trustees confirm that since the year end they are not aware of any events that would have a material detrimental impact on its position.

Impact

The Trust is undeniably small, averaging a turnover of around £55k pa over approximately 18 years of operation but cumulatively over 18 years since the Trust was formed its income has almost reached £1m – far in excess of what was thought possible at the outset. It has had a disproportionately significant impact on its beneficiaries for the following reasons -

- The Trust has been very efficient in converting donations and other income into projects. Note 2 to the accounts shows that 95.7% of all incoming resources to date has been provided in grants, 0.4% on remitting money overseas and 0.4% spent on the cost of sales with 2.9% remaining in unapplied funds. Only 0.6% of turnover has therefore been spent on the administration of the Trust.
- The Trust's purchasing power has been significantly greater in India than it would have been in the UK because, despite higher inflation in India than in the UK, costs have continued to be much lower there than in the UK.
- Its beneficiaries are very poor and a relatively small input of resources can produce a disproportionately large enhancement to their lives.

When determining grant allocations, trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In doing so, trustees have been mindful that, as a charity for the relief of poverty, the Bede

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Griffiths Charitable Trust is required to satisfy the 'benefit' aspect only. The charity does not have a purpose which is for the benefit of named individuals, whether or not they are poor.

Reserves Policy

The Trust maintains an unrestricted fund and 8 restricted funds. The unrestricted fund is applied to meet both the balance of grants for restricted funds which do not have sufficient cash and grants for which there is no restricted fund.

The Committee tends to make its final grant-making decisions in April and many of its grant payments in April or May, except for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School to which grants are transmitted quarterly. The Trust has no commitments to its beneficiaries and usually makes grants as large as may be using only the cash at its disposal in appropriate funds at the appropriate time. For the past few years the Trust has been in a position where it has needed to ration many grants as compared with grant applications. It does not borrow.

Trustees recognise that donors generally give money so that it can be applied to projects within a relatively short timescale and the Trust has used all, or very nearly all, of the cash in most of its funds by the end of April or May. It is able to do so because it has no staff, very little in the way of support costs and because it receives regular donations, usually monthly, from its supporters to its unrestricted and restricted funds.

An acknowledged consequence of this policy is that the Trust's ability to make grants in 2022, for instance, will be heavily dependent on donations, fundraising and gift aid in the months after April of 2021 and during the first four months of 2022.

The Trust does, however, take a medium-term view of its ability to make grants in the future through a detailed 18-month cash budget, updated each month, which takes into account current cash in its funds and forecasts, given its regular donations, future income on which it can reasonably rely.

At the end of 2021 reserves were £2,334 of which £1,550 was cash-backed (cf £4,020 at the end of 2020, £2,991 cash).

Future Plans

Project managers in India are aware of the Trust's reserves and grant-making policy. On whatever scale the Trust can support them, its activities continue to improve the lives of its ultimate beneficiaries.

The Trust has a fundraising strategy and intends to resume at least one major fundraising event each year when circumstances permit.

Budgeted expenditure for 2022 based on cash and forecast income is around £48.5k but actual expenditure will depend on what cash is available in applicable funds at the appropriate times and could be greater. In 2022 the Trustees plan to continue to make grants towards –

- The running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - Nursery and primary schools providing English-medium education for around 150 pupils
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

Investment Policy

The Trust has insufficient funds to consider long term investments. The Trust's current policy is to keep any surplus liquid funds in a deposit account with its bankers, HSBC, and to maintain liquidity by regular transfers from the current to the deposit account and vice versa. Around £500 is normally kept in the current account and the remainder in the deposit account.

Risk Management

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees seek to conduct business within a framework of good governance, prudent financial control and sustainability. In principle, the Trustees believe that the framework suggested by the Charity Commission offers a comprehensive and coherent methodology, and it has been adopted by the Trust.

The Trust therefore considers its major risks under the following categories:

- Governance and management
- Operational risks
- Finance risks
- External risks
- Law and compliance risks

The trustees are concerned that its resources have been able to meet a diminishing proportion of the funds requested by some of the projects it supports and have kept project managers informed of this. The sterling/ Rupee exchange rate continues to be a concern though the Trust has made it clear that this risk is borne by the Indian charities. The Trust has insufficient funds to mitigate exchange rate risk.

Because the Trust allocates grants solely to projects in India and does not employ agents in that region, trustees need to pay particular attention to questions of actual need and the proper expenditure of funds in relation to those needs. Of the risks identified in the risk register, the most challenging therefore are the risk of fraud or error, on the part both of the Trust and of project managers, and the risk of inappropriate use of funds by the projects in India. To mitigate against these risks, the Trust applies due diligence to all its own financial processes and requires the same on the part of the Indian charities by means of a memorandum of understanding with each. Monitoring of expenditure is achieved through an agreed reporting process in combination with face-to-face meetings with project managers when trustees visit India.

The Trustees have insured their liabilities as trustees.

Structure, governance and management

The Trust adopted a formal membership scheme in August 2016. At the time of approving this report, its membership was just over one hundred. Members are kept informed during the year by the circulation of newsletters of which there were four in 2021.

Members of the Committee are appointed at Annual General Meetings, usually on the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee's recommendations were based on the Committee's knowledge of the skills, commitment and charities experience of the individual and on the basis of his/ her familiarity with the work of the Trust and the projects it supports.

The Trust's AGM 2021 was held online successfully and without cost on 6 June 2021. Dr Richard Snooks was appointed as a Trustee at the meeting and Philippa Mistry-Norman became the Trust's Hon Secretary.

The Trustees meet formally at least three times a year and in fact met five times in 2021 but there is also frequent consultation amongst the Trustees outside formal meetings, particularly amongst those with specific responsibilities. During 2021 all meetings of the Committee took place online, because of the pandemic. The Trust's constitution provides for such meetings.

In addition a number of Trustees would normally visit one or more of the projects in India at their own expense at least once a year. The purpose of such visits is partly to satisfy trustees, grantors and donors that the projects are being managed properly and that the outcomes of the projects are generally as agreed with the Trustees when considering applications for funding. No such visit took place during 2020 or 2021, because of the pandemic. For the time being they have been replaced by online meetings in which the Chair and Treasurer speak with the project managers.

The Trust has no staff but it has the considerable continuing commitment and voluntary input of its Officers and other Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charity's activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and -

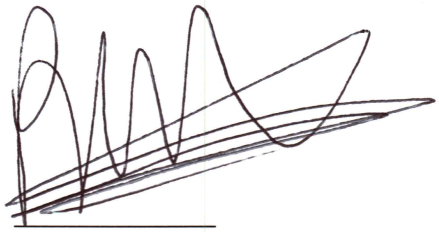
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws, and regulations. 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.

