

GHANA UNION

England & Wales · Charity number 1123393

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [06395354](#)

Registered 2008-04-01

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 225-229
Seven Sisters Road
London
N4 2DA

Phone 07958648234

Email info@ghanaunion.org.uk

Website www.ghanaunion.org.uk

Activities

Objects: (1) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY AMONG GHANAIS IN THE UK AND GHANA(2) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION OF GHANAIS OF ALL AGES IN THE UK AND GHANA(3) THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF GHANA AMONG GHANAIS OF ALL AGES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THE UK(4) THE RELIEF OF THOSE GHANAIS IN NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, GENDER, ILL-HEALTH, DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE IN GHANA AND THE UK

Activities: The Charity is a general welfare, cultural and educational one for Ghanaians in the UK and Ghana and the general public in the UK. It organises workshops and seminars on Ghanaian cultural heritage for Ghanaians, especially the youth in the Diaspora.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UK AND GHANA
- Ghana
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£24,850	£24,217	-	-
2024-03-31	£28,833	£27,591	-	-
2023-03-31	£20,712	£18,163	-	-
2022-03-31	£40,872	£36,169	-	-
2021-03-31	£40,400	£34,260	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
EMMANUEL KWESI QUAYSON	Chair	2013-06-21
ADJARA SHARDOW		2013-06-21
CHARLOTTE FRIMPONG		2013-06-21
CHRISTIE OKPATTAH		2016-06-24
DAVID OWUSU-YIANOMA LLB HONS		2019-01-27
GEORGE ATSU OCLOO		2015-11-29
MAVIS OSEI-AGYAPONG		2018-04-30
YAW BAFFOUR OFFE		2013-06-21
ZARA ADU		2013-11-24

GHANA UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1123393

Accounts



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06395354 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1123393

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

GHANA UNION

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects of the charity, as stated in its Memorandum and Articles of Association, are:

- (1) The prevention or relief of poverty among Ghanaians in the UK and Ghana
- (2) The advancement of education of Ghanaians of all ages in the UK and Ghana
- (3) The advancement of the cultural heritage of Ghana among Ghanaians of all ages and the general public in the UK
- (4) The relief of those Ghanaians in need by reason of youth, age, gender, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage in Ghana and the UK.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

A. PUBLIC FORUM AND INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Charity in the past held public open forums, Independence Day celebrations attended by His Excellency, the Ghana High Commissioner to the UK and Ireland was held in the year 2019-2020 but due to COVID 19 impact no face-to-face activities has been held for the past three years. The Union planned the Ghana Union reunion dinner dance, which was held on 27th May 2023, marking the resumption of face-to-face activities.

The Union has been organising virtual ZOOM public awareness talks, on various subjects including health, passports, Visas, immigration, property ownership, travel advice and many other issues.

The Ghana Union free advisory service to help Ghanaians on issues regarding health, immigration, housing, employment and many other issues continued to be available to Ghanaians on booked appointment basis.

The forums also gave the public the chance to discuss the Union, and what is expected of it.

The ZOOM Virtual forums have proved popular and attracted over 300 participants. Topics discussed included immigration in the UK, Ghanaian passport and Visa applications, Ghana Custom & Excise, investment in Ghana, health issues, water, education, land registration, the state of the roads in Ghana and other topics. Social and family welfare issues.

B. GIFT AID:

The charity held virtual ZOOM gift aid training for its members and was able to claim gift aid for 18 (Eighteen) groups -2023-2024- £85,855) (18 groups for the financial years to March 2023 claiming a total of £89,173).

C. GHACOSA /GHANA COMMUNITY AWARDS

No awards held for the current year. Ghana Union hopes to resume or continue this in the future.

D. CALABASH/GHANA UNION NEWSLETTER

The Ghana Union Magazine is a community publication created by the Ghana Union. The Ghana Union Newsletter (formerly Calabash) magazine was reinstated and has been running for some time now.

The sixth edition of the Ghana Union newsletter was published in October 2019 and the magazine will continue to be published bi-annually. The previous copy was published in October 2019 for the Ghana Union's 40th anniversary celebration. With COVID-19's impact on world activities, it has been difficult to publish the next issue. The publication of the newsletter would soon resume.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

E. GHANA UNION YOUTH AND (STAR PROJECT)

Ghana Union Youth (GUY) star project is an initiative of Ghana Union, and it is run by young leaders who aspire to make a difference in the lives of the Ghanaian youth living in the Diaspora.

