



# **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORT**

**Company Registration      5820675**

**Charity Registration      1124248**

**For the Financial Year  
To 31st May 2023**

**Registered Office: 3 Tresillian Street, Plymouth PL4 0QP**

**Contact: Louise Barnes, Chief Executive**

**Telephone: 01752 227447**

**e-mail: [admin@eldertreebefriending.co.uk](mailto:admin@eldertreebefriending.co.uk)**

**website: [www.eldertreeplymouth.co.uk](http://www.eldertreeplymouth.co.uk)**

## **Index**

- **Chairperson's Introduction** **Page 3**
- **Legal and Administrative Details** **Page 4**
- **Report of the Management Board** **Page 5-8**
- **Financial Statement** **Page 9-11**
- **Statement of Financial Activities (P&L)** **Page 12**
- **Annual Balance Sheet** **Page 13**
- **Notes to the Accounts** **Page 14-17**
- **Auditor's Report** **Page 18**

## Introduction

It has been another challenging year for the Elder Tree as our existing beneficiaries have grappled with coming to terms with life post Covid-19 and the charity has experienced a considerable increase in the number of new beneficiaries requiring our support. However, it has also been a great year with the return of some of the annual events that we were unable to run for the previous two years because of the pandemic – notably, the Barn Dance and Birmingham Royal Ballet workshop day which really stand out as two highlights of the last 12 months.

We have also been delighted to receive funding from the Rank Foundation this year. The first grant was part of their Plymouth Participatory Grantmaking Programme and will support our new dementia carer project for the next 2 years and the second comprised 2 Cost of Living grants which have helped with the exponential rent increases we have experienced in this last year. We are very appreciative of this support from the Rank Foundation.

The last 12 months have also seen some changes in the Elder Tree team with 4 members of staff retiring, 1 relocating, 1 moving on to pastures new and 5 new members of staff joining us. The most significant departure was that of Robbie Nairn, CEO for 16 years, whose passion and drive shaped the charity into the well-respected organisation it is today. He will be greatly missed but his incredible contribution to the lives of older people across the city will not be forgotten and we wish him all the very best for his retirement. Robbie has been replaced by Louise Barnes, former Operations Manager for the charity, and her previous role has been filled by former Trustee, Elliott Malone. Because both of these individuals have a long and invested history with the charity, the move into their respective roles has been seamless for both the beneficiaries and staff alike and the Trustees are delighted with the smooth transition.

This year we have also said goodbye to Barbara James, one of our long-standing Trustees who has relocated. We are very grateful to her for the dedication and commitment she has shown to the charity over the years. Anne Blight has joined us as a Trustee this year; as an Elder Tree beneficiary and volunteer for many years, Anne will be a wonderful asset to the Board.

As we come out of the other side of the Covid period, we reflect on how much the charity has grown in terms of numbers of beneficiaries and activities delivered compared to the pre-pandemic days. However, what is clearly evident is that the charity has never wavered from the core values and ethos that were set out by the co-founders in 1994 and alleviating social isolation and loneliness remains at the very heart of what Elder Tree does.

The coming year will no doubt present further challenges and we will continue to work with our partners to support our beneficiaries through the continuing cost of living crisis. Despite these demands, I have absolute faith that the charity will continue to deliver the exemplary support that is recognised across the city and maintain its reputation as a trusted voice and advocate for older people living in Plymouth.

Irene Tonkin  
Chairperson



## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS AS AT 31st MAY 2023

<b>Chair</b>	Irene Tonkin - Founder
<b>Company Secretary (Non Exec)</b>	Louise Barnes
<b>Directors</b>	Annie Harris Diane Gavin Maureen Perilli Sally Parkes Jane Pawson Anne Blight
<b>Chief Executive</b>	Louise Barnes
<b>Operations Manager</b>	Elliott Malone
<b>Business Manager</b>	Fraser Ball

### Staff

Nadine Ball	Vicky Kimberley
Chantal Bracey	Keely Lynn
Paul Burdon	Donna Marshall
Adrian Cable	Holly McNamara
Phoebe Cleaver	Susan Miller
Tonia Cleaver	Marie Nethercott
Denise Collinson	Tracy O'Halloran
Theresa Dunbar	Joanne Packham
Carole Elliott	Murray Parkin
Stacey Fowler	Trevor Priest
Linda Frost	Martha Schofield
Phillip Griffin	Yvonne Sullivan
Colleen Harrington	Hazel White
Paula Hocking	

<b>Registered Office</b>	3 Tresillian Street Plymouth PL4 0QP
<b>Company Registration</b>	5820675
<b>Charity Registration</b>	1124248
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Sharon Soady Payroll and Bookkeeping Services
<b>Bankers</b>	Co-operative Bank PLC PO Box 250 Delft Street SKELMERSDALE N8 6WT

*John G. B.*

## **Report of the Management Board**

### **The Trustees present their report for the financial year to 31 May 2023**

#### **Charitable Object:**

The Company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. These state that the Company's main object is:

'To assist, comfort and guide older people who may be in distress by reason of poverty, ill-health, loneliness, social isolation or any other cause; to promote, encourage and foster any objects which may be for the common good of older people resident within Plymouth and the surrounding area'.

