

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

England & Wales · Charity number 1156763

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2014-04-22

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

Contact

Address Fotbot
PO Box 2635
Ilford
United Kingdom
IG1 8UA

Phone 07929 624111

Email enquiries@fotbot.org

Website www.fotbot.org

Activities

Objects: 1. TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND RELIEVE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OF STUDENTS FROM THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES WHO ARE STUDYING IN THE UK. 2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES AND THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES. 3. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 18 AND 25 BY PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL VISITS TO THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES 4. TO FURTHER SUCH OTHER PURPOSES AS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE.

Activities: We aim to promote, support and increase awareness of the 260,000 British Citizens that live in the sixteen British Overseas Territories. We want to celebrate the culture, bio-diversity, and history of the territories and support students from the territories studying in the UK as well as holding successful networking/social events to discuss the challenges facing the Overseas Territories.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£50,939	£47,997	-	-
2024-03-31	£41,527	£38,644	-	-
2023-03-31	£55,248	£53,755	-	-
2022-03-31	£41,155	£40,902	-	-
2021-03-31	£16,596	£14,684	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Albert Andrew Poggio GMH OBE	Chair	2019-01-01
Harjinder Jutle		2025-03-12
Philip Richard Smith		2025-03-12
Simon Mark Joseph Leary		2015-02-17

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156763

Accounts



Friends of the British Overseas Territories
(FOTBOT)

**Trustees' Report and
Financial Statements**

1 April 2024

to

31 March 2025

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Number 1156763

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CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	Albert A Poggio GMH OBE (Chair) Simon M J Leary FRSA Harjinder Jutle – appointed 12 March 2025 Philip Smith – appointed 12 March 2025 Andrew M Fox – resigned 12 March 2025
Address	PO Box 2635 Ilford IG1 8UA
Parliamentary Advisers	Andrew Rosindell MP Baroness Foster Wendy Morton MP Lord Bellingham
Chief Executive	James Alexander Lunn
Independent examiner	Thomas Champneys ACA BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants Linden House Linden Close Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8HH
Charity number	1156763
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 69 Albion Street Leeds LS1 5AA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Friends of the British Overseas Territories (FOTBOT) (the "Charity") is constituted under the terms of its governing document ("Constitution") adopted on 18 September 2013 and last amended at the Annual General Meeting on 14 March 2024. The Constitution is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its Trustees. Trustees who served during the year are listed on page 2. The Trustees meet at least quarterly to agree the strategy of the Charity.

Charitable objects

The Charity's objects, as set out in its Constitution, are:

- (1) To advance education and relieve financial hardship of students from the British Overseas Territories who are studying in the UK.
- (2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the British Overseas Territories and the history and geography of the British Overseas Territories
- (3) To advance the education of young people aged between 18 and 25 by providing educational visits to the British Overseas Territories
- (4) To further such other purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

Day-to-day management

On a day-to-day basis, the Charity is run by unpaid volunteers, led by the Chief Executive, James Lunn, to whom management has been delegated by the Trustees. The Chief Executive is assisted by an Executive Committee of volunteers which includes individuals with experience in finance, public relations and media, charity governance, law and events management. Volunteers, including the Chief Executive, may be reimbursed for expenses properly and reasonably incurred in accordance with the Charity's expenses policy but they are not otherwise remunerated.

Relationships with British Overseas Territories

The Charity seeks to maintain and strengthen its relationships with UK-based representatives of the British Overseas Territories (BOTs) as well as figures within the governments of the BOTs and the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) to help further its charitable objects.

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning the Charity's future activities. In particular, the Trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity continues to meet the Charity Commission's guidelines with regard to carrying out its purposes for the public benefit.

Main events included:-

- Overseas Territories Debate at Queens University Belfast
- Webinar with the Maritime Archaeology Sea Trust
- 'No Place Like Home' Fundraising Campaign Launch
- Conversation with two former BOT Premiers
- History of Royal Naval Rum Presentation with Chris Howe MBE
- Summer Barbecue and Charity Showcase
- Tour of Speaker's House
- Webinar with charity 'Acts of Random Kindness'
- Chagos Island Campaign Reception
- Chagos Island Call to Action
- Annual Gala Fundraising Dinner on HQS Wellington
- Chagos Island Call to Action (Westminster)
- St Helena Fundraising Reception with Michael Binyon OBE
- Falkland Island Reception with Baroness Foster
- Northern Dinner in Newcastle

Outreach activities

The Charity travelled to the Falkland Islands with Baroness Foster in February, hosting meeting with the legislature and islanders and deepening the charity's understanding of the challenges and opportunities the Falklands Islands face. The charity met with the Falklands Conservation Society, the Girl Guides and other civic organisations and once back in the UK, has continued to co-operate with groups and officials we met there on joint initiatives.