- The GUY Star project now runs Ghanaian language classes in Twi and Ga for the youth, young adults and adults at The College of Northeast London (COLNEY), Tottenham High Road, N17 Haringey Near Seven Sisters station. The language classes started initially for free for the first set of lessons but there is now a £5.0 nominal charge per lesson. The classes are held Saturday mornings in North London. From April 2020 with COVID19 these classes are now held online on Zoom.
- These events would be funded from the surplus of the Ghana Union reserves and sponsorships obtained. We are also seeking further sponsorships and grants and if successful would increase the youth activities to be organised.
- Ghana Union would continue to promote young people's networking and engagement events and in partnership with other groups or association for mutual benefits.
- Ghana Union to Promote the "Youth" agenda, encouraging talents, enterprise and apprenticeship networks.

F. GHANAIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE AND (THE LAUNCH AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE-JULY 2018 AND MARCH 2019)

The Ghanaian Community Centre has been at the forefront of Ghana Union since 1995.

"The Dream is for the Ghanaian community to have a centre they can call their own and one they can be proud of. A large hall for public functions and indoor sports, several meeting rooms, computer /internet cafe training rooms and offices are but some of the facilities that can be provided at the centre".

The Ghanaian Community Centre has been at the fore of Ghana Union however, pledges have not always been honoured and additional funds are generally raised via Ghana Union's main income supply - the Ghana Independence Dinner Dance.

There was a committee formed during the year 2010-11 from the Ghanaian communities and individuals to revive the plan and pursue the acquisition of the Ghana resource Centre. The progress has been slow due to lack of funding to support the search for the property.

This initiative has been given a fresh focus by the Ghana Union board now and in the coming year.

The Community Centre Initiative Launch was held at Parliament House, Churchill Room-July 2018.

There was a relaunch of the Community Centre initiative in March 2019 at the House of Commons, Parliament house.

As a result of the renewed effort to make the Ghanaian community centre project a reality, a finance and purchase model was launched in July 2018 at the Churchill Room in the House of Parliament, Westminster where Ghana High Commission, Ghanaian group leaders, Churches, firms, businesses, sponsors and potential investors were invited to participate in the launch. The launch proved successful, and Ghana Union would now be holding further road shows at various venues and groups to encourage participation in the project. We estimate the initial capital needed to start the project of about £2.0M (two million pounds). There was a relaunch in March 2019 and a special vehicle (SPV) Company has been formed to proceed with the initiative. So far, some groups and individuals have paid their shares to the company. These monies would form part of the deposit towards the purchase of the Community centre. Ghana Union has also paid for two ordinary shares at the cost of £20,000, that is £10,000 per share in the Ghanaian Property Services Company Ltd (SPV) to enable the purchase of the Ghanaian community centre with other community groups and investors.

COVID-19 has impacted the speed of progress of the SPV company.

The Ghanaian Property Services Company Ltd (SPV) has now acquired two residential properties for rent pending the possibility of acquiring the Ghanaian Community centre in due course, the investments in the residential properties in the interim were agreed upon by the shareholders.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Ghana Union Shareholdings in Ghanaian Community Property Services Ltd.

Regarding the properties and Ghana Union investment in GCPSL,

There are tenancies in both buildings since July 2022, albeit with challenges over the year since the operations as a company.

Nonetheless, there have been marginal rental gains from both properties and also, equity on the purchase of both buildings has gone up over the year with an Estimated Equity Return on Investment per share of £10000 from both buildings achieving = £1,035 plus.

In simple terms, if both properties were to be sold today, this would give Ghana Union an average investment equity return profit of £2,070 for two shares held in the Ghanaian Community Property Services.

Regards to the £2,000 loan balance, the company has also received approximately £15,000 in rental income over the year and the board of directors has decided to use the rental income achieved to pay off part of the loans received from shareholders if that is agreed at the upcoming shareholder meeting on 31 July 2023. Part of the loan £1000.0 was repaid during the year but an additional funding request from GPSC Ltd resulted in an additional loan of £2000. Making balance at 31 March 2024 £3,000.

G. GHANA UNION ADVISORY SERVICE:

Ghana Union has continued to offer the Ghana Community advisory service in, immigration, employment, family affairs, marital problems, welfare, social, health, racial integration, and other areas. We have a pool of legal experts, medical and many others. The service was a result of our March 2014 dinner dance fundraising pledge. This service is still available, but this is now offered on booked appointments only.

H. GHANA DIASPORA HOMECOMING SUMMIT COMMITTEE UK

Three members of Ghana Union board served on the Ghana Diaspora homecoming Summit Committee UK. The UK Homecoming Summit Committee plays a vital role in the success of the Diaspora Summit planning which normally take place in Accra International Centre, Ghana. No further summits have been held since 2019.

I. THE FUTURE OF GHANA UNION

Following on from our last leader's conference in October 2015 and risk management assessment training, the years ahead will be much more challenging but equally rewarding.

By 2025, Ghana Union aims to be delivering a structured range of support and services for individuals and community organisations backed by sound research. We are yet to commence the work on the research project. Funds may be available to carry out this research.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

J. COVID 19 IMPACT, THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES

With COVID 19 impact on all organisations and businesses in the world, Ghana Union's vision and mission of structured range of services and support was affected.