#### **Principal Activities:**

- We support over 1600 beneficiaries with the help of 175 amazing volunteers.
- We deliver 92 weekly social inclusion activities in 51 locations close to where people live, with a footprint across the whole city.
- We support 99 of our most vulnerable and housebound beneficiaries in their homes with a volunteer befriender
- The charity delivers an extremely wide range of weekly activities including Active Lives groups, Active Men's clubs, Craft groups, Coffee and Advice mornings, Lunch and Supper clubs, IT classes, Choirs and Dementia Support groups.
- Physical activity is a key component of what we do and across our Active Lives and Active Men's groups, we deliver 58 weekly exercise based activities. These include Seated and Standing Exercise, Tai Chi, Pilates, Cardio Fit, Walking Groups, Bowling and Kurling, engaging over 900 of our beneficiaries each week.
- Working with NHS Devon and Livewell Southwest, we deliver a specific 24 week Strength and Balance Falls Prevention programme in six locations across Plymouth, West Devon and the South Hams with 72 beneficiaries taking part at any one time.
- We support 205 beneficiaries in 5 Extra Care schemes delivering a full programme of daily social inclusion activities every week in each venue.
- We work with Adult Social Care and Plymouth City Council with Additional Services provision fulfilling non-domiciliary parts of care packages such as shopping, pharmacy collections and befriending, delivering approximately 4600 hours of support in the year.

#### **Description of the Company's Organisation:**

The Company is run by a Board of Trustees and is supported by 175 volunteers and 30 paid staff: the Chief Executive, Operations Manager, Business Manager and 27 Project and Support Workers.

### **Trustees Interests:**

No Trustee has a beneficial interest in the Company.

### **Trustees Responsibilities:**

The Trustees are responsible for the Company in line with the relevant legislation for companies limited by guarantee and registered charities. They oversee the activities of the charity against a robust Assurance and Governance Framework and conduct routine Assurance and Governance visits and report their findings formally to the Management Board.

### **Inaugural General Meeting:**

The Elder Tree Ltd was incorporated on 17 May 2006 but it was entitled to an exemption under Section 249A (2) of the Companies Act 1985. The Company started trading on 1 June 2008 and held its Inaugural General Meeting on 23 July 2008.

### **Meetings of the Board of Trustees:**

19 July	2022
27 September	2022
29 November	2022
31 January	2023
28 March	2023
30 May	2023

In addition, individual Trustees conducted Governance and Assurance checks on the following dates:

Financial Assurance	7 September 2022	15 March 2023
Contract Assurance	24 October 2022	20 April 2023
Active Volunteers	28 September 2022	22 March 2023
Referral Pathway	19 October 2022	24 April 2023
HR Systems, Security, Digital	4 October 2022	21 March 2023
Evaluation	10 October 2022	9 May 2023
Active Lives	13 October 2022	11 May 2023
Active Men	23 August 2022	21 March 2023
Policies and Procedures	19 October 2022	

### **Employees and Volunteers:**

Company staff and volunteers are recruited and employed in accordance with our Equality and Recruitment policies.

## **Trustees:**

The Board of the Elder Tree Ltd is made up of 7 Trustees who reflect the communities and beneficiaries we serve; two of the Trustees are also beneficiaries and one is a volunteer.

The original Trustees were elected in 2006 for a three year term. The Trustees currently under review after the end of their 3 year term are Irene Tonkin, Maureen Perilli, Diane Gavin and Jane Pawson and their future tenure with the charity will be determined at the 3 October 2023 Management Board meeting.

Irene Tonkin - Chair (2023)  
Maureen Perilli (2023)  
Diane Gavin (2023)  
Sally Parkes (2024)  
Annie Harris (2025)  
Jane Pawson (2023)  
Anne Blight (2025)

## **Annual Summary:**

After two years of supporting our beneficiaries through the challenging Covid lockdowns and subsequent re-emerging period, this last 12 months has seen our service resume its normal operation. It has remained a challenging time as many of our more vulnerable beneficiaries have required the continued additional support from our staff to regain their confidence to return to activities but, as always, the team has been outstanding. We were very fortunate to sustain a high number of volunteers throughout the pandemic and they continue to be unwavering in their support of the charity - we are indebted to the commitment and dedication of this very special group of people.