The Charity continued with a programme of in-person educational events, as well as remote events delivered over the internet.

Chagos

During the period, the UK government announced a deal to cede sovereignty of the British Indian Ocean Territory to Mauritius. The Charity opposes this on the grounds that the Chagossians have not been given the right to self-determination and has sought to provide a platform for Chagossians.

No Place Like Home special appeal

The Charity launched a campaign with the disabled society of St Helena, supporting inclusion and dignity in raising funds that will allow people on the island to stay in their home longer, thereby reducing pressure on their already stretched care home and hospital. The fundraiser is ongoing.

Membership

In addition, membership subscriptions and donations continued at a steady rate, enabling the Charity to continue to reach more people and do more work in support of its objects whilst achieving a small surplus for the period and maintaining a reasonable cash reserve.

Financial review, reserves policy and deficits

The Charity's receipts in the period were £50,939 (2024: £41,527). This is a slight increase from the previous year, reflecting higher income from events and a modest increase in general donations.

The Trustees have set a policy of maintaining £2,000 cash reserves across the Current and Savings accounts held at Barclays, in order to cover any unexpected running costs. This level of reserves was maintained at all times during the period, with a balance of £12,167 (2024: £9,225) at the year end.

The Charity pays all invoices within terms and does not have any debtors at the time of writing.

Plans for the future

In the forthcoming year, the Charity will continue to support the Chagossians as the proposed bill ceding sovereignty makes its way through Parliament. There is a planned programme of events including in Northern Ireland and Gibraltar, for Gibraltar National Day, and across the UK.

The Charity is focussing on a formal programme of education and a proposal to increase the members of its Advisory Board to include academics, former officials, and other people associated with the OTs, from its current position of only having parliamentary advisors. The Annual Gala Dinner has been booked at Vintners Hall.

Financial statements

The financial statements on pages 8 and 9 have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. They have been drawn up in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity's Constitution.

Approved by the Trustees on 12 February 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature: 
Simon Leary (Feb 13, 2026 11:18:08 GMT+1)

Email: simonmyleary@aol.com

Simon Leary
Trustee

Signature: 
Philip Smith (Feb 12, 2026 23:26:04 GMT)

Email: philip.smith@fotbot.org

Philip Smith
Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of the British Overseas Territories (the "Charity") for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees, 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 trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Thomas Champneys

Thomas Champneys ACA
BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants
Linden House
Linden Close
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 8HH

Date: 13 February 2026

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025


	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Donations and grants	8,467	3,750	12,217	7,291
Members' subscriptions	8,346	-	8,346	8,596
Income from events	30,126	-	30,126	24,848
Sales of books and merchandise	154	-	154	769
Other income	96	-	96	23
TOTAL RECEIPTS	47,189	3,750	50,939	41,527
PAYMENTS				
<i>Fundraising costs</i>				
Event costs	33,630	-	33,630	27,493
Printing and stationery	729	-	729	1,165
Website and media costs	190	-	190	463
Total fundraising costs	34,549	-	34,549	29,121
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
Donations to special appeals	-	-	-	1,500
Outreach and governance	11,430	-	11,430	7,276
Total charitable activities costs	11,430	-	11,430	8,776
<i>Asset and investment purchases</i>				
Other merchandise	2,018	-	2,018	747
Total asset and investments purchases	2,018	-	2,018	747
TOTAL PAYMENTS	47,997	-	47,997	38,644
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	(808)	3,750	2,942	2,883
CASH FUNDS LAST YEAR END	9,225	-	9,225	6,342
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	8,417	3,750	12,167	9,225

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2025**

	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
ASSETS				
<i>Monetary assets</i>				
Cash at bank	8,417	3,750	12,167	9,225
Total monetary assets	8,417	3,750	12,167	9,225
<i>Non-monetary assets</i>				
Event equipment	90	-	90	903
Copies of book "Britain's Distant Lands"	440	-	440	604
Other merchandise	2,452	-	2,452	1,421
Total non-monetary assets	2,982	-	2,982	2,928
TOTAL ASSETS	11,399	3,750	15,149	12,153
LIABILITIES				
	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	11,399	3,750	15,149	12,153

