



**Trustees' annual report &
accounts**

for the year ended

31 March 2024

The British Union of Spiritist Societies is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.
BUSS is its operating name.

Charity registration number
1136512

Registered Office
Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, London E2 6HG

Objectives and activities

1. The British Union of Spiritist Societies (BUSS) exists as a Charity for the advancement of Spiritism for the benefit of the public in accordance with the Christian principles established in the Five Books of the Spiritist Codification (the Spirits' Book, the Mediums' Book, the Gospel according to Spiritism, Genesis, and Heaven and Hell).
2. BUSS updated its Constitution and now is CIO, since November 2019. We are a non-profit organisation and, in accordance with our Charity's objectives, we promote the study and dissemination of the moral values of the Spiritist Christian principles. We do this by:
 - hosting seminars, conferences and educational events
 - supplying Spiritist publications through our bookstore
 - giving leadership, counselling and advice to Spiritist societies and groups across the UK.
3. At BUSS we seek to provide public benefit in all that we do. We confirm that the trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011. In addition, we ensure that this guidance and other relevant Charity Commission guidance are provided to every trustee on their election into office.
4. All our CIO's workers are unpaid volunteers. We are very grateful to them for donating their time, skills and experience. Additionally, we are thankful to BUSS's friends for their financial support through donations. These generous gifts of time, skills and funds have enabled BUSS to have another successful year in promoting Spiritist Christian values.

Achievements and performance

5. The main channels used by BUSS to promote Spiritist teachings are events, lectures, and books. Continuing the trend post-pandemic, many of our activities are hybrid combining online and face-to-face attendance, allowing for wider participation of Spiritist groups spread in the UK as well as other parts of the globe.
6. The referenced year was another year of adaptation, that saw the groups intensify efforts to re-establish their face-to-face activities. BUSS has extended the support available to groups offering Zoom account and use of BUSS online channels for advertisement and outreach to a wider audience.
7. This year was marked by initiatives to bring the groups together more frequently so that they could draw support from one another when facing similar challenges.
8. As in previous years, we maintained the initiatives of hosting and co-hosting several events, talks and workshops as a result of the joint effort of our volunteers and partners which are described below.

Our activities

9. Books continued to be sold via Amazon (FBA), which stores and delivers books directly to clients, removing the need to manage logistics direct to buyers. Via FBA, books are sent into Amazon warehouse according to sales, keeping a safe and low maintenance system. However, given the lack of volunteers to help actively manage the account, our inventory was not kept at the levels needed during the year, which affected sales.
10. The Mediums' book course was continued free of charge via zoom on Saturdays, as a collaboration of BUSS and some group members which enhanced the spread of Spiritist knowledge, particularly regarding to mediumship topics.
11. BUSS and partners continued the recurrent online talks and programs like Spiritual Light, Coffee Break with Kardec and Time to Talk. The programs covered different days of the week with guest from various countries to discuss Spiritist topics.
12. Throughout 2023 BUSS or member groups participated in the online event: European Spiritist Gathering; ensuring the maintenance of relationship with other federations and groups outside the UK.
13. During 2023, as part of the commitment to simplify the bookstore, the need for reducing fixed cost and spread Spiritist publications, BUSS offered free donations of books (multiple titles) to individuals part of group members of the CIO.
14. During the AGM the CIO defined as one of its priorities to re-establish BUSS' online presence including: re-launch of website, creation of virtual identity, review how content is made available in the platforms, establish an online calendar for events from the group members.
15. Website was relaunched with support of professional web designer, with the intention to streamline and modernise the site making it easier for users to find groups and events. Information on meetings held by member groups was updated and the groups can now submit their events to be included in the calendar directly through the website.
16. As a celebration of the classic authors, in December 2023 we concluded the monthly lectures regarding the life and books of Gabriel Delanne with the support of many groups from the UK and internationally.
17. In May 2023, the CIO initiated two weekly mediumship meetings, one online and one face-to-face. During this period, many of the group members were slowly re-establishing their face-to-face initiatives. Considering many groups had not had the opportunity to resume mediumship work, BUSS decided to organise mediumship meetings and extend an invitation to all group members in case they had experienced mediums that were interested in joining. Members of 4 groups joined this initiative.
18. In June 2023 we updated the global directory of Spiritist Groups ensuring all groups known to be active by BUSS were listed, as part of the commitment to facilitate people to find spiritual support and join the Spiritist movement when needed.