This year, we have developed our offer for individuals living with dementia and their carers. Those living with dementia are welcome at any of our activities but we also have a specific dementia programme for those requiring more specialised support which includes reminiscence sessions, a dementia choir and a specific men's sporting themed group run in partnership with Argyle Community Trust. This year, we have started to roll out a programme of specific carers groups co-located alongside our dementia groups to give carers a breathing space away from the person they care for. It is becoming increasingly apparent that familial carers for people living with dementia need that time out but often do not want to be far away from their loved one. The new programme addresses this issue and has got off to a flying start.

Our Strength and Balance Falls prevention programme has also developed this year. We have been delivering this in Plymouth since 2019 but, following a request from NHS Devon, this year has seen it expand into West Devon and the South Hams and we now provide this service in Tavistock, Ivybridge and Kingsbridge as well.

The challenge for us going forward is the exponential growth in older people who need our support. Over the past 12 months, we have seen a significant increase in the number of referrals to us and currently, on average, we are receiving 70 referrals a month. In addition,

the level of complexity in these referrals is also increasing with a large proportion of the beneficiaries having long term physical and/or mental health conditions. We have also seen a marked increase in referrals for people in their 50s, the vast majority of whom have complex health issues. This is demanding and has stretched the criteria of who we support but we recognise that the increase in referrals reflects the pressures that our statutory partners are facing and we are offering support options and solutions to successfully integrate these individuals into our activities as we know that this increased activity is very much preventative in nature and helps to reduce demand for primary, secondary and social care services.

We continue to deliver 48 weeks of provision each year to ensure that support is regular, consistent and ongoing and, as well as at groups, our project workers maintain contact with individuals in between sessions on the phone or at home visits if necessary and appropriate. We see this as crucial in maintaining continuity and providing effective support to our beneficiaries.

The past 12 months have been demanding and there is little sign of need or activity levels abating in the future. However, our partnerships are strong and the contracts we hold with Plymouth City Council have been extended to April 2025. We remain determined to continue delivering an outstanding and exciting set of opportunities to older people resident in the Plymouth and surrounding areas.



**Louise Barnes**  
**Chief Executive**

## **Finance for the Year Ending 31st May 2023**

### **Income**

This year our Befriending Support, Social Inclusion and Non-Dom Care Support Contracts with Plymouth City Council ("PCC") have generated income totalling £506,415. While this figure is slightly lower than last year, it still represents just under 70% of our total income figure.

Our groups and activities have been able to generate income of £104,097, up significantly from last year's figure of £65,205. Our business model remains unchanged in that any attendance money received is set towards group running costs but is not intended to recover the full costs incurred. Our volunteers are also vital in helping to run and support our services.

The income generated from our Non-Dom Care Support activities is there to reimburse us for shopping and other expenditure made on behalf of certain beneficiaries. As this income is used as an offset, there should be a zero net gain.

Our Strength and Balance programme commissioned by NHS Devon ICB has earned £34,845 during our financial year. This funding covers a 2 year period.

We have received an additional £32,008 from the National Lottery Community Fund flowing from our "Active Men" grant which has included an additional cost of living uplift. The Rank Foundation has also provided £29,672 to begin funding our Breathing Space initiative to support the carers of people with dementia.

Incorporating accruals and credits, our service level agreement with Livewell Southwest should generate income of £10,728.

We were grateful to receive donations totalling £3,750 including those made in memory of former beneficiaries. A Household Grant of £2,500 was made by PCC to help our beneficiaries with regard to food and essentials over the winter period. We have also continued to support student placements and in turn, were reimbursed a total of £2,172.

A proportion of our unrestricted funds invested in our CAF Bank Fixed Rate Saver Account realised interest of £525.46. To take advantage of higher interest rates, these funds have been reinvested for a further 12-month period and our Trustees have also agreed to invest a second sum in a similar fixed term investment.

Overall, compared to last year our income for this financial year dropped by just over 10%.

### **Expenditure**

Our biggest expenditure relates to wages and on costs and over this financial period 6 members of staff have left, including our outgoing CEO, and 5 have been recruited. Compared to last year, wages and on costs have increased by approximately 6%. This includes a 3% pay rise awarded to most staff members by the Trustees to recognise their continued performance and to help with the cost of living crisis. The costs saving of having one less employee will not have an effect until the new financial year.

Where cost effective to do so, we have also continued to employ sessional workers to cover various groups.