The notes on page 9 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 12 February 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

<p>Signature:  <small>Simon Leary (Feb 13, 2026 11:18:08 GMT+1)</small></p> <p>Email: simonmjleary@aol.com</p> <p>Simon Leary Trustee</p>	<p>Signature:  <small>Philip Smith (Feb 12, 2026 23:26:04 GMT)</small></p> <p>Email: philip.smith@fotbot.org</p> <p>Philip Smith Trustee</p>
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. These financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, with all revenue and expenses shown on a cash basis. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are shown at estimates of the value at the end of the period.
2. No remuneration was paid to any trustee.

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156763

Accounts



Friends of the British Overseas Territories
(FOTBOT)

**Trustees' Report and
Financial Statements**

1 April 2023

to

31 March 2024

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Number 1156763

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CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	Andrew M Fox (chair) Simon M J Leary FRSA Albert A Poggio GMH OBE
Address	PO Box 2635 Ilford IG1 8UA
President	Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, JP (appointed 1 September 2021)
Vice-President	Claude Hogan, MLA (appointed 1 January 2022)
Parliamentary Advisers	Andrew Gwynne MP Andrew Rosindell MP Baroness Foster (appointed 1 January 2024) Wendy Morton MP (appointed 1 January 2024) Lord Bellingham (appointed 1 January 2024)
Chief Executive	Philip R Smith
Independent examiner	Jonathan Parsons FCA BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants Linden House Linden Close Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8HH
Charity number	1156763
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 69 Albion Street Leeds LS1 5AA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2024.

Structure, governance and management

Friends of the British Overseas Territories (FOTBOT) (the "Charity") is constituted under the terms of its governing document ("Constitution") adopted on 18 September 2013 and last amended at the Annual General Meeting on 14 March 2024. The Constitution is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its Trustees. Andrew Fox was a first Trustee appointed under the constitution and the other Trustees were appointed by the Trustees and members. New Trustees are appointed by the nomination of Trustees and members. Trustees who served during the year are listed on page 2. The Trustees meet at least quarterly to agree the strategy of the Charity.

Charitable objects

The Charity's objects, as set out in its Constitution, are:

- (1) To advance education and relieve financial hardship of students from the British Overseas Territories who are studying in the UK.
- (2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the British Overseas Territories and the history and geography of the British Overseas Territories
- (3) To advance the education of young people aged between 18 and 25 by providing educational visits to the British Overseas Territories
- (4) To further such other purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

Day-to-day management

On a day-to-day basis, the Charity is run by unpaid volunteers, led by the Chief Executive, Philip Smith, to whom management has been delegated by the Trustees since the Charity's inception. The Chief Executive is assisted by a committee of volunteers which includes individuals with experience in finance, public relations and media, charity governance, law and events management. Volunteers, including the Chief Executive, may be reimbursed for expenses properly and reasonably incurred in accordance with the Charity's expenses policy but they are not otherwise remunerated.

Relationships with British Overseas Territories

The Charity seeks to maintain and strengthen its relationships with UK-based representatives of the British Overseas Territories (BOTs) as well as figures within the governments of the BOTs and the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) to help further its charitable objects.

The Charity appointed a new president, Mrs Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, former premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands, on 1 September 2021. Mrs Cartwright-Robinson replaced Mr Austin Harris Jr (a former member of the legislative assembly of the Cayman Islands) who had served as the

Charity's honorary president since 18 September 2019. The Charity has also appointed its first honorary vice president, Mr Claude Hogan, a member of the legislative assembly of Montserrat, with effect from 1 January 2022. The positions of president and vice president are both honorary in nature and do not have any of the rights, obligations, duties or liabilities of a charity Trustee.

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning the Charity's future activities. In particular, the Trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity continues to meet the Charity Commission's guidelines with regard to carrying out its purposes for the public benefit.

Main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects

Educational activities

The Charity continued with a programme of in-person educational events, as well as remote events delivered over the internet.