Independent Examiner

David Moir is the Trust's Independent Examiner. He was appointed by the Annual General Meeting on 1 November 2020.

Approved by the Trustees on 30 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by -



Philippa Mistry-Norman
Hon Secretary

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect -

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 28 February 2022

Name: David Moir

Address: 30 Howard Close, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 1XA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted income funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income and endowments from -				
Donations and legacies		4,873	40,237	45,110
Charitable activities		-	-	-
Other trading activities		-	1,545	1,545
Investments		3	-	3
Other income		-	-	-
Total		4,876	41,782	46,658
Expenditure on -				
Raising funds	6	(2)	-	(2)
Charitable activities	5	-	(62,330)	(62,330)
Other	6	(293)	-	(293)
Total		(295)	(62,330)	(62,625)
Net income/ (expenditure)		4,581	(20,548)	(15,967)
Transfers between funds		(6,267)	6,267	-
Net movement in funds		(1,686)	(14,281)	(15,967)
Reconciliation of funds -				
Total funds brought forward		4,020	40,824	44,844
Total funds carried forward		**2,334**	**26,543**	**28,877**

For the year ended 31 December 2020

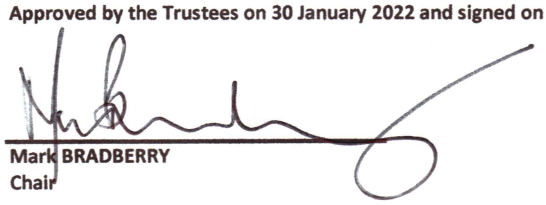
	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted income funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income and endowments from -			
Donations and legacies	6,749	56,977	63,726
Charitable activities	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	920	920
Investments	38	-	38
Other income	-	-	-
Total	6,787	57,897	64,684
Expenditure on -			
Raising funds	-	(26)	(26)
Charitable activities	-	(69,341)	(69,341)
Other	(294)	-	(294)
Total	(294)	(69,367)	(69,661)
Net income/ (expenditure)	**6,493**	**(11,470)**	**(4,977)**
Transfers between funds	(4,458)	4,458	-
Net movement in funds	2,035	(7,012)	(4,977)
Reconciliation of funds -			
Total funds brought forward	1,985	47,836	49,821
Total funds carried forward	**4,020**	**40,824**	**44,844**

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	Total funds at 31 December 2021 £	2020 £
Current assets -			
Cash at bank and in hand	9	23,484	39,117
Debtors and prepayments	7	5,393	7,177
Total current assets		28,877	46,294
Liabilities -			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	-	(1,450)
Net current assets		28,877	44,844
Total net assets		**28,877**	**44,844**
The funds of the charity -			
Restricted income funds	3	26,543	40,824
Unrestricted funds	3	2,334	4,020
Total charity funds		**28,877**	**44,844**

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 30 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by



Mark BRADBERRY
Chair

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

		2021 £	2020 £
Cashflows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	9	(15,633)	(6,958)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(15,633)	(6,958)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		39,117	46,075
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**23,484**	**39,117**

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2021

1. Principal accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows, except where indicated below, the standards of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities. The Trustees' policy is that the Trust should adopt best practice. Accordingly the Trustees have decided to account on an accruals basis.

1.2 Fixed assets

The Trust has no fixed assets. Assets of the Trustees, such as computer equipment and use of their homes for meetings, are made available for the benefit of the Trust at no charge.

1.3 Incoming resources

Donations are recognised in the period in which the Trust is entitled to receipt and receipt is probable. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. The Trust received and was advised of no legacies in 2021 or 2020.

1.4 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Constructive obligations are recognised where grants have been approved by the Committee and notified to the Indian charity as being due in the year concerned but, for whatever reason, were not paid in that year.

1.5 Charitable expenditure and basis of allocation of costs

The Trust has no staff, no salaries and its only governance costs related to Trustees' insurance. It also incurs bank charges in generating voluntary income and in transferring funds to India and, occasionally, in buying goods for sale. These costs are allocated directly to appropriate funds and, being immaterial, are otherwise met from the unrestricted fund.

1.6 Gifts in kind

Voluntary income received by way of donations to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts in kind are included at market value and as resources expended at the same value when distributed, except for time devoted to the Trust or costs incurred by the Trustees for the Trust unless these are reimbursed.

1.7 Fund accounting

The Trust meets its objects almost exclusively by making grants to charities in Tamil Nadu, India. It maintains restricted funds for each of those charities, each of which may have one or more than one purpose and activity. In the latter case the Trust may maintain restricted funds for some of those individual activities as well as for the totality of that charity's activities. A description of the activities of each charity is provided in note 11. Gift aid is, and since the formation of the Trust has been, credited to the same fund as the donations which gave rise to it except where the donor has expressly requested to the contrary. Funds held by the Trust are either -

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

or *Restricted income funds* - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes narrower than the objects of the Trust. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The Trust has no endowment and no designated funds.

1.8 Transfers

All funds are held for the Trust. Transfers may be executed for projects which have been completed but have a remaining surplus. Transfers from restricted funds have taken place only with the donor's consent. Trustees agreed transfers from the unrestricted fund to restricted funds to meet any expenditure in those restricted funds for which there is insufficient restricted income.

1.9 Irrecoverable Value Added Taxation

The Trust is not registered for Value Added Tax. Any irrecoverable Value Added Taxation is aggregated with the expenditure to which it relates.