Apart from volunteer expenses and training costs, we have seen larger than expected increases to our expenditure compared to last year's figures.

The venue rent we have paid has increased by over 40%, as increased energy costs have meant the majority of the venues we use have revised their hire charges. Worried about their survival, some church halls have increased their charges for the first time in 5 years and some venues have made multiple increases in less than 12 months.

Staff travel costs have also doubled due mostly to petrol prices being high. To help staff members, we temporarily reimbursed their expenses at an increased mileage rate.

Project expenditure has also increased particularly with regard to higher coffee and food prices used in our groups. Also included is the expenditure from our Non-Dom Care Support activities relating to shopping and other expenditure. In line with income, this element should represent a zero net loss.

This year our insurance premiums are higher as for the added protection of the Charity, we have included professional indemnity insurance to our existing liability policy.

Our budget lines are consistently reviewed at Board level and will remain carefully managed to ensure we operate efficiently against our monthly predicted Forecast of Outturn statements.

### **In Year Profit**

As indicated by our monthly Forecast of Outturn statements as the year progressed, we have a deficit of £75,617 for this financial year. An income shortfall was anticipated due to the loss of our partnership with Sporting Memories Network and our National Lottery "Befriending Extend" grant ending. However, the cost of living crisis had a much more detrimental effect on our operations.

The balance of our accounts and cash in hand is £296,190. Unrestricted funds of just over £75,000 are on deposit in our CAF Bank Fixed Rate Saver account and the remaining balance is held in our main Co-Operative Bank account of which £129,622 is restricted and £91,503 unrestricted.

### **Future Financial Plan**

In light of this year showing a deficit, measures have already been put in place to seek alternative funding and to increase income. Raising our attendance fees by £1 from the beginning of May, will generate additional revenue but we hope will have minimal impact on our beneficiaries.

Our long-term Befriending Support, Social Inclusion and Non-Dom Care Support Contracts with PCC have all been extended and we will be seeking further extensions beyond April 2025.

The income we receive from our PCC contracts continues to represent Elder Tree's core funding, allowing us the flexibility to submit bids to alternative funders. This is important at the present time and has allowed us to make successful bids to the Rank Foundation.

We will monitor what effect the cost of living crisis continues to have on our operations and if necessary, will seek financial assistance to mitigate its impact.

**Contingency Plans**

Our unrestricted funds are there to meet any deficits not covered by income in any one year and to enable the Charity to continue to operate in the event of a major withdrawal of external funding. The Charity considers it prudent to establish reserves to support 3 months of trading, with a view to working towards 6 months.

In the event of our contracts with PCC not being renewed, we would be given 6 months' notice of cancellation and we have an operating plan in place should this occur.

As we value partnership working with both statutory and non-statutory organisations in the Plymouth area, we would endeavour to generate additional funds to support any new initiative or activity that might be of benefit to the Charity.

## THE ELDER TREE LTD

Profit and Loss account and Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
		£	£	£	£
Grants & Other Income	3	109,292	618,538	727,830	812,423
Interest receivable		525		525	329
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b><u>109,817</u></b>	<b><u>618,538</u></b>	<b><u>728,355</u></b>	<b><u>812,752</u></b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Cost of generating funds	4	41,053	0	41,053	47,439
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Project application	5		734,294	734,294	644,466
Governance costs	6	475	28,150	28,625	27,436
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b><u>41,528</u></b>	<b><u>762,444</u></b>	<b><u>803,972</u></b>	<b><u>719,341</u></b>
<b>Net income resources being net movement in funds</b>		<b>68,289</b>	<b>(143,906)</b>	<b>(75,617)</b>	<b>93,411</b>
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>97,804</b>	<b>273,528</b>	<b>371,332</b>	<b>371,332</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>166,093</b>	<b>129,622</b>	<b>295,715</b>	

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

**THE ELDER TREE LTD**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		296,190	371,807
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(475)	(475)
<b>Net current assets</b>		295,715	371,332
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>295,715</u>	<u>371,332</u>
General		166,093	97,804
Restricted funds		129,622	273,528
		<u>295,715</u>	<u>371,332</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and that no member or members have requested the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirement of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company's regime of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for smaller entities effective April 2008.

These financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on the date below and signed on their behalf by:

Signed I. E. Tonkin Dated 1.11.2023

I Tonkin – Chairperson for the Elder Tree Ltd

Signed A. Harris Dated 1.11.2023

A Harris – Director of the Elder Tree Ltd

2505 - 11 - 1

1890 3. 1

## THE ELDER TREE LTD

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities effective April 2008 and follow the recommendation in accounting and reporting by charities.

