



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/01/2023 Period start date To 31/12/2023 Period end date

Charity name: CANAL MINISTRIES

Charity registration number: 1113130

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objectives of the charity are two fold:- a) to advance the Christian faith in accordance with its statement of beliefs and b) to relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged and sick and to relieve the distress caused thereby. The activities are carried out mainly through out (but not exclusively) the canal and river network in the UK.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<u>In relation to a) above :-</u> The team has taken part in 2 outreach activities. Again this year much has been carried out in the community of boaters on the K&A with Litannia used to hold regular prayer meetings 10,000 reasons has been out each Wednesday where possible delivering soup and engaging with people on the local towpath and in the marina where she is moored <u>In relation to point b) above:-</u> Litannia is again being used by other organisations to serve the community is several ways. Distribution of food parcels, and by the NHS to deliver medical vaccinations to those on the K&A The gifting of coal worked well last year so we continue to gift bags of coal to those that needed it.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>Each trustee has been provided with the Charity Commissions overview on public benefit. The trustees see it as key to the success of the work the charity does to support the volunteers in delivering the charities objectives and hence public benefit to the recipients of our services both practically and in speaking about the Christian faith.</p> <p>As and when the Charity Commission send out notes for trustees we ensure they are distributed to all trustees.</p>
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<p><u>Grants to those boaters in need</u> All volunteers have the ability to request money for distribution directly or via the provision of goods (e.g. food, fuel) to those live-a-boards that are in most need financially to a defined level. Above a given amount a request is made to the trustees for consideration who will make the final decision.</p> <p><u>Christian Material/Literature</u> A coordinated approach will normally be made by the volunteers for Christian literature and materials for general distribution to the general public and other waterways users. This will be agreed and funded via approval of the trustees.</p> <p><u>Grants by trustees to Christian workers to further the trust objectives</u> Where our volunteers have committed themselves to fulfilling the objectives of the charity, but could not do so without some financial assistance we have provided grants to them to enable this to happen, related in some way to their contributions. In 2023 this type of grant is only provided to a single boater.</p>
Other Information		<p>There has been an emphasis on and new questions asked by the Charity Commission about the existence of the Charities Policies. In 2023 we have worked hard to maintain existing and create now policies inline with the new guidelines. Work continues to formalise the work we already do. i.e. risk assessments, media use, financial controls etc.</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<p>The Charity does not currently use any form of social investment to achieve the objectives of the organisation</p>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Our volunteers contribution varies from an almost full time calling to help those in need and talk about Jesus to those with full time jobs who do the same things when they can.</p>

		As well as volunteering they also contribute financially to the charity via donations.
Other		<p>In 2023 the charity volunteers are made up of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7 boats where crews live-aboard or are out during the cruising season.</li> <li>- 2 day/trip boats used and crewed as required. 1 providing a weekly coffee shop and meeting location out on the canal.</li> </ul> <p>All our volunteers are boat owners living full or part time on them and touring the UK waterways. This can be lonely work so to fulfil a duty of care to them the charity organise a retreat once a year to provide a time of fellowship, teaching and prayer for the volunteers. This includes a time for them to decide how they feel they can support the charity in the advancement of its work in the year that follows.</p> <p>In January 2023 this was held at the Kings Centre in Northampton</p>

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>A number of the volunteers again this year spoke at churches to deliver a Bible based message and to promote the work of the charity.</p> <p>In 2023 there were 2 outreach activities, the first with Broughton Church and their boat Beacon in April, and the second in association with The Cellar Church at Ellesmere in June,</p> <p>Over the winter months we provided bags of coal to those in need and each volunteer took part in identifying and distribution to beneficiaries.</p> <p>Some activities and people met in 2020 include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Talking to boaters and those on the tow path about Jesus/</li> <li>- NB Litania was again used by the NHS for the delivery of vaccinations along the canal.</li> <li>- Distribution of Christian Literature</li> <li>- Worked along side a church in Aylesbury where several of our boaters were moored for the winter.</li> <li>- Had boat visits from Brownies and Boys Brigade</li> </ul> <p>Read more news at:  <a href="https://www.canalministries.org.uk/news-from-the-crews.html">https://www.canalministries.org.uk/news-from-the-crews.html</a></p>

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's	Para 1.21	We have found a better banking deal with
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financial position at the end of the period		<p>Kingdom bank</p> <p>We have been donated a large sum (nearly £9000) from another boating charity that has closed.</p> <p>We have also helped volunteers and needy boaters alike with some of our largest donations to date, which again gives us reasons to thank God for His provision.</p> <p>The CC16a document shows some discrepancy in the receipts and payments for the AGM/Retreat due to the receipts and payments spanning the financial year end. We are happy that what is being spent is forwarding the aims of the charity.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity generally aims to keep three months operating cost as reserves. 2023 saw a donation from a closing charity of nearly £9000. This is unusual, it has not been designated to a project at this time, but will be used to further the aims of the charity
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Currently the reserve held within the Kingdom Bank Account is £5099.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	We maintain sufficient reserves to given our relatively stable operation model
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	At the end of 2023 we are in a good place to continue the work of the charity into 2024. The donation has given us a new emphasis to see what more we can do in 2024. The only concern is the reduction in Trustees, but we are still above the minimum required.

