

## RSL Annual Review 2023

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### Chairman's message

Welcome to our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Review!!!

I hope that you will find it interesting to read about some of the successes we achieved and difficulties we overcame in 2023.

RSL has been active since December 2004 and continues to provide support and raise awareness regarding the plight of poor & marginalised people throughout the country. All RSL UK team work entirely for free to ensure that our administrative costs are kept as low as possible and to maximise our impact on the ground.

I would like to thank our staff, trustees, donors and volunteers who have contributed so much to RSL's successes. I would like to thank Clare Allen, RSL's Operations Director who has worked tirelessly both in the UK and in Sri Lanka to improve the conditions of those affected by poverty, homelessness, conflict, disability, disease and disaster.

Best wishes,



Stephen Honour  
Chairman

## **Structure Governance & Management**

The trust deed provides for a minimum of three trustees.

### **Risk Management**

All significant activities undertaken are subject to a risk review as part of the initial project assessment and implementation. Major risks are identified and ranked in terms of their potential impact and likelihood.

Major risks for this purpose are those that have a significant effect on:

- Operational performance, including risks to our personnel and visiting donors
- Meeting the expectations of our donors and recipients.

The trustees review these risks on an on-going basis to satisfy themselves that adequate systems and procedures are in place to manage the risks identified. The following framework is central to ensuring adequate risk assurance:

- Regular monitoring of major risks
- A clear structure of delegated authority and control
- Always maintaining adequate reserves
- Regular summary reports on risk management to the trustees

In assessing risk our trustees recognise that some areas of our work require the acceptance and management of risk if our key objectives are to be achieved.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Medical**

RSL continue to provide vital medical supplies and cleaning equipment to Urugasmanhandiya hospital.

### **Empowering affected communities**

RSL maintain a presence in the areas where we work.

### **Funding**

Rebuilding Sri Lanka has funded the following programmes:

- *Restore Sri Lanka* – RSL has provided substantial grants to fund “special cases” and the running costs of The Rohana School. All located in the Matara district.
- In 2010, RSL with the assistance of Mr Wanni at TDA identified 30 “tsunami widows” whose children had formally been pupils at the TDA. Their situations were dire. Many of the families were shunned by society and forced to live on less than £2 per day. Over the years we have supported these families on a monthly basis. This project was forced to close due to lack of funding in December 2020.

## Education, Training and Skills

### *Uragasmanhandiya Educational Facility*

Towards the end of 2006 RSL began to conduct fieldwork encompassing a 16km radius in the Elpitiya district to ascertain what services would be of greatest value to these communities. The research incorporated many schools, hospitals and five new villages, which are now home to relocated tsunami affected families. It was RSL’s intention to create a high quality educational facility to enable these new residents to feel an integral part of their new community and to provide existing residents with resources otherwise unavailable to them.

In March 2007 the first stone was laid in Uragasmanhandiya and on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2007 the RSL Library, David Pope Auditorium, IT Unit and “Hansa” Pre School was officially opened.

There are 770 million illiterate adults in the world. 2/3rds of them are women. At the RSL library 70% of our members are female.

It continues to be a beacon in the local community and has been endorsed by all local dignitaries and by the Department of Education.

It is regarded as the most comprehensive, high quality facility outside the capital Colombo. The Pre School itself has won best Pre School in Southern District eight years in a row.

The library, auditorium and pre-school were closed for much of 2020 due to Covid-19, but 2021 saw the school and library re-open and the students/members returned in huge numbers. We saw 140 children enrol again in 2023.

### *The John Allen Library and The William Crook Library*

Two smaller libraries were added to the Uragasmanhandiya facility in 2011. The John Allen Library holds old novels and over 250 maps. The William Crook Library holds reference books, DVDs and CDs. Both are as busy as the main library.

### *Galpoththa School Library*

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Library, a small school library was opened at Galpoththa school in October 2010. It is run by the school themselves

#### Neluwa Library

In January (19<sup>th</sup>) 2012 RSL opened library number 5 in Neluwa. Many local dignitaries including Anoja Weerasinghe and the head of World Vision attended the opening.

Sadly, this library was closed on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 due to lack of funds.

