

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1154961

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR
ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

Raffingers LLP
Chartered Certified Accountants
19-20 Bourne Court
Southend Road
Woodford Green
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ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

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for the year ended 31 December 2023

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ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. 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) and the Charities Act 2011.

BACKGROUND TO THE WORK OF ASTI

Acid violence is the deliberate use of acid to attack another human being. 80% of victims are women. It can disfigure in seconds, resulting in devastating physical and psychological trauma. Many attacks target women because they spurn sexual advances, marriage proposals or question the authority of men within the family or community. Corrosive attacks often tend to occur in countries where there is significant gender discrimination and weak controls on the availability of corrosives. Corrosives are cheap and an easily available weapon. The UK has the highest reported number of attacks in the world. However, it should be noted that attacks will be under-reported in many countries.

A fear of reprisal and/or a lack of confidence in the policing and judicial systems often deters victims to report the attack.

Depending on the severity of corrosive attacks, a survivor may require dozens of surgical procedures as well as long-term psychological and rehabilitative care. The on-going costs for key interventions such as legal, medical, psychological and rehabilitative for survivors prohibit them from accessing the support they desperately require. Most survivors are economically dependent on their families and do not have funds that can enable them to access these services. Women make up the majority of survivors.

Acid violence is not linked to a particular country, religion or culture. Countries with a high number of attacks often possess a set of common characteristics. These include a weak judiciary and policing systems, poverty, and gender discrimination.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our vision is a world where acid and burns violence has been eliminated and all survivors of acid and burn attacks can access the support necessary to live with dignity and without fear.

Our mission is to serve as an international centre of excellence that campaigns for the global elimination of acid and burns violence, and provides vital support to survivors through a network of in-country partners sharing knowledge, expertise, and best practice.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Supply Chain Report

The easy accessibility of highly corrosive substances such as sulphuric acid, is a major contributory factor to the high number of attacks. By encouraging corporates to undertake strict due diligence and supply chain assessments, we can help minimise easy access to dangerous substances that have been weaponised by perpetrators of acid attacks. Many industries deploy the use of corrosives including the textiles industry.

In 2023, ASTI has worked with partners to create an ASTI 'Look Book'. A Look Book is a communications and marketing tool used by fashion industry (and other industries) brands to showcase latest designs. The Look Book was created with survivor Patricia lefranc, communications company McCann and the renowned portrait and fashion photographer Rankin. ASTI will use the Look Book as a means to reach out to businesses who use corrosive substances in their supply chains and raise awareness on the potential risk of the weaponisation of corrosives. The goal being to encourage companies to ensure their chains are robust and secure to prevent unauthorised access to dangerous substances.

Project Irreversible - A Prevention Initiative

Project Irreversible will deploy the use of a digital graphic novel and tool-kit to highlight the risks and consequences of an acid attack. The novel will tell three stories centred around acid attacks; the stories provide different outcomes. All stories focus largely on perpetrators, highlighting the consequences of an acid attack on both perpetrator and victim. The primary target audience is at risk young people. The plan had been to launch the initiative in 2023. However, due unforeseen delays the aim is to identify potential delivery partners in 2024, with the view to implement in late 2024 or 2025.

Why a digital graphic novel? We believe that a graphic novel will allow us to better engage with groups from disadvantaged backgrounds. There is increasing evidence of the benefits in the use of graphic novels to take on challenging and difficult subjects. The graphic novel is informed by latest evidence, drawing on survivor and perpetrator experiences. The toolkit will be deployed to highlight key topics raised in the graphic novel including:

- Illegality of purchasing controlled substances by under 21's
- Trauma as experienced by survivors and perpetrators - perpetrators can also be victims of trauma due to early experience as victims of violence.
- Repercussions of attack on victim - long-term medical treatment, post-traumatic stress disorder.
- Perpetrator experience of violence from peers and domestic setting, imprisonment for perpetrating attack and the resulting negative impact.