Webinars included:

- News from the Overseas Territories
- Conservation in the British Overseas Territories
- Presentation by the Maritime Archaeology Sea Trust

In-person events included:

- Tour of the National Maritime Museum
- Meet and Greet with the Charity Vice President, The Hon. Claude Hogan MLA
- Charity Summer Barbecue
- Collage of Arms Evening Tour and Supper
- Network reception event in York
- Christmas Gala Fundraising Dinner at Carpenters Hall
- British Indian Ocean Territory Reception with Henry Smith MP
- Dinner in Newcastle

Outreach activities

The Charity's outreach activities included a visit to St Helena in August 2023 by senior leadership members of the Charity, accompanied with Andrew Gwynne MP and journalist Michael Binyon OBE. The purpose of the visit was to allow the Charity to have on the ground experience which can be used to inform our research, lobby politicians, and continue to support, promote and increase awareness of the Overseas Territories.

The delegation met with the Governor, Nigel Philips CBE and separately the Chief Minister, Julie Thomas, and Members of the Legislative Council and its Speaker. The delegation also received an honorary tour of Longwood House, the former residence of Napoleon Bonaparte throughout his exile and met with the Minister for Environment, Christine Scipio.

Separately, Andrew Gwynne also met with the Chief Minister of St Helena, Julie Thomas, to discuss deepening the bonds between the UK and St Helena, and St Helena's Health Minister to discuss improvements to medical services on the island.

Charity representatives also returned to the annual conference of one of the major UK political parties.

Montserrat special appeal

The Charity extended its appeal to raise money for the Montserrat National Trust into a second year, ending December 2023. The Trust requires donations in order to construct an echo play area. This planned multi-functional building and park is being developed by the Montserrat National Trust with the intention of creating a fully accessible eco-friendly educational and play space for children of all ages.

£1,500 was raised and donated, which will go towards paying for individual items of equipment for the musical play area, such as the trampoline, tubular bells, xylophone, glockenspiel, and swings.

Achievements and performance

All of the Charity's webinars and in-person events were well-attended, with the annual black-tie dinner experiencing especially strong attendance at Carpenter's Hall.

In addition, membership subscriptions and donations continued at a steady rate, enabling the Charity to continue to reach more people and do more work in support of its objects whilst achieving a small surplus for the period and maintaining a reasonable cash reserve.

Financial review, reserves policy and deficits

The Charity's receipts in the period were £41,527 (2023: £55,248) primarily driven by the strong return of well-attended in-person events. This is a significant increase on the previous year, and is nearing the level of revenues the Charity saw before the pandemic.

The Trustees have set a policy of maintaining £2,000 cash reserves across the Current and Savings accounts held at Barclays, in order to cover any unexpected running costs. This level of reserves was maintained at all times during the period, with a balance of £9,225 (2023: £6,342) at the year end.

The Charity pays all invoices within terms and does not have any debtors at the time of writing.

Plans for the future

In the forthcoming year, the Charity will continue its programme of outreach and education.

The main outreach activity will be a trip to the Falkland Islands in February 2025 with one of our Parliamentary Advisers, Baroness Foster.

Our key fundraising activity will be around the St Helena Disabled Society project "No Place Like Home", which aims to support disabled and elderly people living on St Helena to live in their homes longer. The island only has one hospital and one care home which are always under enormous pressure and often at maximum capacity. The appeal will help people live more fulfilling and comfortable lives, whilst enabling those facilities to be used for more acute care.

Financial statements

The financial statements on pages 8 and 9 have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. They have been drawn up in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity's Constitution.

Approved by the Trustees on 20 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


Andrew M Fox (Jan 14, 2025 09:44 GMT)

Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)


Simon MJ Leary (Jan 14, 2025 17:37 GMT)

Simon Leary
Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of the British Overseas Territories (the "Charity") for the period ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees, 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 trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Jonathan Parsons FCA
BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants
Linden House
Linden Close
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 8HH

Date: 15/01/25

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Donations and grants	7,257	34	7,291	15,026
Members' subscriptions	8,596	-	8,596	5,805
Income from events	24,848	-	24,848	33,288
Sales of books and merchandise	769	-	769	1,126
Other income	23	-	23	2
TOTAL RECEIPTS	41,493	34	41,527	55,248
PAYMENTS				
<i>Fundraising costs</i>				
Event costs	27,493	-	27,493	29,779
Printing and stationery	1,165	-	1,165	1,425
Website and media costs	463	-	463	8,221
Total fundraising costs	29,121	-	29,121	39,424
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
Donations to special appeals	466	1,034	1,500	-
Outreach and governance	7,276	-	7,276	14,331
Total charitable activities costs	7,742	1,034	8,776	14,331
<i>Asset and investment purchases</i>				
Event equipment	-	-	-	-
Computer and office equipment	-	-	-	-
Other merchandise	747	-	747	-
Total asset and investments purchases	747	-	747	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	37,610	1,034	38,644	53,755
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	3,883	(1,000)	2,883	1,493
CASH FUNDS LAST YEAR END	5,342	1,000	6,342	4,849
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	9,225	-	9,225	6,342

