



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>-</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>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>30,819</u>	<u>24,680</u>
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.

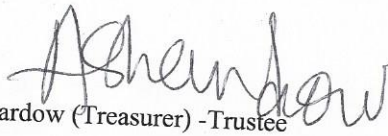
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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 Sharrow (Treasurer) - Trustee


E Quayson (Chair) - Trustee
25/9/21

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

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

3. NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES

Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
Depreciation - owned assets	£	£
	<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><u>110,059</u></u>	<u><u>(107,516)</u></u>	<u><u>2,543</u></u>