Research

ASTI is working with a local in-country partner to produce research to better understand corrosive violence in Latin America. The research will focus on approx. 5 countries. The aim is to have the report completed in 2024. As well as the Latin America research, ASTI has also undertaken detailed research to gain an understanding of the scale of the problem in the UK through Freedom of Information requests. The research helps to provide a clear picture of corrosive attacks in the UK.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Income in 2023 stood at £282,633 compared to £350,193 in the previous year. At the end of 2023, ASTI's unrestricted funds stood at £223,405. Total funds stood at £223,405.

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

ASTI uses the term 'reserves' as outlined in the SORP Requirements Guidelines which states that 'the term "reserves" has a variety of technical and ordinary meanings, depending on the context in which it is used. In this SORP the term "reserves" (unless otherwise indicated) describes that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available.'

Considering predictions by many economists that the UK is likely to enter into a recession and the possible negative repercussions on fund raised income and the disruptive impact of the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, future reserves policy will factor in unforeseen events, investment in emergency fundraising, funds for programme related investment and basic operational costs for 9 months which stands at approximately £219,000. The Treasurer reviews the finances regularly and works closely with the Executive to monitor reserves.

Material investments

All ASTI funds are presently held with Yorkshire Bank and Natwest Bank.

FUTURE PLANS

The key aims for 2024/25 are:

- Raise awareness on the importance of due diligence across supply chains.
- Recommence work on Project Irreversible, specifically identifying and partnering with local agencies to implement the initiative.
- Finalise and release Latin America research.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

General meetings are held annually where management committee members (trustees) are elected by the members of the board, made up mainly by governors of the organisation. Membership is open to anyone interested in advancing the aims and objectives of the organisation and renewed annually. The management committee also has the power to co-opt new trustees if there are vacancies on the board.

Organisational structure

The board of trustees (hereinafter referred to as "the board") is the governing body of the organisation and aims to meet quarterly. The overall direction of the charity is led by the trustees and the day-to-day responsibility for the operation of the Charity is delegated to the executive director.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees to the Board are given information about the organisation, their roles and responsibilities as a trustee and invited to attend the Centre to find out more about its work. Trustees are offered training during the course of their tenure.

Risk management

The Trustees keep all major risks to the organisation under review. The risk management strategy comprises:

- (a) An annual review of the risks the charity may face
- (b) The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The name of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("the CIO") is Acid Survivors Trust International (ASTI) and its office is located at Fora Space, 42 - 46 Princelet Street, London E1 5LP.

The objects of ASTI ("the CIO") are to:

- advance the education of the general public in all areas relating to acid and burn violence survivors by such means as the trustees think fit with a view to eliminating acid and burn violence worldwide.

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees. Once a Trustee is appointed, a series of steps are taken by ASTI to ensure that the appointee has all the necessary information and training required to carry out the responsibilities. The Trustees must hold at least two ordinary meetings each year with the expectation that a meeting will be held in each quarter of the financial year. At the quarterly Trustees' meeting, the Trustees agree the broad strategy and areas of activity for ASTI, including consideration of the services to be provided, grant making, investment, reserves, risk management policies and performance.

The Trustees monitor ASTI's performance on an on-going basis through quarterly financial reports, trustees meetings and project reviews that cover key measures in charitable activities, fund raising and risk management. They then agree through a vote to undertake any actions that support and enhance ASTI's ability to achieve its goals and objectives. The day to day administration of ASTI is delegated to the staff team.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1154961

Principal address

Fora Building
42-46 Princelet St,
London
E1 5LP

Trustees

Mr A Gulati (Treasurer)
Ms F Horlick (Chairman)
Ms S Nath
Mr P E Q Cust
Ms S Arrowsmith

Independent Examiner

Mr Thurairatnam Sudarshans
Raffingers LLP
Chartered Certified Accountants
19-20 Bourne Court
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ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 December 2023

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14 June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A Gulati', written over the printed name.