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
ASSETS				
<i>Monetary assets</i>				
Cash at bank	9,225	-	9,225	6,342
Total monetary assets	9,225	-	9,225	6,342
<i>Non-monetary assets</i>				
Computer equipment	-	-	-	1,426
Event equipment	903	-	903	956
Copies of book "Britain's Distant Lands"	604	-	604	640
Copies of DVD "Britain's Distant Lands"	-	-	-	140
Other merchandise	1,421	-	1,421	429
Total non-monetary assets	2,928	-	2,928	3,591
TOTAL ASSETS	12,153	-	12,153	9,933
LIABILITIES				
	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	12,153	-	12,153	9,933

The notes on page 10 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 20 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


Andrew M Fox (Jan 14, 2025 09:44 GMT)

Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)


Simon MJ Leary (Jan 14, 2025 17:37 GMT)

Simon Leary
Trustee

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

1. These financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, with all revenue and expenses shown on a cash basis. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are shown at estimates of the value at the end of the period.

2. No remuneration or expenses were paid to any trustee.

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156763

Accounts



Friends of the British Overseas Territories
(FOTBOT)

**Trustees' Report and
Financial Statements**

1 April 2022

to

31 March 2023

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Number 1156763

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Vice-President	Claude Hogan, MLA (appointed 1 January 2022)
Parliamentary Advisers	Andrew Gwynne MP Andrew Rosindell MP
Chief Executive	Philip R Smith
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Charity number	1156763
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Charitable objects

The Charity's objects, as set out in its Constitution, are:

- (1) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the British Overseas Territories and the history and geography of the British Overseas Territories
- (2) To advance the education of young people aged between 18 and 25 by providing educational visits to the British Overseas Territories
- (3) To further such other purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

Day-to-day management

On a day-to-day basis, the Charity is run by unpaid volunteers, led by the Chief Executive, Philip Smith, to whom management has been delegated by the Trustees since the Charity's inception. The Chief Executive is assisted by a committee of volunteers which includes individuals with experience in finance, public relations and media, charity governance, law and events management. Volunteers, including the Chief Executive, may be reimbursed for expenses properly and reasonably incurred in accordance with the Charity's expenses policy but they are not otherwise remunerated.

Relationships with British Overseas Territories

The Charity seeks to maintain and strengthen its relationships with UK-based representatives of the British Overseas Territories (BOTs) as well as figures within the governments of the BOTs and the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) to help further its charitable objects.

The Charity appointed a new president, Mrs Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, former premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands, on 1 September 2021. Mrs Cartwright-Robinson replaced Mr Austin Harris Jr (a former member of the legislative assembly of the Cayman Islands) who had served as the Charity's honorary president since 18 September 2019. The Charity has also appointed its first honorary vice president, Mr Claude Hogan, a member of the legislative assembly of Montserrat, with effect from 1 January 2022. The positions of president and vice president are both honorary in nature and do not have any of the rights, obligations, duties or liabilities of a charity Trustee.

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning the Charity's future activities. In particular, the Trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity continues to meet the Charity Commission's guidelines with regard to carrying out its purposes for the public benefit.

Main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects

Educational activities

The Charity continued with a programme of in-person educational events, as well as remote events delivered over the internet.

Webinars included:

- A presentation on Britain's Next Prime Minister – A view from our Overseas Territories Online Event.
- An event about Gibraltar discussing its recent developments with local community members.
- A presentation on UK Antarctic Heritage Trust Webinar.