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2021

2. Detailed income and expenditure account

	From formation to 31 December 2019	2020	2021	From formation to 31 December 2021	
	£	£	£	£	%
Incoming resources					
From generated funds -					
Voluntary income -					
Gift aid	122,113	8,743	7,054	137,910	13.9%
Donations	749,577	54,982	38,057	842,616	84.9%
Total voluntary income	871,690	63,725	45,111	980,526	98.8%
Total fund generating activities	7,587	920	1,545	10,052	1.0%
Total investment income	2,038	39	3	2,080	0.2%
Total from generated funds	881,315	64,684	46,659	992,658	100.0%
Total incoming resources	881,315	64,684	46,659	992,658	**100.0%**
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds -					
Costs of voluntary income -					
Bank charges	(1,490)	(27)	(2)	(1,519)	(0.2%)
Fundraising events	(140)	-	-	(140)	-
Postage	(171)	-	-	(171)	-
Publicity	(637)	-	-	(637)	-
Total costs of voluntary income	(2,438)	(27)	(2)	(2,467)	(0.2%)
Total costs of goods sold	(3,964)	-	-	(3,964)	(0.4%)
Total investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Total cost of generating funds	(6,402)	(27)	(2)	(6,431)	(0.6%)
Charitable activities -					
Costs of transmitting grants	(3,105)	(238)	(102)	(3,445)	(0.4%)
Grants -					
To individuals	(8,144)	-	-	(8,144)	(0.8%)
To organisations	(810,850)	(69,103)	(62,228)	(942,181)	(94.9%)
Total grants	(818,994)	(69,103)	(62,228)	(950,325)	(95.7%)
Total charitable activities	(822,099)	(69,341)	(62,330)	(953,770)	(96.1%)
Governance and other costs -					
Hire of room	(162)	-	-	(162)	-
Office expenses	(466)	-	-	(466)	(0.1%)
Trustee insurance	(1,832)	(293)	(294)	(2,419)	(0.3%)
Website	(203)	-	-	(203)	-
Other costs	(330)	-	-	(330)	-
Total governance and other costs	(2,993)	(293)	(294)	(3,580)	(0.4%)
Total resources expended	**(831,494)**	**(69,661)**	**(62,626)**	**(963,781)**	**(97.1%)**
Net income/ expenditure	49,821	(4,977)	(15,967)	28,877	**2.9%**
Funds b'f	-	49,821	44,844	-	
Funds c'f	**49,821**	**44,844**	**28,877**	**28,877**	**2.9%**

3. Summary of fund movements

In the year ended 31 December 2021	Fund balance at 1 January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2021
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	36,630	29,894	(44,801)	-	21,723
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,155	2,264	-	(2,194)	1,225
Ananda Ashram	740	1,375	(4,217)	2,808	706
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	205	502	(3,667)	3,373	413
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,716	6,044	(8,184)	2,280	1,856
Home for the Elderly	150	547	(461)	-	236
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-	-
Education	228	1,156	(1,000)	-	384
Total restricted income funds	40,824	41,782	(62,330)	6,267	26,543
Unrestricted fund	4,020	4,876	(295)	(6,267)	2,334
Total funds	44,844	46,658	(62,625)	-	28,877
		-	-		

In the year ended 31 December 2020	Fund balance at 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2020
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	40,807	39,381	(43,558)	-	36,630
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,558	3,736	-	(4,139)	1,155
Ananda Ashram	801	1,909	(5,624)	3,654	740
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	150	575	(3,518)	2,998	205
Friends of Shantivanam -	2,196	10,116	(11,563)	967	1,716
Home for the Elderly	248	379	(770)	293	150
Veerambur and houses	1,481	1,051	(3,217)	685	-
Education	595	750	(1,117)	-	228
Total restricted income funds	47,836	57,897	(69,367)	4,458	40,824
Unrestricted fund	1,985	6,787	(294)	(4,458)	4,020
Total funds	49,821	64,684	(69,661)	-	44,844

4. Summary of fund balances

At 31 December 2021	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2021
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	18,617	3,106	-	21,723
Ashrams' social programmes -	914	311	-	1,225
Ananda Ashram	550	156	-	706
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	355	58	-	413
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,130	726	-	1,856
Home for the Elderly	178	58	-	236
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	190	194	-	384
Total restricted income funds	21,934	4,609	-	26,543
Unrestricted fund	1,550	784		2,334
Total funds	23,484	5,393	-	28,877

At 31 December 2020	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2020
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	33,675	4,405	(1,450)	36,630
Ashrams' social programmes -	549	606	-	1,155
Ananda Ashram	527	213	-	740
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	164	41	-	205
Friends of Shantivanam -	976	740	-	1,716
Home for the Elderly	120	30	-	150
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	115	113	-	228
Total restricted income funds	36,126	6,148	(1,450)	40,824
Unrestricted fund	2,991	1,029		4,020
Total funds	39,117	7,177	(1,450)	44,844

5. Analysis of grants

In the year ended 31 December 2021

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions £	Grants to individuals £	Support costs attributed to grant-making £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	44,750	-	51	44,801
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	4,200	-	17	4,217
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	3,650	-	17	3,667
Friends of Shantivanam -	8,167	-	17	8,184
Home for the Elderly	461	-	-	461
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total restricted income funds	62,228	-	102	62,330
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	62,228	-	102	62,330
	-		-	

In the year the ended 31 December 2020

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions £	Grants to individuals £	Support costs attributed to grant-making £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	43,465	-	68	43,533
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	5,590	-	34	5,624
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	3,500	-	17	3,517
Friends of Shantivanam -	11,478	-	85	11,563
Home for the Elderly	770	-	-	770
Veerambur and houses	3,200	-	17	3,217
Education	1,100	-	17	1,117
Total restricted income funds	69,103	-	238	69,341
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	69,103	-	238	69,341

The support costs attributed to grant-making consist entirely of bank charges in both years.

6. Analysis of costs not attributed to grant-making

In the year ended 31 December 2021

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges £	Trustees' insurance £	AGM costs £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	-	-	-	-
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	-	-	-	-
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted fund	2	293	-	295
Total funds	2	293	-	295
	-	-		-

In the year ended 31 December 2020

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges £	Trustees' insurance £	AGM costs £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	25	-	-	25
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	1	-	-	1
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	26	-	-	26
Unrestricted fund	-	294	-	294
Total funds	26	294	-	320

7. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 December	
	2021	2020
	£	£
Gift aid receivable from HMRC Charities	5,166	6,951
Prepayments	227	226
	5,393	**7,177**

8. Amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 December	
	2021	2020
Constructive obligation	-	1,450
	-	**1,450**

The obligation was the remainder of a grant for operating costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School which was approved by the Committee in 2020 and of which approval was communicated to the School. Payment of it was deferred until early 2021 at the School's request.

9. Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income/ (expenditure) as per Statement of Financial Activities	(15,967)	(4,977)
Adjustments for -		
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	(1,450)	1,450
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors and prepayments	1,784	(3,431)
Net cashflow from operating activities	(15,633)	(6,958)
Cash balance at the beginning of the year	39,117	46,075
Cash balance at the end of the year	23,484	39,117

10. Related party transactions

No payments were made to Trustees or their families in 2020 or 2021 except on production of vouchers for expenses incurred for the Trust. The total of such expenses in 2021 for the costs relating to a fundraising event, was zero and in 2020 for website software, £184. Expenses incurred by Trustees and others for the work of the Trust which were not reimbursed are not accounted for.