Mr A Gulati - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Acid Survivors Trust International

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Acid Survivors Trust International (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Mr Thuraiaratnam Sudarshans

Raffingers LLP
Chartered Certified Accountants
19-20 Bourne Court
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Essex
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14 June 2024

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		282,633	-	282,633	350,182
Other trading activities	2	50	-	50	11
Total		<u>282,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>282,683</u>	<u>350,193</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	3	44,213	-	44,213	32,704
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		234,539	13,000	247,539	168,628
Other		986	-	986	139
Total		<u>279,738</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>292,738</u>	<u>201,471</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		2,945	(13,000)	(10,055)	148,722
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		220,460	13,000	233,460	84,738
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>223,405</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>223,405</u></u>	<u><u>233,460</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

BALANCE SHEET
31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	1,341	-	1,341	417
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	825	-	825	-
Cash at bank and in hand		223,466	-	223,466	236,526
		<u>224,291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>224,291</u>	<u>236,526</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,227)	-	(2,227)	(3,483)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>222,064</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,064</u>	<u>233,043</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>223,405</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>223,405</u>	<u>233,460</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>223,405</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>223,405</u>	<u>233,460</u>
FUNDS	9				
Unrestricted funds				223,405	220,460
Restricted funds				-	13,000
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>223,405</u>	<u>233,460</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14 June 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr A Gulati - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, 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 Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis as the trustees are of the opinion that the charity will meet its liabilities as and when due.

Exemption from preparing cash flow statement

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity not a company, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirements to prepare such a statement under Charities SORP (FRS 102) Update Bulletin 1, Module 14.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the accounts requires the trustees and management to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets.
- allocation of support costs across charitable activities.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-reconcilability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to be present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable activities

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and strategic requirements of the charity and the accountancy fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

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

Computer equipment - 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The company is considered to pass the tests set out in Sch. 6, para. 1 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Pt. 11, Ch. 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or s. 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

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.

Creditors and provision

Creditors and provision are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provision are recognised at the moment the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payments where such discounting is material.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value except for bank loans which are subsequently measured at the carrying value plus accrued interest less repayments. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

Donated goods, facilities and services

Donated goods, facilities and services, including volunteers are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits.

Government grants

Government grants, including non-monetary grants shall not be recognised until there is reasonable assurance that:

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Government grants

(a) the entity will comply with the conditions attaching to them; and
(b) the grants will be received.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investments	50	11
	<u>50</u>	<u>11</u>

3. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Event cost	14,587	15,060
Support costs	29,245	17,644
	<u>43,832</u>	<u>32,704</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	295,182	55,000	350,182
Other trading activities	11	-	11
Total	<u>295,193</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>350,193</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	32,704	-	32,704
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	120,062	48,566	168,628

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 December 2023

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other	139	-	139
Total	<u>152,905</u>	<u>48,566</u>	<u>201,471</u>
 NET INCOME	 142,288	 6,434	 148,722
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	78,172	6,566	84,738
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	 <u>220,460</u>	 <u>13,000</u>	 <u>233,460</u>

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1 January 2023	3,533
Additions	<u>1,371</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>4,904</u>
 DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2023	3,116
Charge for year	<u>447</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>3,563</u>
 NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,341</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>417</u>

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 December 2023

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	825	-
	<u>825</u>	<u>-</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Taxation and social security	307	204
Other creditors	1,920	3,279
	<u>2,227</u>	<u>3,483</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	220,460	2,945	223,405
Restricted funds			
Project irreversible	13,000	(13,000)	-
	<u>233,460</u>	<u>(10,055)</u>	<u>223,405</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	282,683	(279,738)	2,945
Restricted funds			
Project irreversible	-	(13,000)	(13,000)
	<u>282,683</u>	<u>(292,738)</u>	<u>(10,055)</u>

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 December 2023

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,172	142,288	220,460
Restricted funds			
Project irreversible	-	13,000	13,000
Restricted fund	6,566	(6,566)	-
	<u>6,566</u>	<u>6,434</u>	<u>13,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>84,738</u>	<u>148,722</u>	<u>233,460</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	295,193	(152,905)	142,288
Restricted funds			
Project irreversible	55,000	(42,000)	13,000
Restricted fund	-	(6,566)	(6,566)
	<u>55,000</u>	<u>(48,566)</u>	<u>6,434</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>350,193</u>	<u>(201,471)</u>	<u>148,722</u>

Project Irreversible - Deploying the use of a digital graphic novel and tool-kit to highlight the risks and consequences of an acid attack. The primary target audience is the young people at risk of acid attack.

ACID SURVIVORS TRUST INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 December 2023

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023 or 31 December 2022.