In-person events included:

- Montserrat Fundraising Reception to launch our new campaign.
- Falklands Liberation 40th Anniversary Event hosted at the National Army Museum with a Falkland Islands veteran.
- A summer barbecue in central London with special guests from a range of other charities connected with the British Overseas Territories.
- The Charity's ever-popular annual black-tie dinner at Saddlers Hall, with keynote guest speaker The Hon Lord Lancaster, former Minister for the armed forces.
- Launch of our ten year anniversary book at a reception in the City of London
- A networking reception and information sharing session in Newcastle with guest speaker Sharon Hodgson MP (and strong supporter of our charity).
- A dinner with Michael Binyon OBE Time journalist and supporter of the charity

Outreach activities

The Charity's outreach activities, which typically involve volunteers arranging visits to some of the BOTs to deepen their understanding and the Charity's links with local people and organisations took place in Gibraltar over National Day celebrations (9th to 13th September 2022).

Charity representatives also returned to the annual conference of one of the major UK political parties, having only been able to attend remotely in the previous year after the organisers cancelled the in-person event.

Montserrat special appeal

The Charity extended its appeal to raise money for the Montserrat National Trust into a second year. The Trust requires donations in order to construct an echo play area. This planned multi-functional building and park is being developed by the Montserrat National Trust with the intention of creating a fully accessible eco-friendly educational and play space for children of all ages.

Up to £2,000 will pay for individual items of equipment for the musical play area, such as the trampoline, tubular bells, xylophone, glockenspiel, and swings. FOTBOT is aiming to raise this amount to fund the individual item purchase of swings.

Achievements and performance

All of the Charity's webinars and in-person events were well-attended, with the annual black-tie dinner experiencing strong attendance as we moved to a location in the City of London for the first time.

In addition, membership subscriptions and donations continued at a steady rate, enabling the Charity to continue to reach more people and do more work in support of its objects whilst achieving a small surplus for the period and maintaining a reasonable cash reserve.

Financial review, reserves policy and deficits

The Charity's receipts in the period were £55,248 primarily driven by the strong return of well-attended in-person events. This is a significant increase on the previous year, and is nearing the level of revenues the Charity saw before the pandemic.

The Trustees have set a policy of maintaining £2000 cash reserves across the Current and Savings accounts held at Barclays. At present, reserves are above this level at £6,342 (2022: £4,849).

The Charity pays all invoices within terms, and does not have any debtors at the time of writing.

Plans for the future

In the forthcoming year, the Charity will return to its programme of outreach now that travel restrictions have been relaxed, and is planning to travel to the British Overseas Territory of St Helena. Whilst there, Charity representatives will engage with the government, and the increasing popularity of in-person activities to increase its outreach work: seeking to build and re-establish links with key stakeholders in and connected to the British Overseas Territories.

Having made an impressive contribution to the Falkland Islands Museum over the last two years, for the forthcoming year the Charity will embark on a new special appeal related to a different type of cause in a different British Overseas Territory.

Financial statements

The financial statements on pages 8 and 9 have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. They have been drawn up in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity's Constitution.



FOTBOT

Approved by the Trustees on 24 January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature: Andrew M Fox
Andrew M Fox (Jan 26, 2024 20:25 GMT+7)

Email: foxvlad@aol.com

Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)

Simon Leary
Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of the British Overseas Territories (the "Charity") for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees, 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 Trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Jonathan Parsons FCA
BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants
Linden House
Linden Close
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 8HH

Date: 26/01/24

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Donations and grants	14,026	1,000	15,026	10,486
Members' subscriptions	5,805	-	5,805	8,039
Income from events	33,288	-	33,288	22,375
Sales of books and merchandise	1,126	-	1,126	255
Other income	2	-	2	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	54,248	1,000	55,248	41,155
PAYMENTS				
<i>Fundraising costs</i>				
Event costs	29,779	-	29,779	23,911
Printing and stationery	1,425	-	1,425	140
Website and media costs	8,221	-	8,221	555
Total fundraising costs	39,424	-	39,424	24,606
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
Donations to special appeals	-	-	-	3,000
Outreach and governance	14,331	-	14,331	13,296
Total charitable activities costs	14,331	-	14,331	16,296
<i>Asset and investment purchases</i>				
Event equipment	-	-	-	-
Computer and office equipment	-	-	-	-
Other merchandise	-	-	-	-
Total asset and investments purchases	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,755	-	53,755	40,902
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	493	1,000	1,493	253
CASH FUNDS LAST YEAR END	4,849	-	4,849	4,596
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	5,342	1,000	6,342	4,849