A total of £7,961 (£9,941 inc gift aid) was donated in 2021 by Trustees and members of the families of Trustees who had been Trustees for at least a part of the year. The comparative figures for 2020 were £13,094 excluding and £16,012 including gift aid.

11. Analysis of the activities financed by the restricted income funds

Some donations to the Trust are restricted to particular projects, some to the projects of a particular recipient Indian charity and some to more than one charity but not to all. The restricted income funds are layered and 'nested' in the following way -

Timothy Pruss Memorial School	The infrastructure and running costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.
Ashrams' social programmes -	The social programme of Shantivanam, Ananda Ashram and of the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust, each of which also has its own restricted fund -
Ananda Ashram	The year-round provision of milk, eggs, rice and clothing for around 15 elderly people and improvements to the infrastructure of the ashram.
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (SBDT)	The salaries and running costs of SBDT which provides a kindergarten, a centre for the training of adults in tailoring and typing and a day centre for the elderly.
Friends of Shantivanam -	The social programme, minor infrastructure projects and running costs of Shantivanam including the following, which also have their own restricted funds -
Home for the Elderly	The running costs of a home for the destitute elderly run by Shantivanam.
Veerambur and houses	The building of houses for the poor, and the running costs of the tuition centre for children, in the village of Veerambur.
Education	Educational fees and costs for poor individual students paid to their schools or colleges.

The Trust is the major funder of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. It is not the sole funder of any of the projects or activities it supports.

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106071

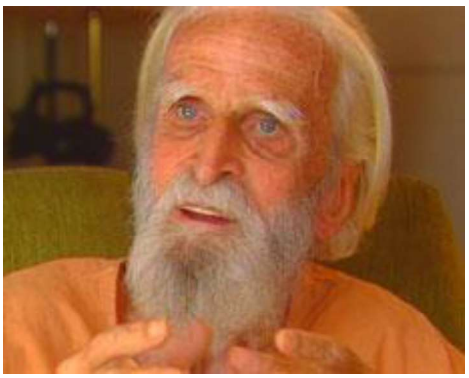
Accounts

THE BEDE GRIFFITHS CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1106071

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2020



Fr Bede Griffiths

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Report of the Trustees	3 - 9
Independent Examiner's Report	10
Statement of financial activities	11
Balance sheet	12
Notes forming part of the financial statements	13 - 17

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patrons

Adrian Rance-McGregor, BA
Colonel Robert (Bob) Stewart, DSO, MP
Rev Dr Christopher Collingwood MA, BMus, PGCE, MA, PhD, LRSM
Susan Collingwood CertEd, ITEC

Registered and Principal Office

120 Dukes Avenue
Theydon Bois
Epping, Essex
CM16 7HF
Secretary@bgct.org.uk

Bankers

HSBC
Canterbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

David Moir

Website

www.bgct.org.uk

The Trustees at the time of the approval of this Report are set out below. They acted for the whole of the year ended 31 December 2020, except as otherwise stated -

Hiten Anand, BSc	
Mark Bradberry	Chair
René Cadet	Appointed as a Trustee 1 November 2020
Carolyn Carter, DipMagLaw, JP	Minute Secretary
Lucie-Jane Lewis, MBE	
Philippa Mistry-Norman, BA, Dip	Membership Secretary
Greville Norman, BSc(Econ), CPFA, AGP	Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary
Dr Anthony Pruss, BSc, PhD, MBBS, LRCP, MRCS, AFOM	Deceased 10 April 2020
Rosemary Pruss	
Michael Pruss, BA, MFA	Appointed as a Trustee 5 April 2020
Richard van Maanen, BSc, FRICS, ACIArb, ACSIOB	Retired as a Trustee 1 November 2020

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is a Charitable Trust governed by a Constitution amended on 21 August 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission, number 1106071.

The governing body of the Trust is the Committee, which comprises from 5 to 11 Trustees, who are elected by the membership for periods of three or four years. At the end of 2020 and at the time of approving this report there were 9 Trustees.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The financial statements have been prepared using the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (second edition)'.

Objectives and activities

The Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust was formed in 2003 and registered with the Charity Commission in 2004 with the following objects, unchanged by the constitution amended in 2016 -

1. The advancement of religion in particular to promote understanding and co-operation between the major religions and faith communities of the world.
2. The relief of poverty in the Indian sub-continent by the provision of such grants as the trustees shall determine from time to time, with particular reference to the work and vision of Father Bede Griffiths.

Father Bede Griffiths was an English Benedictine monk who went to live in Southern India in 1955 "to find the other half of his soul". He lived there for the last 35 years of his life, first helping to establish a Christian ashram in Kerala and then taking over the spiritual leadership of the Saccidananda Ashram (better known as Shantivanam https://www.shantivanamashram.com) near Trichy in Tamil Nadu. He wrote many books and spoke in many parts of the world promoting interfaith understanding and dialogue. As well as being a great spiritual teacher, Father Bede actively supported the poor and destitute in the villages around Shantivanam. Further information about Bede Griffiths is at www.bedegriffiths.com and https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/. Brother Martin, a friend and disciple of Father Bede and one of the community at Shantivanam, suggested that the Trust was formed in Father Bede's name to help projects initiated by the Ashram and by individuals associated with the Ashram.

The Trust fulfils its objects by making grants to charitable projects in India initiated and managed by local people known to the Trustees, and many of the Trust's supporters, in response to the social and economic needs of the most disadvantaged people. The projects are in villages within around 10 miles of the Ashram, called Thannirpalli, Pattavarthi, Veerambur and Inungur. In January or February each year the project managers in India submit an application to the Committee for grants for their financial year commencing in April, common to all Indian charities. Applications are normally accompanied by a financial statement of income and expenditure of the project in the previous year and/or by audited accounts.

The Trust is supported by members of the Bede Griffiths Sangha, an active community of followers of Father Bede which was founded in 1993 (see https://bedegriffithssangha.org.uk/), by Chigwell and Prince's Mead Schools and a wider community inspired by the work of the Trust itself and its projects. Support for the Trust is largely but not exclusively in the UK and there are organisations named after Fr Bede in the USA and many parts of Europe.

Achievements and performance

Cumulatively to 31 December 2019

Cumulatively from its formation to 31 December 2019 the Trust had raised £881.3k mostly in donations and gift aid, with a little income from sales, events and interest.