Ghana Union has now re-structured the way it works, supports and delivers its services with organisations and public, it is now offering more online broadcast, Virtual talks and telecasts services, advisory services as opposed to face-to-face meetings.

This range of content delivery will be constantly reviewed with the changes offered according to the evolving COVID 19 situations.

Ghana Union also continues to partner with Omega TV, Access Media, Ghana Nurses Association (GNA), Western Region Nurses Association (WRAN) and our sponsors to deliver the ZOOM and online forums. Ghana Union has planned a re-union dinner dance in May 2023 to raise funds to help and serve the vulnerable members of the Ghanaian community with long COVID effect and help, in time of their various needs..

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees are aware that a prudent financial management of the charity requires that some funds are put aside for a "rainy day". After considering the contractual obligations of the charity, such as premises and other leasing obligations the trustees have decided that they would require to hold funds in reserve, equivalent to a minimum of six months total operating expenditure. This means a total of approximately £13,800 for the current financial year. The current level of free reserves adequately satisfies the charity's reserves policy. The trustees plan to generate funds to increase the current level of Reserves.

Funds in deficit

There are no funds currently in deficit.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Ghana Union is a company limited by guarantees (number 06395354) and a registered charity number 1123393. The company was incorporated on 10 October 2007 and took over the affairs of the unincorporated charity Ghana Union London on 1 April 2008.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The management of the charity is vested in the Executive Committee consisting of Officers and Members that are elected at the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Executive Committee.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

06395354 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1123393

Registered office

225-229 Seven Sisters Road
London
N4 2DA

Trustees

E Quayson (Chair)
A Shardow (Treasurer)
C Frimpong (Secretary)
Z Adu
G Ocloo
D Yianoma
Y B Offei
S Asima
C Okpattah
M Osei-Agyapong
M Nyaunu
F Akwetey

Company Secretary

C Frimpong (Secretary)

Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc
60 Queen Victoria Park
London
EC4N 4TR

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 6 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



A. Shardow (Treasurer) - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GHANA UNION**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Ghana Union ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act 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 Charities Act 2011 ('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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 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 by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



E H TURKSON ACMA
HESSE ARMAH
456 High Road
Leyton
London
E10 6QE

Date: 6 September 2024

GHANA UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		28,615	-	28,615	20,674
Investment Income	2	<u>218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>38</u>
Total		<u>28,833</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,833</u>	<u>20,712</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>27,591</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,591</u>	<u>18,163</u>
NET INCOME		1,242	-	1,242	2,549
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>18,071</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>38,071</u>	<u>35,522</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>19,313</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>39,313</u>	<u>38,071</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	153	-	153	177
CURRENT ASSETS					
Investments	7	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Prepayments and accrued income		3,307	-	3,307	3,483
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>17,147</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,147</u>	<u>15,330</u>
		20,454	20,000	40,454	38,813
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,294)	-	(1,294)	(919)
		<u>19,160</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>39,160</u>	<u>37,894</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>19,160</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>39,160</u>	<u>37,894</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		19,313	20,000	39,313	38,071
		<u>19,313</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>39,313</u>	<u>38,071</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>19,313</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>39,313</u>	<u>38,071</u>
FUNDS	9				
Unrestricted funds				19,313	18,071
Restricted funds				<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>39,313</u>	<u>38,071</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

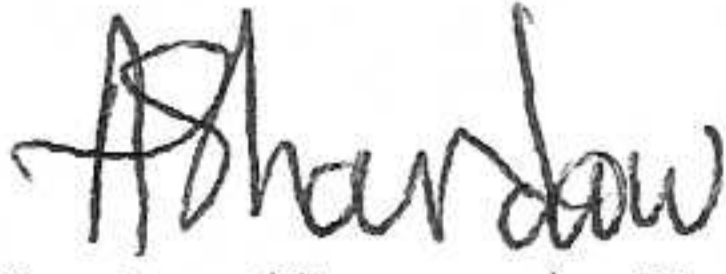
The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 MARCH 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 6 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



A Shardow (Treasurer) - Trustee



E Quayson (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery	- 20% on reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest receivable	<u>218</u>	<u>38</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>24</u>	<u>62</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	20,674	-	20,674
Investment income	<u>38</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38</u>
Total	<u>20,712</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,712</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>18,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,163</u>
NET INCOME	2,549	-	2,549
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>15,522</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>35,522</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>18,071</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>38,071</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>2,156</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>2,652</u>	<u>5,338</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2023	2,156	544	2,461	5,161
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>(14)</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>24</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,156</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>2,499</u>	<u>5,185</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>153</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>(14)</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>177</u>

7. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Investments-Gh. Pty Services	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued expenses	<u>1,294</u>	<u>919</u>
	<u>1,294</u>	<u>919</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	18,071	1,242	19,313
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,000	-	20,000
	<u>38,071</u>	<u>1,242</u>	<u>39,313</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	28,833	(27,591)	1,242
	—————	—————	—————
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>28,833</u>	<u>(27,591)</u>	<u>1,242</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15,522	2,549	18,071
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,000	-	20,000
	—————	—————	—————
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,522</u>	<u>2,549</u>	<u>38,071</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	20,712	(18,163)	2,549
	—————	—————	—————
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>20,712</u>	<u>(18,163)</u>	<u>2,549</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15,522	3,791	19,313
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,000	-	20,000
	—————	—————	—————
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,522</u>	<u>3,791</u>	<u>39,313</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	49,545	(45,754)	3,791
	—————	—————	—————
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>49,545</u>	<u>(45,754)</u>	<u>3,791</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

GHANA UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1123393

Accounts



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06395354 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1123393

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Ghana Union is a company limited by guarantee, number 06395354, and a registered charity number 1123393. The company was incorporated on 10 October 2007 and took over the affairs of the unincorporated charity Ghana Union London on 1 April 2008.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The management of the charity is vested in the Executive Committee consisting of Officers and Members that are elected by the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Executive Committee.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

06395354 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1123393

Registered office

225-229 Seven Sisters Road
London
N4 2DA

Trustees

E Quayson (Chair)
A Shardow (Treasurer)
C Frimpong (Secretary)
J Murphy
Z Adu
G Ocloo
D Yianoma
Y B Offei
S Asima
C Okpattah
M Osei-Agyapong
M Nyaunu
F Akwetey

Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc
60 Queen Victoria Park
London
EC4N 4TR

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects of the charity, as stated in its Memorandum and Articles of Association, are:

- (1) The prevention or relief of poverty among Ghanaians in the UK and Ghana
- (2) The advancement of education of Ghanaians of all ages in the UK and Ghana
- (3) The advancement of the cultural heritage of Ghana among Ghanaians of all ages and the general public in the UK
- (4) The relief of those Ghanaians in need by reason of youth, age, gender, ill-health, disability, financial hardship, or other disadvantages in Ghana and the UK.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

A. PUBLIC FORUM AND INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Charity held public open forums, 40th Anniversary and Independence Day celebrations attended by His Excellency, the Ghana High Commissioner to the UK and Ireland was held in the year 2019-2020 due to the COVID-19 impact no face-to-face activities have been held.

The Union has now been organising virtual ZOOM public awareness talks, on various subjects including health, passports, Visas, COVID vaccinations, travel advice, and many other issues.

The Ghana Union's free advisory service to help Ghanaians on issues regarding health, immigration, housing, employment, and many other issues continued to be available to Ghanaians.

The forums also gave the public the chance to discuss the Union, and what is expected of it.

The ZOOM Virtual forums have proved popular and attracted over 300 participants. Topics discussed included immigration in the UK, Ghanaian passport and Visa applications, Ghana Custom & Excise, investment in Ghana, health issues, water, education, land registration, the state of the roads in Ghana, and other topics.

Social and family welfare issues.

Party in the Park is also held in partnership with Ghana Union was held in July 2021 in partnership with Access Media.

B. GIFT AID:

The charity held virtual ZOOM gift aid training for its members and was able to claim gift aid for 18 (Eighteen) groups - 2021-2022- £101,899 (20 groups for the financial years to March 2021 claiming a total of £98,775).

C. GHACOSA/GHANA COMMUNITY AWARDS

no awards for the current year due to COVID-19 restrictions on activities. Ghana Union hopes to resume or continue this in the future.

D. CALABASH/GHANA UNION NEWSLETTER

The Ghana Union Magazine is a community publication created by Ghana Union. The Ghana Union Newsletter (formerly Calabash) magazine was reinstated and has been running for six years to date.

The sixth edition of the Ghana Union newsletter was published in October 2019 and the magazine will continue to be published biannually. The previous copy was published in October 2019 for the Ghana Union's 40th-anniversary celebration. With COVID 19 impact on world activities, it has been difficult to publish the next issue. The publication of the newsletter would soon resume.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

E. GHANA UNION YOUTH AND (STAR PROJECT)

Ghana Union Youth (GUY) star project is an initiative of the Ghana Union, and it is run by young leaders who aspire to make a difference in the lives of the Ghanaian youth living in the Diaspora.

1. The GUY Star project now runs Ghanaian language classes in Twi and Ga for the youth, young adults, and adults at The College of Northeast London (COLNEY), Tottenham High Road, N17 Haringey Near Seven Sisters station. The language classes started initially for free for the first set of lessons but there is now a £5.0 nominal charge per lesson. The classes are held Saturday mornings in North London. From April 2020 with COVID19 these classes are now held online on Zoom.
2. These events would be funded from the surplus of the Ghana Union reserves and World remit sponsorships. We are also seeking further sponsorships and grants and if successful would increase the youth activities to be organised.
3. Ghana Union would continue to promote young people's networking and engagement events and in partnership with other groups or associations for mutual benefits.
4. Ghana Union to Promote the "Youth" agenda, encouraging talents, enterprise, and apprenticeship networks.

F. GHANAIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE AND (THE LAUNCH AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE-JULY 2018) AND MARCH 2019

The Ghanaian Community Centre has been at the forefront of the Ghana Union since 1995.

"The Dream is for the Ghanaian community to have a centre they can call their own and one they can be proud of. A large hall for public functions and indoor sports, several meeting rooms, computer /internet cafe training rooms, and offices are but some of the facilities that can be provided at the centre".

The Ghanaian Community Centre has been at the fore of Ghana Union however, pledges have not always been honoured and additional funds are generally raised via Ghana Union's main income supply - the Ghana Independence Dinner Dance.

There was a committee formed during the year 2010-11 from the Ghanaian communities and individuals to revive the plan and pursue the acquisition of the Ghana resource Centre. The progress has been slow due to a lack of funding to support the search for the property.

This initiative has been given a fresh focus by the Ghana Union board now and in the coming year.

The Community Centre Initiative Launch was held at Parliament House, Churchill Room-July 2018.

There was a relaunch of the Community centre initiative in March 2019 at the House of Commons, Parliament house.

As a result of the renewed effort to make the Ghanaian community centre project a reality a finance and purchase model was launched in July 2018 at the Churchill room in the House of Parliament, Westminster where Ghana High Commission, Ghanaian group leaders, Churches, firms, businesses, sponsors, and potential investors were invited to participate in the launch. The launch proved successful, and Ghana Union would now be holding further road shows at various venues and groups to encourage participation in the project. We estimate the initial capital needed to start the project of about £2.0M (two million pounds). There was a relaunch in March 2019 and a special vehicle (SPV) Company has been formed to proceed with the initiative. So far, some groups and individuals have paid their shares to the company. These monies would form part of the deposit towards the purchase of the Community centre. Ghana Union has also paid for two ordinary shares at the cost of £20,000, that is £10,000 per share in the Ghanaian Property Services Company Ltd (SPV) to enable the purchase of the Ghanaian community centre with other community groups and investors.

COVID-19 has impacted the speed of progress of the SPV company.

The Ghanaian Property Services Company Ltd (SPV) has now acquired two residential properties for rent pending the possibility of acquiring the Ghanaian Community centre in due course, the investments in the residential properties in the interim were agreed upon by the shareholders.

G. GHANA UNION ADVISORY SERVICE:

Ghana Union has continued to offer the Ghana Community advisory service in, immigration, employment, family affairs, marital problems, welfare, social, health, racial integration, and other areas. We have a pool of legal experts, medical and many others. The service was as a result of our March 2014 dinner dance fund raising pledge. This service is still available, but this is now offered on booked appointments only.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

H. GHANA DIASPORA HOMECOMING SUMMIT COMMITTEE UK

Three members of the Ghana Union board served on the Ghana Diaspora Homecoming Summit Committee UK. The UK Homecoming Summit Committee plays a vital role in the success of the Diaspora Summit planning which normally take place in Accra International Centre, Ghana. No summit held in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

I. THE FUTURE OF GHANA UNION

Following on from our last leader's conference in October 2015 and risk management assessment training, the years ahead will be much more challenging but equally rewarding.

By 2023, Ghana Union aims to be delivering a structured range of support and services for individuals and community organisations backed by sound research. We are yet to commence the work on the research project. Funds may be available to carry out this research.

J. COVID 19 IMPACT, THREATS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

With COVID 19 impact on all organisations and businesses in the world, Ghana Union's vision and mission of structured range of services and support was affected.

Ghana Union has now re-structured the way it works, supports, and delivers its services with organisations and public, it is now offering more online broadcast, Virtual talks and telecasts services, advisory services as opposed to face-to-face meetings.

This range of content delivery will be constantly reviewed with the changes offered according to the evolving COVID 19 situations.

Ghana Union also continues to partner with Uncle Johns bakery in North London, Omega TV, Access Media, Ghana Nurses Association (GNA), Western Region Nurses Association (WRAN) and, our sponsors to serve the vulnerable members of the Ghanaian community in the time of their various needs.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

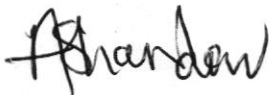
Reserves policy

The trustees are aware that prudent financial management of the charity requires that some funds are put aside for a "rainy day". After considering the contractual obligations of the charity, such as premises and other leasing obligations the trustees have decided that they would require to hold funds in reserve, equivalent to a minimum of six months total operating expenditure. This means a total of approximately £13,800 for the current financial year. The current level of free reserves adequately satisfies the charity's reserves policy. The trustees plan to generate funds to increase the current level of Reserves.

