

Charity Registration No. 1117679

UNDER TREE SCHOOLS
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

G Barnett
P Boyling
H Chauncy
D Sullam

Charity number

1117679

Principal address

2 Meredyth Road
London
SW13 0DY

Independent Examiners

TC Group
The Courtyard
Shoreham Road
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UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

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UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees:

Geoffrey Barnett, Chair	
Peter Boyling, Treasurer	
Helen Chauncy	
Ron Sullam	(Resigned 29 February 2024)
Dainel Sullam	(Appointed 23 September 2023)

The Trustees present their Report and the Financial Statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the Charities Act 2011

Legal Status

The charity is a CIO, governed by its Constitution. Its registered office is at 2 Meredyth Road London SW13 0DY. The registered charity number is 1117679.

Objective

The main objective of the CIO is to restore and develop formal education for children, for the benefit of residents of Aweil South County, South Sudan.

Activities

The charity's mission is to provide education for children, primarily girls, in a Christian context, in partnership with the local community of Malek, through construction and management of a school and to provide vocational and Christian teaching for adults.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in S 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning future activities.

At the end of a long civil war the charity built a school for girls in Malek-Alel, Aweil South County, South Sudan. It was opened in 2009. It has provided an opportunity for education for girls, whose parents were reluctant to allow them to attend mixed sex schools. Normally 300-400 girls per year have attended, in the age range 6-15.

As well as academic teaching there is provision for older girls to receive training in sewing, in IT and in agronomy. Many girls leave school before the upper years, at the behest of their parents, but of those staying at school, a number have gone on to secondary school, and thereafter for training in careers.

378 girls took the year end exams in November. The school also provides pre-school teaching for their little brothers and sisters up to the age of 6, and 53 of them completed the year.

Payments to the school have provided income for the 38 teaching and nonteaching staff, and funds to meet running costs, through the year. Rates of payment have been increased to reflect substantial inflation in costs of purchases of food and other items.

During the year funds have also been provided to:

- install a lightning protection for the solar system and replace the solar system that had deteriorated in the country's climate;
- purchase school uniforms, to enable each girl to receive a free uniform as an incentive to attend school;
- buy hygiene kits for the older girls, as an incentive not to miss classes.
- pay the secondary school fees for girls going on to secondary school after they complete year 8, to encourage them to continue their education. All 30 girls in the top year in 2023 passed their final exams and all went on to secondary school in early 2024, raising the number at secondary school to 88.

Finances

The charity is funded by donations from supporters, mainly resident in England and Switzerland. During the year there was no concerted campaign to raise funds.

UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Total unrestricted incoming resources for the year amounted to £51,155 (2023: £66,650). Unrestricted resources expended amounted to £84,107 (2023: £45,603) comprising mainly funds sent to the school to pay their staff and running costs.

Net unrestricted resources expended for the year was £32,952 (2023: net unrestricted surplus of £21,047). Total unrestricted cash reserves at 31 March 2024 were £61,467 (2023: £94,419).

The charity has a fund restricted to funding the fees for girls attending secondary school after their education at the school in Malek-Alel. There was no income to the restricted bursary fund in the year. Payments were made in the financial year to cover both the 2023 and 2024 school years. The balance of that fund at 31 March 2024 was £122 (2023 £9,159).

At 31 March 2024 the total bank balance stood at £61,589 (2023: £103,578).

Reserves

The trustees' policy is to maintain an unrestricted reserve of £25,000 to enable operations to continue temporarily if income unexpectedly drops, until new sources of income can be found. The charity was acting in line with the reserves policy at the year end.

The trustees consider the charity to be a going concern.

Policies

The trustees have policies for financial control, due diligence, conflicts of interest, safeguarding, serious incident reporting, data protection and social media. These were reviewed and where appropriate adjusted during the year.

Staff

The CIO has no employees. However a proportion of the periodic payments to meet school expenses is spent in support of the 38 school staff. Eight of the twenty teachers are state-employed. The remaining 18 non-teaching staff are responsible for running everything outside the classroom. The head teacher, who has been in post since the school was set up formally and is himself employed by the state, is responsible for all school activities. Owing to high rates of inflation in South Sudan the purchasing power of the teachers' state salaries is small, and they are not always paid.

Independent Examination

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, which are not required to be audited. Accordingly they have been the subject of a report by an independent examiner, whose report is set out on page 4 of this document.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the accounts

The Trustees of Under Tree Schools are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that year.

UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the accounts 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Geoffrey Barnett, Chair

Date 2 July 2024

UNDER TREE SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Under Tree Schools

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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


Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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; or
- (4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting of charities.

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.


Mark Cummins FCCA
for and on behalf of TC Group
The Courtyard
Shoreham Road
Upper Beeding
Steyning
West Sussex
BN44 3TN

Dated: 5 July 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

UNDER TREE SCHOOLS

1117679

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01-Apr-23

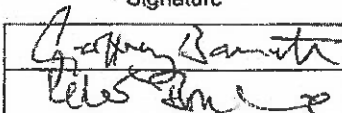

To

31-Mar-24

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 £
A1 Receipts					
Donations (incl Gift Aid)	51,155	-	-	51,155	66,650
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i> (Gross income for AR)	51,155	-	-	51,155	66,650
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	51,155	-	-	51,155	66,650
A3 Payments					
Charitable activities - S. Sudan	81,530	9,037	-	90,567	46,852
Charitable activities - UK	2,577	-	-	2,577	1,589
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	84,107	9,037	-	93,144	48,441
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	84,107	9,037	-	93,144	48,441
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	-32,952	-9,037	-	-41,989	18,209
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	94,419	9,159	-	85,369	85,369
Cash funds this year end	61,467	122	-	61,589	103,578

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	Cash at bank	61,467	122	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	61,467	122	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Independent Examination fee for 23/24 accounts	Unrestricted fund	1,620	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			GEORGEY BARNETT	2.7.24
			PETER BOYLING	2.7.24

Note 1: During the year the charity received £1,710 donated by three trustees and £4,916 donated by a charity of which two trustee of UTS are also trustees (2023: £1,460 donated by two trustee and £3,000 donated by a charity of which two trustees of UTS are also trustees).

No conditions were attached to these donations. There were no other related party transactions during the year (2023: none).

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