The Trust made grants up to 31 December 2019 to fund the following major infrastructure –

- A home for the destitute elderly
- A tuition centre in a very poor village in which children had previously studied under a street-lamp
- A home near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004.
- Homes constructed from bricks, mortar and tiles to replace homes made of wood and leaves

Achievements and performance (continued)

- An infants' school and a junior school
- A multi-purpose hall located between the infants' and junior schools, used for dining, overflow classes, rehearsals and, by the infants, for taking a nap.

Grants were also made up to 31 December 2019 to contribute towards -

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - Two kindergartens, a day centre for the elderly and two centres training adults in typing, computing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - A tuition centre in a very poor village
  - A centre near the Southern tip of India for children from poor families who were badly affected by the tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004
  - Infant and junior schools providing teaching in Tamil and English for around 250 pupils.
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The distribution of milk to the poorest families
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

In July 2020 the Trust launched its new website www.bgct.org.uk containing videos, links to VirginMoneyGiving and to other relevant sites. The site was developed largely by two of the Trustees and at little cost to the Trust.

Financial Review

The year to 31 December 2020

The year 2020 was, of course, very unusual because of the Covid19 pandemic. The increasing number of fundraising activities planned by Trustees and members such as coffee mornings, dinners, jumble sales, quizzes, walks and climbs had to be postponed or cancelled. The Trust is, however, very fortunate in that –

- Michael Pruss and two friends had run the Long Beach marathon in October 2019 to raise funds for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School and those funds were carried forward into 2020.
- The projects it supports are 'mature' and had relatively little need in the year for infrastructure grants.
- The majority of its income comes from donations and gift aid. Many of the donations are regular.
- Trustees and friends were able to organise four online quizzes which raised £920 in joining fees and £655 in donations for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.

In 2020 gross income was £64.7k. (2019 - £105.5k.). Total expenditure for 2020 was £69.7k. (2019 - £76.0k.).

The Trust made grants in 2020 of £67.65k to the following projects –

- The majority of the running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring operated by the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (£3.50k)
  - Infant and junior schools named in memory of Timothy Pruss and operated by BLESS providing, during the pandemic, home teaching in Tamil and English in groups, for around 170 of its pupils (£42.01k)
- Support for the Saccidananda Ashram and the Home for the Elderly and Tuition Centre it runs (£15.45k)
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly by Ananda Ashram (£5.59k)
- The educational expenses of poor children (£1.10k)

The accounts for 2020 also provide a constructive obligation for an instalment of grant to BLESS of £1.45k which was approved in the year and of which BLESS was informed in the year but which was paid early in 2021.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Financial Review (continued)

Home teaching by the Timothy Pruss Memorial School

Swami Bede Dayananda Trust distributing food to the elderly

Saccidananda Ashram distributing food

Photos taken during the pandemic

In normal circumstances the Trust sends its grants to the four Indian charities it supports only once a year, except for the Timothy Pruss Memorial School to which grants are transmitted each term. Because of the pandemic and because donors and fundraisers responded to the needs of the poor during the pandemic, grants were sent more frequently, so that grants as large as possible could meet those needs as soon as possible. Crises such as the pandemic affect the poor disproportionately, of course, because lockdown prevented many breadwinners from working and many families live hand-to-mouth.

The cost of generating voluntary income was £27 and governance costs, for Trustees' insurance were £293. Because the AGM was held online in 2020, there were no costs associated with it.

The Trustees confirm that since the year end they are not aware of any events that would have a material detrimental impact on its position.

Impact

Although the Trust is undeniably small, averaging a turnover of around £55k pa over approximately 17 years of operation, it has had a disproportionately significant impact on its beneficiaries for the following reasons -

- The Trust has been very efficient in converting donations and other income into projects. Note 2 to the accounts shows that 93.9% of all incoming resources to date has been provided in grants, 0.4% spent on the cost of sales and 0.4% on remitting money overseas with, as explained above, an unusually high 4.7% remaining in unapplied funds. Only 0.6% of turnover has therefore been spent on the administration of the Trust.
- The Trust's purchasing power has been significantly greater in India than it would have been in the UK because, despite higher inflation in India than in the UK, costs have continued to be much lower there than in the UK.
- Its beneficiaries are very poor and a relatively small input of resources can produce a disproportionately large enhancement to their lives.

When determining grant allocations, trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In doing so, trustees have been mindful that, as a charity for the relief of poverty, the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust is required to satisfy the 'benefit' aspect only. The charity does not have a purpose which is for the benefit of named individuals, whether or not they are poor.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Reserves Policy

The Trust maintains an unrestricted fund and 8 restricted funds. The unrestricted fund is applied to meet both the balance of grants for restricted funds which do not have sufficient cash and grants for which there is no restricted fund.

The Committee tends to make its final grant-making decisions in April and many of its grant payments in April or May. The Trust has no commitments to its beneficiaries and usually makes grants as large as may be using only the cash at its disposal in appropriate funds at the appropriate time. For the past few years the Trust has been in a position where it has needed to ration many grants as compared with grant applications. It does not borrow.

Trustees recognise that donors generally give money so that it can be applied to projects within a relatively short timescale and the Trust has used all, or very nearly all, of the cash in most of its funds by the end of April or May. It is able to do so because it has no staff, very little in the way of support costs and because it receives regular donations, usually monthly, from its supporters to its unrestricted and restricted funds.

An acknowledged consequence of this policy is that the Trust's ability to make grants in 2021, for instance, is heavily dependent on donations, fundraising and gift aid in the months after April of 2020 and during the first four months of 2021.

The Trust does, however, take a medium-term view of its ability to make grants in the future through a detailed 18-month cash budget, updated each month, which takes into account current cash in its funds and forecasts, given its regular donations, future income on which it can reasonably rely.

At the end of 2020 reserves were £4,020 of which £2,991 was cash (cf £1,985 at the end of 2019, £1,757 cash).

Future Plans

Project managers in India are aware of the Trust's reserves and grant-making policy. On whatever scale the Trust can support them, its activities continue to improve the lives of its ultimate beneficiaries.

The Trust has a fundraising strategy and intends to resume at least one major fundraising event each year when circumstances permit.

Budgeted expenditure for 2021 based on cash and forecast income is around £60k but actual expenditure will depend on what cash is available in applicable funds at the appropriate times. In 2021 the Trustees plan to continue to make grants towards –

- The running costs of -
  - A kindergarten, a day centre for the elderly and a centre training adults in typing and tailoring
  - A home for the destitute elderly
  - Nursery and primary schools providing English-medium education for around 250 pupils
- The educational expenses of poor children
- The provision of rice, eggs and clothing for the elderly.