Funds in deficit

There are no funds currently in deficit.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 3 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



A. Shardow (Treasurer) - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GHANA UNION**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Ghana Union ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act 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 Charities Act 2011 ('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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 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 by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



E H TURKSON, ACMA CGMA
Hesse Armah
456 High Road
Leyton
London
E10 6QE

Date: 3 September 2022

GHANA UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		40,871	-	40,871	40,398
Investment income	2	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total		40,872	-	40,872	40,400
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>36,169</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,169</u>	<u>34,261</u>
NET INCOME		4,703	-	4,703	6,139
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>10,819</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>30,819</u>	<u>24,680</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>15,522</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>35,522</u>	<u>30,819</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	239	-	239	390
CURRENT ASSETS					
Investments	7	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Prepayments and accrued income		3,191	-	3,191	1,191
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>13,052</u>	-	<u>13,052</u>	<u>10,178</u>
		16,243	20,000	36,243	31,369
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(960)	-	(960)	(940)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,283</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>35,283</u>	<u>30,429</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>15,522</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>35,522</u>	<u>30,819</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>15,522</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>35,522</u>	<u>30,819</u>
FUNDS	9				
Unrestricted funds				15,522	10,819
Restricted funds				<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>35,522</u>	<u>30,819</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 MARCH 2022

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 3 September 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



A Shardow (Treasurer) - Trustee



E Quayson (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery	- 20% on reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation-owned assets	<u>151</u>	<u>97</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	40,398	-	40,398
Investment Income	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	40,400	-	40,400
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	34,261	-	34,261
NET INCOME	6,139	-	6,139
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	4,680	20,000	24,680
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>10,819</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>30,819</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>2,156</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>2,652</u>	<u>5,338</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2021	2,083	512	2,353	4,948
Charge for year	<u>73</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>151</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,156</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>2,413</u>	<u>5,099</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>239</u>	<u>239</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>73</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>390</u>

7. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Investments-Ghana Property Services Ltd.	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Accrued expenses	<u>960</u>	<u>940</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	10,819	4,703	15,522
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>30,819</u>	<u>4,703</u>	<u>35,522</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	40,872	(36,169)	4,703
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>40,872</u>	<u>(36,169)</u>	<u>4,703</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,680	6,139	10,819
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,000	-	20,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>24,680</u>	<u>6,139</u>	<u>30,819</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	40,400	(34,261)	6,139
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>40,400</u>	<u>(34,261)</u>	<u>6,139</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,680	10,842	15,522
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,000	-	20,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>24,680</u>	<u>10,842</u>	<u>35,522</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,272	(70,430)	10,842
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,272</u>	<u>(70,430)</u>	<u>10,842</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

GHANA UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1123393

Accounts



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06395354 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1123393

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

GHANA UNION

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
06395354 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1123393

Registered office
225-229 Seven Sisters Road
London
N4 2DA

Trustees

E Quayson (Chair)
A Shardow (Treasurer)
C Frimpong (Secretary)
J Murphy
Z Adu
G Ocloo
D Yianoma
Y B Offei
S Asima
C Okpattah
M Osei-Agyapong
M Nyaunu
F Akwetey

Company Secretary
C Frimpong (Secretary)

Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc
60 Queen Victoria Park
London
EC4N 4TR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Ghana Union is a company limited-by-Guarantee number 06395354 and a registered charity number 1123393. The company was incorporated on 10 October 2007 and took over the affairs of the unincorporated charity Ghana Union London on 1 April 2008.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The management of the charity is vested in the Executive Committee consisting of Officers and Members that are elected by at the Annual general Meeting or co-opted by the Executive Committee.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects of the charity, as stated in its Memorandum and Articles of Association, are:

- (1) The prevention or relief of poverty among Ghanaians in the UK and Ghana
- (2) The advancement of education of Ghanaians of all ages in the UK and Ghana
- (3) The advancement of the cultural heritage of Ghana among Ghanaians of all ages and the general public in the UK
- (4) The relief of those Ghanaians in need by reason of youth, age, gender, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantages in Ghana and the UK.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

a. Public Forum and Independence Day Celebrations

The Charity held virtual public open forums during the year. The Ghana 41st Anniversary and Independence Day celebrations scheduled to be attended by His Excellency, the Ghana High Commissioner to the UK and Ireland was not held in the year 2020-2021 due to the impact of COVID 19 pandemic and, in addition, no other face-to-face activity was held.

The Union has now been organising virtual ZOOM awareness talks, on various subjects including health, COVID vaccinations, travel advice and many other issues.

The Ghana Union free advisory service to help Ghanaians on issues regarding health, immigration, housing, employment and many other issues continued to be available to Ghanaians.

The forums also gave the public the chance to discuss the Ghana Union and what is expected of it.