19. In June 2023, expanding its support to spreading the word about spiritism, BUSS donated a few books (Spirits book and Gospel According to Spiritism) to a new group interested in starting activities in Cyprus.
20. On 2nd of September BUSS partnered with group Francis of Assisi in an event for Suicide Prevention with guests Tato Savi and Luciana Oliveira. The event was included in the online publication 'Spiritist Radar', expanding the reach of the event.
21. On 23rd September 2023 we hosted a special talk with Guest speaker Dan Assisi on topic: Jesus, Leader: Leadership insights in the new era. The event was open to the public and had over 20 participants from multiple groups.
22. On November BUSS organised a workshop: Spiritist education for adults, targeting study group coordinators with guests Marlon Reikdal and Patricia Barbieri.
23. On 4th of December 2023 the CIO launched a working group 'Fostering Spiritisms in the UK' holding monthly online meetings with the objective to expand the reach of spiritism to the British population, so the group could collaborate on how to adapt the approach to disseminating spiritism in the UK considering the cultural nuances and diversity of the British population.
24. Strengthening BUSS partnerships with external institutions, the CIO engaged with the British Spiritist Medical Association (BSMA) to support them in their monthly webinar program on Medicine and Spirituality, kicking off the activities in December 2023.
25. Continuing the classic authors series, in Jan 2024 we started a new season of lectures exploring the life and literary work of Camille Flammarion. Strengthening the partnership of other groups and federations from Europe, USA and Brazil.
26. Considering the large inventory of books, the lack of volunteers to actively manage the bookstore and the lack of a selling strategy based on who the buyer is (if groups, for example), BUSS organised a consultation on the future of the bookstore with its group members on 25th of Feb 2024. The groups reach a decision to reduce the inventory to simplify its operation. In order to achieve this, BUSS extended the donation program and started the definition of a tiered price discount for group members. The intention in the coming years is to define a strategy to simplify the bookstore operation.

Financial review

27. In the year ending March 2024 our income was £1,637 compared to £5,992 in the previous year. Income from donations was £515. Our other income included £665 from sale of Spiritist publications and £430 from interest.
28. We spent £10,902 in the year, compared to £15,789 in the previous year. Our main expenses were on rent/service charges £3,623, on Publicity and communication £2,083 (which included the initiatives for online presence), and on conferences and events £1,003.

29. Thank you to all our supporters! Overall BUSS's costs exceeded income by £9,265 in the year (compared to £9,796 excess in expenditure in the previous year). As a result, our reserves decreased to £38,007 as of 31 March 2024.

Structure, governance and management

30. BUSS is a charity registered in England and Wales and a company limited by guarantee. The company's Memorandum and Articles of Association form BUSS's governing document, and they set out BUSS's objectives and governance arrangements.
31. BUSS's trustees under the Charities Acts are the directors of the Company for the purposes of the Companies Acts. They receive no remuneration from BUSS. Trustees must be individuals that are members to the groups affiliated to the CIO and are elected through a voting process during the annual general meeting. Here is the list of people who have served as trustees of the charity in the year ended in 31st March 2024:

Vanessa Ferreira Appointed 25 September 2021

Rafael Caldas Appointed 8 October 2022

Andre Abreu Silva Appointed 8 October 2022

Lorraine Reeves-Mclaren Appointed 23 September 2023

Davian Jessamy Resigned on 23 September 2023

Appointed 5 December 2020

Adriano Sugimoto Resigned on 10 May 2023

Appointed 5 December 2020

32. Building from the mission statement established in the previous year, BUSS used it for guidance in defining this year's plans and priorities. As a reminder, the Mission is articulated as:

BUSS is devoted to disseminating Spiritism with the purpose to create waves of positive changes for individuals and the world. We pledge to focus on:

- Promote the fraternal union of the spiritist institutions in the United Kingdom, and the unification of the national Spiritist Movement;

- Promote the study, diffusion, and practice of the Spiritist teachings according to its principles and postulates, and in all its fundamental scientific, philosophical, religious, ethical, and moral aspects;
- Support the member groups, offering at their request guidance on administrative, organisational, and theoretical topics;
- Represent the Spiritist Movement in the United Kingdom.