Investment Policy

The Trust has insufficient funds to consider long term investments. The Trust's current policy is to keep any surplus liquid funds in a deposit account with its bankers, HSBC, and to maintain liquidity by regular transfers from the current to the deposit account and vice versa. Around £500 is normally kept in the current account and the remainder in the deposit account.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Risk Management

The Trustees seek to conduct business within a framework of good governance, prudent financial control and sustainability. In principle, the Trustees believe that the framework suggested by the Charity Commission offers a comprehensive and coherent methodology, and it has been adopted by the Trust.

The Trust therefore considers its major risks under the following categories:

- Governance and management
- Operational risks
- Finance risks
- External risks
- Law and compliance risks

The trustees are concerned that its resources have been able to meet a diminishing proportion of the funds requested by some of the projects it supports and have kept project managers informed of this. The sterling/ Rupee exchange rate continues to be a concern though the Trust has made it clear that this risk is borne by the Indian charities. The Trust has insufficient funds to mitigate exchange rate risk.

Because the Trust allocates grants solely to projects in India and does not employ agents in that region, trustees need to pay particular attention to questions of actual need and the proper expenditure of funds in relation to those needs. Of the risks identified in the risk register, the most challenging therefore are the risk of fraud or error, on the part both of the Trust and of project managers, and the risk of inappropriate use of funds by the projects in India. To mitigate against these risks, the Trust applies due diligence to all its own financial processes and requires the same on the part of the Indian charities by means of a memorandum of understanding with each. Monitoring of expenditure is achieved through an agreed reporting process in combination with face-to-face meetings with project managers when trustees visit India.

Long trips are therefore unavoidable. Trustees have decided that they must give themselves adequate time for travel to reduce risk of injury/ illness and that flying, though environmentally damaging, is an acceptable mode of transport where feasible. Trustees bear the costs of visits themselves.

The Trustees have insured their liabilities as trustees.

Structure, governance and management

The Trust adopted a formal membership scheme in August 2016. At the time of approving this report, its membership was just over one hundred. Members are kept informed during the year by the circulation of newsletters of which there were four in 2020.

Members of the Committee are appointed at Annual General Meetings, usually on the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee's recommendations were based on the Committee's knowledge of the skills, commitment and charities experience of the individual and on the basis of his/ her familiarity with the work of the Trust and the projects it supports.

The Trust's AGM 2020, which had been arranged to take place in April at Magdalen College, Oxford, where Fr Bede studied, had to be postponed owing to the coronavirus pandemic and, following consultation with the Charity Commission, was held online very successfully and without cost on 1 November 2020.

The Trustees meet formally at least three times a year but there is frequent consultation amongst the Trustees outside formal meetings, particularly amongst those with specific responsibilities. During 2020 only the first meeting was a physical meeting and the two other meetings of the Committee took place online, because of the pandemic. The Trust's constitution provides for such meetings.

In addition a number of Trustees would normally visit one or more of the projects in India at their own expense at least once a year. The purpose of such visits is partly to satisfy trustees, grantors and donors that the projects are

being managed properly and that the outcomes of the projects are generally as agreed with the Trustees when considering applications for funding. No such visit took place during 2020.

In November 2019 Tony and Mary Pruss had led a party of eleven people, including representatives of the Rotary Club of Lymington and their son, Michael, to visit the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. On Good Friday 2020 Dr Tony Pruss, aged 73, died peacefully at home while serving as a Trustee. He had been suffering from cancer for about 14 years. Before, during and after the trip to India above he suffered complications. Tony was an extremely generous donor to the Trust, an extremely active fundraiser, a Trustee for 6½ years and a supporter since 2007. He was also extremely well-loved and has been and will continue to be sorely missed by those who knew him socially and in all his many roles. Donations to the Trust of £6,600, including gift aid, were made in Tony's memory for the School named after his late younger son, Tim.

The late Tony Pruss (*third from left*) and the visit he led to the Timothy Pruss Memorial School in November 2019 and the multi-purpose hall at the School largely funded by a marathon run by Mike Pruss and Rene Cadet

Shortly before Tony's passing, Michael Pruss – Tony and Mary's older son - was appointed as a Trustee. His appointment was confirmed at the Trust's AGM on 1 November 2020. At that meeting Richard van Maanen resigned as a Trustee and René Cadet was also appointed as a Trustee.

The Trust has no staff but it has the considerable continuing commitment and voluntary input of its Officers and other Trustees.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charity's activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and -

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws, and regulations. 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.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Independent Examiner

Mr Roger Timms, FCA has stood down as the Trust's Independent Examiner. He had been the Examiner for 10 years free of charge. Trustees are enormously grateful to him. Trustees are also very grateful indeed to David Moir who has agreed to take on the role. He was appointed by the Annual General Meeting on 1 November 2020.

Approved by the Trustees on 24 January 2021 and signed on their behalf by -

Greville Norman
Hon Secretary

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bede Griffiths Charitable Trust for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect -

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:		**Date:**	17 February 2021
Name:	David Moir		
Address:	30 Howard Close, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 1XA		

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted income funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income and endowments from -				
Donations and legacies		6,749	56,977	63,726
Charitable activities		-	-	-
Other trading activities		-	920	920
Investments		38	-	38
Other income		-	-	-
Total		6,787	57,897	64,684
Expenditure on -				
Raising funds	6	-	(26)	(26)
Charitable activities	5	-	(69,341)	(69,341)
Other	6	(294)	-	(294)
Total		(294)	(69,367)	(69,661)
Net income/ (expenditure)		6,493	(11,470)	(4,977)
Transfers between funds		(4,458)	4,458	-
Net movement in funds		2,035	(7,012)	(4,977)
Reconciliation of funds -				
Total funds brought forward		1,985	47,836	49,821
Total funds carried forward		**4,020**	**40,824**	**44,844**

For the year ended 31 December 2019

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted income funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income and endowments from -			
Donations and legacies	3,548	101,054	104,602
Charitable activities	-	-	-
Other trading activities		860	860
Investments	55	-	55
Other income	-	-	-
Total	3,603	101,914	105,517
Expenditure on -			
Raising funds	(2)	(429)	(431)
Charitable activities	(18)	(75,248)	(75,266)
Other	(322)	-	(322)
Total	(342)	(75,677)	(76,019)
Net income/ (expenditure)	**3,261**	**26,237**	**29,498**
Transfers between funds	(3,767)	3,767	-
Net movement in funds	(506)	30,004	29,498
Reconciliation of funds -			
Total funds brought forward	2,491	17,832	20,323
Total funds carried forward	**1,985**	**47,836**	**49,821**

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	Total funds at 31 December 2020 £	2019 £
Current assets -			
Cash at bank and in hand	9	39,117	46,075
Debtors and prepayments	7	7,177	3,746
Total current assets		46,294	49,821
Liabilities -			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,450)	-
Net current assets		44,844	49,821
Total net assets		**44,844**	**49,821**
The funds of the charity -			
Restricted income funds	3	40,824	47,836
Unrestricted funds	3	4,020	1,985
Total charity funds		**44,844**	**49,821**

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 24 January 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Mark BRADBERRY
Chair

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

		2020 £	2019 £
Cashflows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	9	(6,958)	30,251
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(6,958)	30,251
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		46,075	15,824
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**39,117**	**46,075**

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2020

1. Principal accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows, except where indicated below, the standards of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities. The Trustees' policy is that the Trust should adopt best practice. Accordingly the Trustees have decided to account on an accruals basis.