The ZOOM Virtual forums have proved popular and attracted over 300 participants. Topics discussed included immigration in the UK, Ghana Custom & Excise, investment in Ghana, health issues, water, education, land registration, the state of the roads in Ghana and other topics. Social and family welfare issues.

The Party in the Park usually held in partnership with Ghana Union was not held this year due to COVID 19 restrictions

b. Gift aid:

The charity held virtual ZOOM gift aid training for its members and was able to claim gift aid for 20 (twenty) groups - 2020-2021- £98,775 (17 groups for the financial years to March 2020 claiming a total of £76,412).

c. Ghacosa/Ghana Community Awards

No awards ceremonies were held for the year due to COVID 19 restrictions on activities. Ghana Union hopes to continue this in the future.

d. Calabash/Ghana Union Newsletter

The Ghana Union Magazine is a community publication created by Ghana Union. The Ghana Union Newsletter (formerly Calabash) magazine was reinstated and been running for six years to date.

The sixth edition of the Ghana Union newsletter was published in October 2019 and the magazine will continue to be published biannually. The previous copy was published in October 2019 for the Ghana Union 40th anniversary celebration. With COVID 19 impact on the world activities it has been difficult to publish the next issue. The publication of the newsletter would soon resume.

e. GHANA UNION YOUTH AND (STAR PROJECT)

Ghana Union Youth (GUY) star project is an initiative of The Ghana Union and it is run by young leaders who aspire to make a difference in the lives of the Ghanaian youth living in the Diaspora.

1. The GUY Star project now runs Ghanaian language classes in Twi and Ga for the youth, young adults and adults at The College of Northeast London (COLNEY), Tottenham High Road, N17 Haringey Near Seven Sisters station. The language classes started initially for free for the first set of lessons but there is now a £5.0 nominal charge per lesson. The classes are held Saturday mornings in North London. From April 2020 with COVID19 these classes are now held online on Zoom.

2. These events would be funded from the surplus of the Ghana Union reserves and World remit sponsorships. We are also seeking further sponsorships and grants and if successful would increase the youth activities to be organised.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE-cont...

3. Ghana Union would continue to promote young people's networking and engagement events and in partnership with other groups or association for mutual benefits.
4. Ghana Union to Promote the "Youth" agenda, encouraging talents, enterprise and apprenticeship networks.

f. Ghanaian Community Centre and (The Launch at Parliament House-July 2018) AND MARCH 2019

The Ghanaian Community Centre has been at the forefront of Ghana Union since 1995.

"The Dream is for the Ghanaian community to have a centre they can call their own and one they can be proud of. A large hall for public functions and indoor sports, several meeting rooms, computer /internet cafe training rooms and offices are but some of the facilities that can be provided at the centre".

The Ghanaian Community Centre has been at the fore of Ghana Union however, pledges have not always been honoured and additional funds are generally raised via Ghana Union's main income supply - the Ghana Independence Dinner Dance. There was a committee formed during the year 2010-11 from the Ghanaian communities and individuals to revive the plan and pursue the acquisition of the Ghana resource Centre. The progress has been slow due to lack of funding to support the search for the property.

This initiative has been given a fresh focus by the Ghana Union board now and in the coming year.

The Community Centre Initiative Launch was held at Parliament House, Churchill Room-July 2018.

There was a relaunch of the Community centre initiative in March 2019 at House of Commons, Parliament house.

As a result of the renewed effort to make the Ghanaian community centre project a reality a finance and purchase model was launched in July 2018 at the Churchill room in the House of Parliament, Westminster where Ghana High Commission, Ghanaian group leaders, Churches, firms, businesses, sponsors and potential investors were invited to participate in the launch. The launch proved successful and Ghana Union would now be holding further road shows at various venues and groups to encourage participation in the project. We estimate the initial capital needed to start the project of about £2.0M (two million pounds). There was a relaunch in March 2019 and a special vehicle (SPV) Company has been formed to proceed with the initiative. So far, some groups and individuals have paid their shares to the company. These monies would form part of the deposit towards the purchase of the Community centre. Ghana Union has also paid for two ordinary shares at the cost of £20,000, that is £10,000 per share in the Ghanaian Property Services Company Ltd (SPV) to enable the purchase of the Ghanaian community centre with other community groups and investors.

The COVID 19 pandemic has had an impact on the speed and progress of the SPV company

g. Ghana Union Advisory service:

Ghana Union has continued to offer the Ghana Community advisory service in, immigration, employment, family affairs, marital problems, welfare, social, health, racial integration, and other areas. We have a pool of legal experts, medical and many others. The service was as a result of our March 2014 dinner dance fund raising pledge. This service is still available, but this is now offered on booked appointments only.

h. Ghana Diaspora homecoming Summit Committee UK

Three members of Ghana Union board served on the Ghana Diaspora homecoming Summit Committee UK. The UK Homecoming Summit Committee plays a vital role in the success of the Diaspora Summit planning which normally take place in Accra International Centre, Ghana. No summit held in 2021 due to COVID 19 restrictions.

i. The Future of Ghana Union

Following on from our last leader's conference in October 2015 and risk management assessment training, the years ahead will be much more challenging but equally rewarding.