33. As to achieve its mission, BUSS will be organised as follows:

Board of trustees: responsible to a) define the strategic direction and long-term guidelines, b) define and approve yearly plans and budget, and c) represent the Spiritist Movement in the UK.

- Chairperson: Vanessa Parra
- Treasurer: Rafael Caldas
- Secretary: Andre Abreu Silva
- Other Board Members: Lorraine Reeves-Mclaren

34. Unfortunately, the plans to form an Executive body made of volunteers from the member groups had to be scaled back due to little availability of collaborators. However, the trustees maintained initiatives that would contribute to the progress of the departments, since they represented the priorities of the CIO, as per below:

- Outreach and liaison – During this year, Trustees continued the effort to bring the members groups closer to the CIO with regular interactions with each group, and involving the groups in each decision of BUSS, so the group recovered the understanding that BUSS activities were meant to be co-created with members
- Marketing & Communications – As described previously in the segment ‘Our Activities’ during this year BUSS focussed on reviewing its online presence. With the project ‘Make BUSS buzzing’ we had an assessment of our online fingerprint from our website, facebook page, youtube channel and search engine results. Given the limited resources we focused on re-launching the website with a professional web designer and reviewing BUSS presence in social media to facilitate people finding about the CIO, groups and events.
- Spiritist knowledge – Engaging the groups for a decision on how to maintain the bookshop for the future.
- Spiritist philosophy – Through the multiple events and talks listed before, but specially with the working group for Fostering Spiritisms in the UK and workshop on Spiritism Education for Adults.
- Spiritist science – With the setup of two mediumship meetings open to mediums from the groups.
- Family, Youth and Children Spiritist Education – Given the lack of interest in the event organised in the previous year, and lack of volunteers in this year, this item was de-prioritised. But should remain an area of focus for the future.

Plans for the future

35. BUSS will continue to support the Spiritist movement, supporting members and non-members groups in their initiatives to dissemination of Spiritist teachings throughout the UK.
36. The CIO will remain open to any Spiritist group that is looking for help and guidance. Also, to interact with other religions and sectors that would benefit from the exchange of knowledge.
37. Our activities will continue to be comprised of talks, seminars, events and fraternal assistance.
38. In the next year, BUSS will celebrate its 30th year since creation, planning an event that will bring together the many groups, trustees and volunteers current and past in a commemoration of its history.

In conclusion

39. This year was marked by higher levels of engagement with the group members, facilitating connections between groups, and bringing accountability for the future of the CIO to its members.
40. This was also the year BUSS and the groups saw a more significant return to presential activities, allowing for closer connections and re-igniting the sentiment of inclusion and belonging amongst groups.
41. For the partnership and dedication, the trustees are grateful to the group members.
42. The trustees would like to highlight our appreciation to our volunteers, donors and supporters, without whom our activities would not be possible. We are confident that our Spiritual Benefactors are side by side with us every single minute, guiding and providing all we need to successfully accomplish what needs to be done towards our spiritual growth.

This report is approved by the trustees of BUSS and is signed on their behalf by

Vanessa Parra Ferreira - Chairperson

23 November 2024

British Union of Spiritist Societies

Room 4, 1st floor, Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, Bethnal Green, London E2 6HG

E-mail: office@buss.org.uk

Website: www.buss.org.uk

Tel: 020 77491115

Some events leaflets and images:

Spiritual Light
"EVERY WEDNESDAY"

4pm United States
9pm UK/Ireland
10pm France
11pm Lithuania

Charles Kempf - FR
Elsa Rossi - UK
Nadja Girici (Lithuania)
Silvia Gibbons - UK
Stevan Bertozzo - IR