1.2 Fixed assets

The Trust has no fixed assets. Assets of the Trustees, such as computer equipment and use of their homes for meetings, are made available for the benefit of the Trust at no charge.

1.3 Incoming resources

Donations are recognised in the period in which the Trust is entitled to receipt and receipt is probable. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. The Trust received and was advised of no legacies in 2020 or 2019.

1.4 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Constructive obligations are recognised where grants have been approved by the Committee and notified to the Indian charity as being due in the year concerned but, for whatever reason, were not paid in that year.

1.5 Charitable expenditure and basis of allocation of costs

The Trust has no staff, no salaries and its only governance costs related to Trustees' insurance. It also incurs bank charges in generating voluntary income and in transferring funds to India and, occasionally, in buying goods for sale. These costs are allocated directly to appropriate funds and, being immaterial, are otherwise met from the unrestricted fund.

1.6 Gifts in kind

Voluntary income received by way of donations to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts in kind are included at market value and as resources expended at the same value when distributed, except for time devoted to the Trust or costs incurred by the Trustees for the Trust unless these are reimbursed.

1.7 Fund accounting

The Trust meets its objects almost exclusively by making grants to charities in Tamil Nadu, India. It maintains restricted funds for each of those charities, each of which may have one or more than one purpose and activity. In the latter case the Trust may maintain restricted funds for some of those individual activities as well as for the totality of that charity's activities. A description of the activities of each charity is provided in note 11. Gift aid is, and since the formation of the Trust has been, credited to the same fund as the donations which gave rise to it except where the donor has expressly requested to the contrary. Funds held by the Trust are either -

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

or *Restricted income funds* - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes narrower than the objects of the Trust. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The Trust has no endowment and no designated funds.

1.8 Transfers

All funds are held for the Trust. Transfers may be executed for projects which have been completed but have a remaining surplus. Transfers from restricted funds have taken place only with the donor's consent. Trustees agreed transfers from the unrestricted fund to restricted funds to meet any expenditure in those restricted funds for which there is insufficient restricted income.

1.9 Irrecoverable Value Added Taxation

The Trust is not registered for Value Added Tax. Irrecoverable Value Added Taxation is aggregated with the expenditure to which it relates.

Notes forming part of the financial statements
For the period ended 31 December 2020

2. Detailed income and expenditure account

	From formation to 31 December 2018	2019	2020	From formation to 31 December 2020	
	£	£	£	£	%
Incoming resources					
From generated funds -					
Voluntary income -					
Gift aid	113,352	8,761	8,743	130,856	13.8%
Donations	653,736	95,841	54,982	804,559	85.1%
Total voluntary income	767,088	104,602	63,725	935,415	98.9%
Total fund generating activities	6,727	860	920	8,507	0.9%
Total investment income	1,983	55	39	2,077	0.2%
Total from generated funds	775,798	105,517	64,684	945,999	100.0%
Total incoming resources	775,798	105,517	64,684	945,999	**100.0%**
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds -					
Costs of voluntary income -					
Bank charges	(1,199)	(291)	(27)	(1,517)	(0.2%)
Fundraising events	-	(140)	-	(140)	-
Postage	(171)	-	-	(171)	-
Publicity	(637)	-	-	(637)	(0.1%)
Total costs of voluntary income	(2,007)	(431)	(27)	(2,465)	(0.3%)
Total costs of goods sold	(3,964)	-	-	(3,964)	(0.4%)
Total investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Total cost of generating funds	(5,971)	(431)	(27)	(6,429)	(0.7%)
Charitable activities -					
Costs of transmitting grants	(2,934)	(171)	(238)	(3,343)	(0.4%)
Grants -					
To individuals	(8,144)	-	-	(8,144)	(0.9%)
To organisations	(735,755)	(75,095)	(69,103)	(879,953)	(93.0%)
Total grants	(743,899)	(75,095)	(69,103)	(888,097)	(93.9%)
Total charitable activities	(746,833)	(75,266)	(69,341)	(891,440)	(94.3%)
Governance and other costs -					
Hire of room	(162)	-	-	(162)	-
Office expenses	(466)	-	-	(466)	-
Trustee insurance	(1,539)	(293)	(293)	(2,125)	(0.3%)
Website	(203)	-	-	(203)	-
Other costs	(301)	(29)	-	(330)	-
Total governance and other costs	(2,671)	(322)	(293)	(3,286)	(0.3%)
Total resources expended	**(755,475)**	**(76,019)**	**(69,661)**	**(901,155)**	**(95.3%)**
Net income/ expenditure	20,323	29,498	(4,977)	44,844	**4.7%**
Funds b'f	-	20,323	49,821	-	
Funds c'f	**20,323**	**49,821**	**44,844**	**44,844**	**4.7%**

3. Summary of fund movements

In the year ended 31 December 2020	Fund balance at 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2020
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	40,807	39,381	(43,558)	-	36,630
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,558	3,736	-	(4,139)	1,155
Ananda Ashram	801	1,909	(5,624)	3,654	740
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	150	575	(3,518)	2,998	205
Friends of Shantivanam -	2,196	10,116	(11,563)	967	1,716
Home for the Elderly	248	379	(770)	293	150
Veerambur and houses	1,481	1,051	(3,217)	685	-
Education	595	750	(1,117)	-	228
Total restricted income funds	47,836	57,897	(69,367)	4,458	40,824
Unrestricted fund	1,985	6,787	(294)	(4,458)	4,020
Total funds	49,821	64,684	(69,661)	-	44,844
		-	-		