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p>The principle sources of unrestricted funds for the charity are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the volunteers themselves</li> <li>b) other individuals</li> <li>c) churches</li> </ul> <p>In 2023 we have received a single unexpected donation from a closing charity.</p>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	As a charity the policy is not to invest via social investment or other investment, and only collect interest on monies held within a deposit account with Kingdom Bank..
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The primary risks to the charity are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The need to find more prayer and financial partners/supporters.</li> <li>2) Ageing profile of the volunteers</li> <li>3) Any further reduction in Trustees</li> </ul>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Trust
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nominations from boaters and Trustees provide the main source of new trustees. Any new candidate is usually invited to the annual retreat to spend time with boaters and trustees. Feedback is taken from participants at the retreat. If there are no objections it is the existing trustees than make the final appointment subject to DBS clearance. References may be requested.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Canal Ministries has no formal agreements with but on occasion works alongside the Boaters Christian Fellowship (Charity No:1101100) and the Waterways Chaplaincy (Charity No:1132125)
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	No formal relationships are in place with the organisations listed above.
Conflicts of Interest		Canal Ministries is currently operating with a minor conflict of interest that is registered in the Col register and reviewed at each trustees meeting. A Trustee is the husband of a volunteer boater. As per document CC29 4.5 – the trustee withdraws from any discussion on the benefits provided to boaters. The trustees consider the risk to the charity as Low, with a Medium impact if not managed correctly.

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	CANAL MINISTRIES
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1113130
Charity's principal address	27 COLNE FIELDS, SOMERSHAM, HUNTINGDON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE28 3DL

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Gillian Boltor			
2	Henry Kingsnorth			
3	Alexander Jim Short			
4	Peter Mills	Chairman		
5	Rodney Price	Treasurer		
6	Paul Standley	Secretary		
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

## Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		



Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

No details have been knowingly withheld

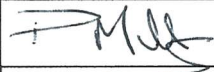
### Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	PETER JOHN MILLS	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR OF TRUSTEES (2023)	
Date	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	





## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/23	To	Period end date 31/12/23
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Gifts and Donations	24,522	2,625	-	27,147	21,095
AGM / Retreat	1,920	-	-	1,920	5,638
Tax refund on Gift Aid	1,882	-	-	1,882	2,178
Bank Interest	103	-	-	103	4
Compensation NatWest	-	-	-	-	450
Contribution to CM clothing	-	-	-	-	136
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>28,426</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,051</b>	<b>29,501</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>28,426</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,051</b>	<b>29,501</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Grants to Boater Evangelists	11,800	-	-	11,800	9,450
Distribution of restricted funds	-	2,625	-	2,625	-
Donations	3,000	-	-	3,000	4,895
Bibles, booklets, banners etc	166	-	-	166	157
Legal, Licences and Insurance	1,341	-	-	1,341	934
Post, stationery, leaflets, banners	146	-	-	146	16
Fuel / Boat repairs	314	-	-	314	446
AGM / Retreat	1,384	-	-	1,384	9,211
Gifts to needy boaters	2,522	-	-	2,522	761
General Mission exps	1,198	-	-	1,198	982
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>21,871</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,496</b>	<b>26,852</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>21,871</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,496</b>	<b>26,852</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>6,556</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,556</b>	<b>2,649</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>17,545</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,545</b>	<b>14,719</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>24,101</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,101</b>	<b>17,368</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	NatWest Current account	19,002		-
	Kingdom Bank	5,099	-	-
			-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>24,101</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

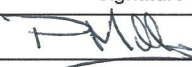
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

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

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	P.J. MILLS	30/10/24





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

CANAL MINISTRIES

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>ST</sup> December 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1113130

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above  
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to  
undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of  
applicable listed body]] ~~Delete [ ] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have  
come to my attention in connection with the examination ~~(other than that  
disclosed below \*)~~ 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.

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

Signed:

Susan M Huggins

Date:

16 / 3 / 24

Name:

SUSAN MARY HUGGINS

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body



(if any):

Address:

19 AXBRIDGE ROAD

BATH

BA2 5PW

## Section B

## Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

Set out on pages

Responsibilities and basis of report

Independent

examiner's statement

Signed:

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body