MSF
BUSS
7SF
KARDEC RADIO

YouTube Facebook

Gabriel Delanne
Series 2023
2nd July
SUNDAY
7pm - 8pm UK

Rafael Caldas

The Apparitions and Materializations
of Living and Dead

KARDEC RADIO BUSS 7SF

Altan KARDEC
FREE online course
THE MEDIUMS' BOOK

Saturdays
10.30am - 11.30 - UK
11.30am - 12.30 - FR
12.30 - 1.30pm - FINLAND

83746503518
Passcode: 1234
Contact: alu@buus.org.uk

Seminário ESPÍRITA
SETEMBRO AMARELO
02 SETEMBRO
10hs

TATTO SAVI

FRANCIS OF ASSISI UK
LOCATION: Waterloo
Action Centre I 14
Baylis Road, Waterloo,
SE1 7AA

LUCIANA OLIVEIRA
VANESSA PARRA
BUSS

Reserve seu vaga: Tatto-Savi.eventbrite.co.uk

DEC 19TH
8:30PM UK

Fortnightly conversations on Mediumship
Episode 62
MEDIUMSHIP WITH JESUS

Time to Talk

Tracy Wadsworth
Rafael Caldas

BUSS KARDEC RADIO

Camille Flammarion
Series 2024

Death and Its Mystery
Before Death: Proofs of
the Existence of the Soul

4th February 2024
7pm GMT

Alexandre Caldini

Organised by Supported by: BUSS KARDEC RADIO 7SF

BRITISH SPIRITIST MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

WEBINAR ON MEDICINE & SPIRITUALITY

9th December 2023, at 2:00 pm
Dr. Paulo César Frutuoso
Topic: "The Underlying Face of Medicine"

Enrol: <https://BSMA.eventbrite.com>

THE UNDERLYING FACE OF MEDICINE

BRITISH SPIRITIST MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

WEBINAR ON MEDICINE & SPIRITUALITY

AT 2:00PM - ONLINE

SAVE THE DATE

9th December 2023	8th June 2024
13th January 2024	13th July 2024
10th February 2024	10th August 2024
9th March 2024	14th September 2024
13th April 2024	9th November 2024
11th May 2024	7th December 2024

Enrol: <https://BSMA.eventbrite.com>

SPIRITISMx 2023
Global Experience, Personal Change
13:30 - Sat 2 Dec, Maidenhead, UK

Altino Mageste
Anne Sinclair
Charles Kempf
Dan Assisi
Humberto Schubert
Silvia Gibbons
Vanessa Parra Ferreira

Info & Tickets
SPIRITISMx2023.eventbrite.com

SAVE
the
DATE

**PUBLIC
CONSULTATION:**
BUSS BOOKSTORE -
SALES STRATEGIES
AND POLICIES

25- FEB, 2024
7PM
ZOOM CALL

CALL DETAILS TO FOLLOW




SAVE
the
DATE

WORKSHOP:
EDUCACAO ESPIRITA PARA ADULTOS
POR MARLON REIKDAL E PATRICIA BARBIERI

RESTRITO A COORDENADORES (ATUAIS OU FUTUROS) DE ESTUDOS
25 NOVEMBRO 2023 - 2:00 - 5:30
EVENTO PRESENCIAL - LOCAL A SER DEFINIDO

CONFIRMAR PRESENÇA: EDUCACAODEADULTOSUK@GMAIL.COM



SAVE
the
DATE

**TALK: JESUS, LEADER: LEARSHIP INSIGHTS FOR
SPIRITIST GROUP LEADERS IN THE NEW ERA**

BY DAN ASSISSI
SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 - 1:30PM.
WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE
(14 BAYLIS RD, LONDON, SE1 7AA)



WORKING
GROUP

**FOSTERING SPIRITISM IN THE UK
EXPANDING THE REACH FOR THE BRITISH POPULATION**

EXPECTED OUTPUTS: STRATEGY, ACTION PLAN AND GUIDELINES
(AS WELL SELECTED ACTIVITIES)

MONTHLY ONLINE MEETING - 1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH, 9PM
RSVP: VANESSA (+44 79 55 466783)



NEXT
GATHERING

27. May, 2023
Duration 1 h 30 min.
Time & time zone
19.00 England etc.
20.00 Germany etc.
21.00 Finland etc.



**EUROPEAN SPIRITIST
GATHERING**

Topic of the month:
Experience sharing -
spiritist activities - each
participant from different
locations will have possibility to
share briefly the latest
experiences and express
eventual doubts

Moderator of the month:
Karen Dittrich (Belgium)

Join virtually ZOOM meeting
84244718290 (passcode: 1234)
<https://zoom.us/join>

Would you like to receive this monthly virtual meeting link and also
other interesting info via WhatsApp? If yes, just contact us.