In the year ended 31 December 2019	Fund balance at 1 January 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balance at 31 December 2019
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	11,536	82,199	(52,928)	-	40,807
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,962	3,017	-	(3,421)	1,558
Ananda Ashram	651	3,800	(5,846)	2,196	801
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	250	900	(5,992)	4,992	150
Friends of Shantivanam -	2,643	7,848	(4,051)	(4,244)	2,196
Home for the Elderly	370	1,494	(4,910)	3,294	248
Veerambur and houses	-	1,481	(950)	950	1,481
Education	420	1,175	(1,000)	-	595
Total restricted income funds	17,832	101,914	(75,677)	3,767	47,836
Unrestricted fund	2,491	3,603	(342)	(3,767)	1,985
Total funds	20,323	105,517	(76,019)	-	49,821

4. Summary of fund balances

At 31 December 2020	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2020
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	33,675	4,405	(1,450)	36,630
Ashrams' social programmes -	549	606	-	1,155
Ananda Ashram	527	213	-	740
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	164	41	-	205
Friends of Shantivanam -	976	740	-	1,716
Home for the Elderly	120	30	-	150
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	115	113	-	228
Total restricted income funds	36,126	6,148	(1,450)	40,824
Unrestricted fund	2,991	1,029		4,020
Total funds	39,117	7,177	(1,450)	44,844
	39,117	7,177	(1,450)	44,844

At 31 December 2019	Cash at bank and in hand	Other current assets	Amounts falling due within one year	Net assets at 31 December 2019
Name of fund -	£	£	£	£
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	38,429	2,378	-	40,807
Ashrams' social programmes -	1,252	306	-	1,558
Ananda Ashram	620	181	-	801
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	120	30	-	150
Friends of Shantivanam -	1,824	372	-	2,196
Home for the Elderly	196	52	-	248
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	1,481
Education	397	198	-	595
Total restricted income funds	42,838	3,517	-	47,836
Unrestricted fund	1,757	228	-	1,985
Total funds	44,595	3,745	-	49,821

5. Analysis of grants

In the year ended 31 December 2020

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions £	Grants to individuals £	Support costs attributed to grant-making £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	43,465	-	68	43,533
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	5,590	-	34	5,624
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	3,500	-	17	3,517
Friends of Shantivanam -	11,478	-	85	11,563
Home for the Elderly	770	-	-	770
Veerambur and houses	3,200	-	17	3,217
Education	1,100	-	17	1,117
Total restricted income funds	69,103	-	238	69,341
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Total funds	69,103	-	238	69,341
	-		-	

In the year the ended 31 December 2019

Name of fund -	Grants to institutions £	Grants to individuals £	Support costs attributed to grant-making £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	52,570	-	68	52,638
Ashrams' social programmes -				
Ananda Ashram	5,690	-	17	5,707
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	5,975	-	17	5,992
Friends of Shantivanam -	4,000	-	51	4,051
Home for the Elderly	4,910	-	-	4,910
Veerambur and houses	950	-	-	950
Education	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total restricted income funds	75,095	-	153	75,248
Unrestricted fund	-	-	18	18
Total funds	75,095	-	171	75,266

The support costs attributed to grant-making consist entirely of bank charges in both years.

6. Analysis of costs not attributed to grant-making

In the year ended 31 December 2020

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges £	Trustees' insurance £	AGM costs £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	25	-	-	25
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	-	-	-	-
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	1	-	-	1
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	26	-	-	26
Unrestricted fund	-	294	-	294
Total funds	26	294	-	320
	-	-		-

In the year ended 31 December 2019

Name of fund -	Bank and similar charges £	Trustees' insurance £	AGM costs £	Total £
Timothy Pruss Memorial School	290	-	-	290
Ashrams' social programmes -	-	-	-	-
Ananda Ashram	139	-	-	139
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust	-	-	-	-
Friends of Shantivanam -	-	-	-	-
Home for the Elderly	-	-	-	-
Veerambur and houses	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Total restricted income funds	429	-	-	429
Unrestricted fund	2	293	29	324
Total funds	431	293	29	753

7. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 December	
	2020	2019
	£	£
Gift aid receivable from HMRC Charities	6,951	3,519
Prepayments	226	227
	7,177	**3,746**

8. Amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 December	
	2020	2019
Constructive obligation	1,450	-
	1,450	**-**

The obligation is the remainder of a grant for operating costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School which was approved by the Committee in 2020 and of which approval was communicated to the School. Payment of it was deferred until early 2021 at the School's request.

9. Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Net income/ (expenditure) as per Statement of Financial Activities	(4,977)	29,498
Adjustments for -		
Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	1,450	-
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors and prepayments	(3,431)	753
Net cashflow from operating activities	(6,958)	30,251
Cash balance at the beginning of the year	46,075	15,824
Cash balance at the end of the year	39,117	46,075

10. Related party transactions

No payments were made to Trustees or their families in 2019 or 2020 except on production of vouchers for expenses incurred for the Trust. The total of such expenses in 2020 for the costs relating to a fundraising event, was £79 and in 2019 for website software, £184. Expenses incurred by Trustees and others for the work of the Trust which were not reimbursed are not accounted for.

A total of £13,094 (£16,012 inc gift aid) was donated in 2020 by Trustees and members of the families of Trustees who had been Trustees for at least a part of the year. The comparative figures for 2019 were £14,135 excluding and £17,655 including gift aid.

11. Analysis of the activities financed by the restricted income funds

Some donations to the Trust are restricted to particular projects, some to the projects of a particular recipient Indian charity and some to more than one charity but not to all. The restricted income funds are layered and 'nested' in the following way -

Timothy Pruss Memorial School	The infrastructure and running costs of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School.
Ashrams' social programmes -	The social programme of Shantivanam, Ananda Ashram and of the Swami Bede Dayananda Trust, each of which also has its own restricted fund -
Ananda Ashram	The year-round provision of milk, eggs, rice and clothing for around 15 elderly people and improvements to the infrastructure of the ashram.
Swami Bede Dayananda Trust (SBDT)	The salaries and running costs of SBDT which provides a kindergarten, a centre for the training of adults in tailoring and typing and a day centre for the elderly.
Friends of Shantivanam -	The social programme, minor infrastructure projects and running costs of Shantivanam including the following , which also have their own restricted funds -
Home for the Elderly	The running costs of a home for the destitute elderly run by Shantivanam.
Veerambur and houses	The building of houses for the poor, and the running costs of the tuition centre for children, in the village of Veerambur.
Education	Educational fees and costs for poor individual students paid to their schools or colleges.

The Trust is the major funder of the Timothy Pruss Memorial School. It is not the sole funder of any of the projects or activities it supports.