By 2023, Ghana Union aims to be delivering a structured range of support and services for individuals and community organisations backed by sound research. We are yet to commence the work on the research project. Funds may be available to carry out this research.

GHANA UNION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

j. Ccovid-19 impact, threats and opportunities

With COVID 19 impact on all organisations and businesses in the world, Ghana Union's vision and mission of structured range of services and support was affected.

Ghana Union has now re-structured the way it works, supports and delivers its services with organisations and public, it is now offering more online broadcast, Virtual talks and telecasts services, advisory services as opposed to face-to-face meetings.

This range of content delivery will be constantly reviewed with the changes offered according to the evolving COVID 19 situations.

Ghana Union also continues to partner with Uncle Johns bakery in North London, Omega TV, Access Media, Ghana Nurses Association (GNA), Western Region Nurses Association (WRAN) and our sponsors to serve the vulnerable members of the Ghanaian community in time of their various needs.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees are aware that a prudent financial management of the charity requires that some funds are put aside for a "rainy day". After considering the contractual obligations of the charity, such as premises and other leasing obligations the trustees have decided that they would require to hold funds in reserve, equivalent to a minimum of six months total operating expenditure. This means a total of approximately £15,000 for the current financial year. The current level of free reserves adequately satisfies the charity's reserves policy. The trustees plan to generate funds to increase the current level of Reserves.

Funds in deficit

There are no funds currently in deficit.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



A. Shardow (Treasurer) - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GHANA UNION**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages six to twelve.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees (and also the directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 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.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



E H TURKSON ACMA CGMA
456 High Road
Leyton
London
E10 6QE

Date: 25 September 2021

GHANA UNION

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total 2021 funds £	Total 2020 funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		40,398	-	40,398	69,634
Investment income	2	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>25</u>
Total incoming resources		40,400	-	40,400	69,659
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		32,635	-	32,635	67,661
Governance costs		<u>1,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,626</u>	<u>5,594</u>
Total resources expended		34,261	-	34,261	73,255
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES					
		6,139	-	6,139	(3,596)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		4,680	20,000	24,680	28,276
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>10,819</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>30,819</u>	<u>24,680</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5	390	-	390	487
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	1,191	-	1,191	887
Investments	7	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>10,178</u>	-	<u>10,178</u>	<u>4,346</u>
		11,369	20,000	31,369	25,233
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(940)	-	(940)	(1,040)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>10,429</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>30,429</u>	<u>24,193</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>10,819</u>	20,000	30,819	24,680
NET ASSETS		<u>10,819</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>30,819</u>	<u>24,680</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	9			10,819	4,680
Restricted funds				<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>30,819</u>	<u>24,680</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

GHANA UNION

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 MARCH 2021

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

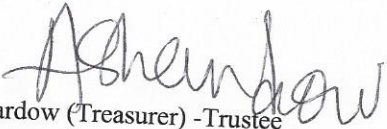
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 25 September 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



A Shardow (Treasurer) - Trustee



E Quayson (Chair) - Trustee

25/9/21

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery	- 20% on reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

Interest receivable	2021	2020
	£	£
	<u>2</u>	<u>25</u>

3. NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES

Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting):

Depreciation - owned assets	2021	2020
	£	£
	<u>97</u>	<u>121</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

GHANA UNION

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>2,156</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>2,652</u>	<u>5,338</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2020	2,065	508	2,278	4,851
Charge for year	<u>18</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>97</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,083</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>2,353</u>	<u>4,948</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2021	<u>73</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>390</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>91</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>487</u>

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Accrued Income	<u>1,191</u>	<u>887</u>

7. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Investments-Gh Pty Services	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Accrued expenses	<u>940</u>	<u>1,040</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,680	6,139	10,819
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,000	-	20,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>24,680</u>	<u>6,139</u>	<u>30,819</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	40,400	(34,261)	6,139
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>40,400</u>	<u>(34,261)</u>	<u>6,139</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted Funds				
General fund	23,327	(4,596)	(14,051)	4,680
Restricted Funds				
Restricted fund	4,949	1,000	14,051	20,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>28,276</u>	<u>(3,596)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,680</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,659	(73,255)	(4,596)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	1,000	-	1,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>69,659</u>	<u>(73,255)</u>	<u>(3,596)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	23,327	1,543	(14,051)	10,819
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	4,949	1,000	14,051	20,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>28,276</u>	<u>2,543</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,819</u>

GHANA UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

9. **MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	109,059	(107,516)	1,543
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>110,059</u>	<u>(107,516)</u>	<u>2,543</u>