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
ASSETS				
<i>Monetary assets</i>				
Cash at bank	5,342	1,000	6,342	4,849
Total monetary assets	5,342	1,000	6,342	4,849
<i>Non-monetary assets</i>				
Computer equipment	1,426	-	1,426	1,426
Event equipment	956	-	956	956
Copies of book "Britain's Distant Lands"	640	-	640	798
Copies of DVD "Britain's Distant Lands"	140	-	140	742
Other merchandise	429	-	429	429
Total non-monetary assets	3,591	-	3,591	4,351
TOTAL ASSETS	8,933	1,000	9,933	9,200
LIABILITIES				
	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	8,933	1,000	9,933	9,200

The notes on page 10 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 24 January and signed on their behalf by:

Signature: Andrew M Fox
Adresse: M Fox (Jan 26, 2024 20:25 GMT+7)

Email: foxvlad@aol.com

Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)

Simon Leary
Trustee

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1. These financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, with all revenue and expenses shown on a cash basis. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are shown at estimates of the value at the end of the period.

2. No remuneration or expenses were paid to any Trustee.

FOTBOT Trustees Report and Financial Statements 2023

Final Audit Report

2024-01-26

Created:	2024-01-25
By:	James Tortice-Lunn (jtortice-lunn@fgportfolios.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAATq1mkuwrb4CLOMT7PR42E8QDoGnsiko4

"FOTBOT Trustees Report and Financial Statements 2023" History

-  Document created by James Tortice-Lunn (jtortice-lunn@fgportfolios.com)
2024-01-25 - 9:26:34 AM GMT- IP address: 80.77.242.164
-  Document emailed to Andrew Fox (foxvlad@aol.com) for signature
2024-01-25 - 9:26:38 AM GMT
-  Email viewed by Andrew Fox (foxvlad@aol.com)
2024-01-26 - 1:25:07 PM GMT- IP address: 171.6.239.254
-  Signer Andrew Fox (foxvlad@aol.com) entered name at signing as Andrew M Fox
2024-01-26 - 1:25:42 PM GMT- IP address: 171.6.239.254
-  Document e-signed by Andrew M Fox (foxvlad@aol.com)
Signature Date: 2024-01-26 - 1:25:44 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 171.6.239.254
-  Agreement completed.
2024-01-26 - 1:25:44 PM GMT

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156763

Accounts



Friends of the British Overseas Territories
(FOTBOT)

**Trustees' Report and
Financial Statements**

1 April 2021

to

31 March 2022

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Number 1156763



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Statement of receipts and payments	8
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CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	Andrew M Fox (chair) Simon M J Leary FRSA Albert A Poggio GMH OBE
Address	PO Box 2635 Ilford IG1 8UA
President	Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, JP (appointed 1 September 2021)
Vice-President	Claude Hogan, MLA (appointed 1 January 2022)
Parliamentary Advisers	Andrew Gwynne MP Andrew Rosindell MP
Chief Executive	Philip R Smith
Independent examiner	Jonathan Parsons FCA BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants Linden House Linden Close Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8HH
Charity number	1156763
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 69 Albion Street Leeds LS1 5AA



TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Structure, governance and management

Friends of the British Overseas Territories (FOTBOT) (the "Charity") is constituted under the terms of its governing document ("Constitution") adopted on 18 September 2013 and last amended on 24 February 2020. The Constitution is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees. Andrew M Fox was a first trustee appointed under the constitution and the other trustees were appointed by the trustees and members. New trustees are appointed by the nomination of trustees and members. Trustees who served during the year are listed on page 2. The trustees meet at least quarterly to agree the strategy of the Charity.

Charitable objects

The Charity's objects, as set out in its Constitution, are:

- (1) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the British Overseas Territories and the history and geography of the British Overseas Territories
- (2) To advance the education of young people aged between 18 and 25 by providing educational visits to the British Overseas Territories
- (3) To further such other purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the trustees may from time to time decide

Day-to-day management

On a day-to-day basis, the Charity is run by unpaid volunteers, led by the Chief Executive, Philip R Smith, to whom management has been delegated by the trustees since the Charity's inception. The Chief Executive is assisted by a committee of volunteers which includes individuals with experience in finance, public relations and media, charity governance, law and events management. Volunteers, including the Chief Executive, may be reimbursed for expenses properly and reasonably incurred in accordance with the Charity's expenses policy but they are not otherwise remunerated.

Relationships with British Overseas Territories

The Charity seeks to maintain and strengthen its relationships with UK-based representatives of the British Overseas Territories (BOTs) as well as figures within the governments of the BOTs and the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) to help further its charitable objects.