#### Mathugama Library

On January 16<sup>th</sup> 2013 RSL opened Library number 6 in Mathugama. Loughborough Grammar School sponsored this library. It was our biggest library. (1,000 square feet). It was the “jewel” in our library group. Sadly, this library had to be closed in September 2020 due to lack of funding. This was an extremely sad day.

#### Killinochchi Library

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 RSL opened our 7<sup>th</sup> library in Killinochchi. Killinochchi is the main town of Killinochchi District, the Northern Province of Sri Lanka and is situated on the A9 road some 100 km (62 miles) southeast of Jaffna. It was the administrative center and de facto capital of the LTTE (Tamil Tigers) until 2 January 2009, when troops of the Sri Lankan Army recaptured the city. The people there are still deeply traumatized and resources of any kind are almost non-existent. In order to establish this facility, we had to seek the permission of the MOD in Colombo.

This Library was funded by The Tolkien Trust.

Sadly, their funding ceased, and we were unable to find another donor. This library closed 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

#### Ambalanthota Library

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 we opened our 8<sup>th</sup> library in Ambalanthota town. Sadly, this library was closed on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 due to lack of funds. Resources, books, computers etc were all returned for use at Urugasmanhandiya Centre.

#### Kaithady Library

On 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 we opened our 9<sup>th</sup> library at the Kaithady School for the deaf and blind. This is an invaluable resource for them having suffered very badly during the war. Additionally, the deaf, blind and other disabled people in Sri Lanka face terrible stigma and discrimination in their communities.

#### David Pope Library at Rohana

This library was opened on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at the Rohana special school in Matara. The students at Rohana School have exclusive use of this library.

*Batukanththa School*

Was built and fully furnished by RSL. It is now fully self-sufficient.

*Galapothhawala Primary School*

RSL are still managing to get occasional food parcels to families of the children from this school.

*Marsri Home in Kalutara*

No longer funded by RSL due to a change in management at Marsri who felt they no longer needed our support. Clare still visits the children regularly. Doni graduated in 2023

*Kirimatiyawa School, Elpitya District.*

RSL still provide occasional small food parcels to the families in this area.

*Hambantota Widows.*

Over the years we have supported these families on a monthly basis. This project was forced to close due to lack of funding in December 2020.

*Financial Review*

During the year the charity raised £64,719 from donations, grants and various fundraising initiatives.

The operational costs were £820, banking £235 and fundraising initiative costs £296.

The total expenditure for the year on our charitable activities was £30,000.

At the year end the total unrestricted funds were £48,893 and the trustees were satisfied that we had adequate reserves to sustain our current initiatives.



# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name:  
**REBUILDING SRI LANKA**

On accounts for the year  
ended

**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

Charity no  
(if any)

**1109622**

Set out on pages

**3 - 4**

*(enter the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2023**.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

**17/09/2024**

Name:

**TIMOTHY COOMER FCA**

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

**INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND & WALES**

Address:

**Holgate, East Dean Road, Lockerley, Romsey, Hants. SO51 0JQ.**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

**NONE**





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Accounting reference period

Charity number

1109622

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

Report start date  
01/01/2023

To

Report end date  
31/12/2023

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	64,719	-	-	64,719	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	64,719	-	-	64,719	-
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	64,719	-	-	64,719	-
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Costs of Generating Funds	296	-	-	296	-
Grants Payable	30,000	-	-	30,000	-
Management & Administration	819	-	-	819	-
Interest Expense & Bank Charges	235	-	-	235	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	31,350	-	-	31,350	-
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	31,350	-	-	31,350	-
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	33,369	-	-	33,369	-
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	33,369	-	-	33,369	-



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC Curr Acc	48,223	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>48,223</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

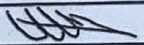
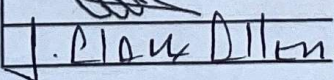
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Prepayments	669	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	WILLIAM CROOK	15/9/2024
	JANET ALLEN	15/9/2024



# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

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	-	-	-	-	-
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<b>Total payments</b>	<b>31,350</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,350</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>33,369</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,369</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>33,369</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,369</b>	<b>-</b>

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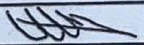
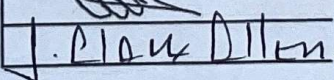
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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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