



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/01/2024 Period start date To 31/12/2024 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 in several ways. Distribution of food parcels, and by the NHS to deliver medical vaccinations to those on the K&A The gifting of coal and logs 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 charity's 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 sends 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>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, reflecting the extent of their contributions.</p>
Other Information		
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	The Charity does not currently use any form of social investment to achieve the objectives of the organisation
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Our volunteers' contributions vary 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. As well as volunteering they also contribute financially to the charity via donations.
Other		<p>In 2024 there were some changes in the volunteer community.</p> <p>We ended the year with 2 new boating couples joining us, and one couple becoming land based having sold their boat, In summary 6 cruising boats, 2 day boats and 3 land based volunteers</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 September 2024 we launched a new Website that should prove easier to keep up to date, and includes the use of <a href="mailto:*@canalministries.org.uk">*@canalministries.org.uk</a> email addresses</p> <p>In 2024, NB Ten Thousand Reasons went to Burnley and did a day of boat trips for families. National statistics state that 48% of children in Burnley are raised below the poverty line so this was a real treat for them. We kept in touch with St Matthews church visiting Fun Church occasionally. Later in 2024 we were invited to Churches Together in Burnley to see if we could help with the summer program. This has resulted in plans to visit in 2025.</p> <p>Some activities and people met in 2024 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>- Providing general help were possible to boaters our volunteers meet</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 financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>In 2024 we received a legacy donation of just under £11,000</p> <p>So we thank God for His provision.</p> <p>Given the donation the financial position remains strong but sources of further funding/income need to be considered in 2025</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The charity generally aims to keep three months operating cost as reserves. The reserves will be used towards missions on the canal, to help needy boaters and is hopefully sufficient to meet any unforeseen expenditure.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<p>We do not designate a "reserve" amount. Currently the money held within the Kingdom Bank Account (£5099) acts as a reserve.</p>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<p>We do not designate "reserves" see response above..</p>

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 2024 we realise that reduced income will need us to review operating costs in 2025 and seek new sources of income. The legacy donation has provided a significant boost to finances but realise this level of donation cannot be relied upon in the future. The only concern is the reduction in Trustees, but we are seeking to recruit more in 2025

#### 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 principal 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 2024 we received a single unexpected legacy donation.</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	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted?	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 who then make the final appointment subject to DBS clearance. References will 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 father of one of the companies that bid for the new website development. The trustee was not part of the decision making for the award of the design contract, and will not be part of discussing any further spend on the site.

## 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 Bolter			
2	Henry Kingsnorth			
3	Alexander Jim Short			
4	Peter Mills			
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)		

### 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)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. J. Mills', written over a horizontal line.

Full name(s)

PETER JOHN MILLS

Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair,  
etc)

TRUSTEE

Date

28<sup>th</sup> October 2025





## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/01/2024

To

31/12/2024

## 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	23,855	7,650	-	31,505	27,147
AGM / Retreat	3,224	-	-	3,224	1,920
Tax refund on Gift Aid	1,635	-	-	1,635	1,882
Bank Interest	475	-	-	475	103
Compensation NatWest	-	-	-	-	-
Contribution to CM clothing	32	-	-	32	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>29,221</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,870</b>	<b>31,051</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>29,221</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,870</b>	<b>31,051</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Grants to Boater Evangelists	15,305	-	-	15,305	11,800
Distribution of restricted funds	-	7,650	-	7,650	2,625
Donations	-	-	-	-	3,000
Bibles, booklets, etc	-	-	-	-	166
Legal, Licences and Insurance	1,342	-	-	1,342	1,341
Post, stationery, leaflets, banners	238	-	-	238	146
Fuel / Boat repairs	309	-	-	309	314
AGM / Retreat	4,486	-	-	4,486	1,384
Gifts to needy boaters	687	-	-	687	2,522
General Mission exps	2,199	-	-	2,199	1,198
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>24,566</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,216</b>	<b>24,496</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>24,566</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,216</b>	<b>24,496</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>4,654</b>	<b>- 0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,654</b>	<b>6,556</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>24,101</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,101</b>	<b>17,545</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>28,755</b>	<b>- 0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,755</b>	<b>24,101</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	8,181	-	-
	Kingdom Bank	20,574	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>28,755</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>


		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>	Details			
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	P. J. Mills	20/10/25



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

CANAL MINISTRIES

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>ST</sup> December 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1113130

Set out on pages

1 & 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

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

~~[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:

18/3/25

Name:

SUSAN HUGGINS

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