**Grants** are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate. The SOFA distinguished between unrestricted and restricted funds.

**Resources expended** are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. Wherever possible these expenses are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate. However, certain costs are apportioned on a basis which is an estimate of the amount attributable to each activity. Charitable activities undertaken are analysed in Note 5 and Support Costs and their allocation are taken into consideration. Governance Costs are disclosed in Note 6.

**Depreciation** is provided to write off the costs of each asset over its expected useful life which in all cases is estimated to be four years. Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £2,000.

**Taxation.** Based on information provided to HM Revenue & Customs they have confirmed that for tax purposes The Elder Tree Ltd is a charitable Company and therefore exempt from corporation tax.

**Pensions cost.** The charity makes payment in line with recommendations by the government into an employee's workplace pension schemes. The annual contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities, in accordance with FRS17.

**Critical Accounting Estimates and Areas of Judgment** Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

**Restricted funds.** Restricted funds are to be used for the specific purpose laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

**Unrestricted funds.** Unrestricted funds consist of funds which the charity may use for its purpose, at its discretion. It is the policy of the charity to ensure availability of adequate funds for present and future liabilities and in the event of a change in income circumstances.

- 2 **Legal status of the charity.** The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

## THE ELDER TREE LTD

Notes to the Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

### 3 Incoming resources from activities to further the charity's objectives

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Supporting People		506,415	506,415
NL – Community Fund		32,008	32,008
Project Income Generated	104,097		104,097
NHS Devon ICB		34,845	34,845
Rank Foundation		29,672	29,672
Livewell S.W.		10,728	10,728
PCC – Household Grant		2,500	2,500
Donations	3,750		3,750
University of Plymouth		1,772	1,772
EDF Energy	873		873
PCC – Polling Station	450		450
Well Connected		200	200
PDSE/Dental Students		200	200
Currys Business		145	145
Amazon Smile Programme	84		84
Scottish Widows		53	53
Other	38		38
	<b><u>109,292</u></b>	<b><u>618,538</u></b>	<b><u>727,830</u></b>

The restricted income was in respect of all of our Befriending Projects

## THE ELDER TREE LTD

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

### 4 Cost of generating funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Staff Costs	39,381		39,381
Stationery/Telephone Etc.	1,672		1,672
	<u>41,053</u>		<u>41,053</u>

### 5 Charitable activities: Project applications

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Staff Costs		505,902	505,902
Project Expenditure		66,475	66,475
Rent		43,924	43,924
Office Costs/Equipment		12,529	12,529
Staff Travel		7,601	7,601
Others		4,494	4,494
Insurance		3,180	3,180
Telephone/Internet		2,604	2,604
Volunteer Expenses		1,743	1,743
Database/Website		911	911
Training		445	445
Memberships		35	35
		<u>649,843</u>	<u>649,843</u>
Support costs and overheads (see note 6)		84,451	84,451
		<u>734,294</u>	<u>734,294</u>

**Applied to all Elder Tree Befriending Projects**

## THE ELDER TREE LTD

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

### 6 Support costs and overheads

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Staff Costs		106,200	106,200
Insurance		3,180	3,180
Telephone/Internet		1,589	1,589
Office Costs		1,415	1,415
Database/Website		177	177
Travel		40	40
Rent		0	0
Independent Review	475		475
	<u>475</u>	<u>112,601</u>	<u>113,076</u>
Apportioned:			
Support Costs (5)		84,451	84,451
Governance	<u>475</u>	<u>28,150</u>	<u>28,625</u>
	<u>475</u>	<u>112,601</u>	<u>113,076</u>

Governance has been calculated as 25% of the total support costs on the basis of time spent together with the whole costs of the review.

### 7 Creditors: amount falling due within one year to include auditor's remuneration

Creditors: 475

### 8 Related Parties

No expenses were reimbursed to any of the trustees.

THE ELDER TREE LTD

27.9.23

Reviewers Report

Independent Review Report

To the Trustees of the Elder Tree Ltd

I have reviewed the accounts of the Elder Tree Ltd in order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 May 2023 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

**Responsibilities of the Trustees**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that a full audit is not required for the year (under section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the Accounts (under section 43 (3) (a) of the 1993 Act) and to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43 (7) (b) of the 1993 Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Independent Examiners Report**

For the Financial year ended 31 May 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 Companies Act 2006. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and if its profit or loss for the 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 accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small company's regime of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

There is strong evidence throughout the accounts of the Trustees regular involvement to adhere to the Governance of the Financial Affairs.

The information given in the trustees report is consistent with the accounts.

Sharon Soady MAAT/MIP  
Independent Review