EUROPEAN SPIRITIST GATHERING - WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

 spiritistlifephilosophy  european.spiritist.gathering@gmail.com
www.european-spiritist-philosophy.webs.com



**BRITISH UNION OF SPIRITIST
SOCIETIES (BUSS) - SEPTEMBER 2023**



Registered Charity No. 1136512

BRITISH UNION OF SPIRITIST SOCIETIES

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report of the Trustees and
unaudited Financial Statements

for the year ended

31 March 2024

Oxford House
Derbyshire Street
London
E2 6HG

British Union of Spiritist Societies

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 March 2024

£	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Income			2
Donations & gift aid	515	4,860	
Charitable activities	692	1,018	
Investments : interest	430	114	
	<u>1,637</u>	<u>5,992</u>	
Expenditure			3
Raising funds	250	2,926	
Charitable activities	7,844	12,856	
Other costs	2,808	7	
	<u>10,902</u>	<u>15,789</u>	
Net Income or (Net Expenditure)	(9,265)	(9,797)	
Total funds at 1 April 2023	57,680	67,477	
Total funds (BUSS Fund) at 31 March 2024	<u>48,415</u>	<u>57,680</u>	7

All income and expenditure are unrestricted for the years ended 31 March 2024 & 2023.

The attached notes are part of these Financial Statements

British Union of Spiritist Societies

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Notes</u>
£					
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets		1		1	6
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks of publications	7,402		10,045		
Debtors :					
Income receivable	2,937		2,937		
Cash at bank and in hand	38,075		44,697		
Total current assets		48,414		57,679	
LIABILITIES					
Creditors : amounts falling due within one year					
Accrued expenses		-		-	
TOTAL NET ASSETS		48,415		57,680	
TOTAL FUNDS (BUSS Fund - Unrestricted)		48,415		57,680	7

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and signed on the Trustees' behalf

by V Parra Ferreira (Trustee and Chairperson)

22 November 2024

British Union of Spiritist Societies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on an income and expenditure (accruals) basis for a going concern. They have been prepared in accordance with the Charity Commission's "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 from January 2019.

Income

Income is recognised for inclusion in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised for inclusion in the Statement of Financial Activities when the liability arises and is classified under headings appropriate to the Charity's activities.

Tangible fixed assets

These are items of office equipment. Depreciation has been provided to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Stocks

Stocks of publications are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds represent income that can be used in accordance with the Charity's objectives at the discretion of the trustees. The Charity operated one unrestricted fund in the year for its general activities, shown in the accounts as BUSS Fund.

Restricted funds represent income that 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. The Charity currently has no restricted funds.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

2 DETAILS OF INCOME

	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
£		
Donations & gift aid	515	4,860
Charitable activities		
Sale of publications	665	660
Conferences and events	27	358
	692	1,018
Investments : interest	430	114
Total	1,637	5,992

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

3 DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE

	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
£		
Raising funds		
Publications & selling costs	250	2,926
Charitable activities		
Donations to charities	270	3,249
Conferences and events	1,033	486
Publicity and communications	2,083	591
Rent and service charges	3,623	6,933
Insurance	835	914
Governance	-	683
	<u>7,844</u>	<u>12,856</u>
Other costs		
Publications stock adjustment	2,643	-
Sundry expenses	165	7
	<u>2,808</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	<u>10,902</u>	<u>15,789</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

4 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Independent examination of the Accounts was not required for 2023-24 and 2022-23.

5 TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES

Trustees donate their time freely to the Charity and no remuneration or other benefits were paid to them.

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

At 31 March 2023, 2024	£	£
Cost		488
Depreciation brought forward	(487)	
charge for year	-	
carried forward		(487)
Net book value		<u>1</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

7 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

(a) 2022-23	Balance at 1 Apr 2022	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31 Mar 2023
BUSS Fund	67,477	5,992	(15,789)	57,680
(b) 2023-24	Balance at 1 Apr 2023	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31 Mar 2024
BUSS Fund	57,680	1,637	(10,902)	48,415

All funds are unrestricted.