The Charity appointed a new president, Mrs Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, former premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands, on 1 September 2021. Mrs Cartwright-Robinson replaced Mr Austin Harris Jr (a former member of the legislative assembly of the Cayman Islands) who had served as the Charity's honorary president since 18 September 2019. The Charity has also appointed its first honorary vice president, Mr Claude Hogan, a member of the legislative assembly of Montserrat, with effect from 1 January 2022. The positions of president and vice president are both honorary in nature and do not have any of the rights, obligations, duties or liabilities of a charity trustee.



Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning the Charity's future activities. In particular, the trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The trustees are satisfied that the Charity continues to meet the Charity Commission's guidelines with regard to carrying out its purposes for the public benefit.

Main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects

Educational activities

Following the lifting of Covid-19 related restrictions imposed by the UK and other governments, the Charity returned to a programme of in-person educational events, as well as remote events delivered over the internet.

Webinars included:

- A presentation by Vice Admiral Sir Adrian Johns, former governor of Gibraltar, on the role of governors in the British Overseas Territories
- An event about the connection between St Helena and Napoleon Bonaparte in recognition of the bicentenary of his death, with a number of knowledgeable speakers, including Times journalist Michael Binyon
- A panel discussion about the April 2021 general election in the Cayman Islands, featuring former MLA Austin Harris, Cayman Islands Government UK representative Tasha Ebanks Garcia, and election observer Hadleigh Roberts
- A talk by broadcaster, author and conservationist Stewart McPherson about the "Darwin200" voyage tracing Charles Darwin's journey to multiple major ports around the world

In-person events included:

- A summer barbecue in central London with special guests from a range of other charities connected with the British Overseas Territories
- The return of the charity's ever-popular annual black tie dinner at the Lansdowne Club, with keynote guest speaker The Hon George Fergusson, former governor of Bermuda and the Pitcairn Islands
- A dinner at The Norfolk Club in Norwich with special guest Duncan Baker MP
- A networking reception and information sharing session in Newcastle with guest speakers Andrew Gwynne MP (one of the Charity's parliamentary advisers) and Dr Pete Howson, senior lecturer in the social sciences department at Northumbria University



Outreach activities

The Charity's outreach activities, which typically involve volunteers arranging visits to some of the BOTs to deepen their understanding and the Charity's links with local people and organisations continued to be curtailed by international travel restrictions.

Charity representatives were able to return to the annual conference of one of the major UK political parties, having only been able to attend remotely in the previous year after the organisers cancelled the in-person event.

Falkland Islands Museum special appeal

The Charity extended its appeal to raise money for the Falkland Islands Museum into a second year. The museum requires financial support to establish a permanent home for larger artefacts as well as a wider collection of objects that cannot currently be displayed within the historic dockyard museum. The Charity was delighted to raise an additional £3,000 for the museum (2021: £5,000), bringing the total raised and donated over a two year period to £8,000.

Achievements and performance

All of the Charity's webinars and in-person events were well-attended, with the annual black tie dinner experiencing its highest ever attendance as volunteers and supporters clamoured to meet-up in-person after the lifting of government restrictions related to Covid-19.

In addition, membership subscriptions and donations bounced back, enabling the Charity to continue to reach more people and do more work in support of its objects whilst achieving a small surplus for the period and maintaining a reasonable cash reserve.

Financial review, reserves policy and deficits

The Charity's receipts in the period increased to £41,155 (2021: £16,596), primarily driven by the strong return of well-attended in-person events.

The trustees have set a policy of maintaining reserves equivalent to three months' expenditure. At present, reserves are below this level at £4,849 (2021: £4,596).

The Charity does not have any funds in deficit.

Plans for the future

In the forthcoming year, the Charity will take advantage of the relaxation of international travel restrictions and the increasing popularity of in-person activities to increase its outreach work: seeking to build and re-establish links with key stakeholders in and connected to the British Overseas Territories.

Having made an impressive contribution to the Falkland Islands Museum over the last two years, for the forthcoming year the Charity will embark on a new special appeal related to a different type of cause in a different British Overseas Territory.




Financial statements

The financial statements on pages 8 and 9 have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. They have been drawn up in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity's Constitution.

Approved by the trustees on 7th February 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

1779D026FFF746A...
Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)

DocuSigned by:

0DBE6A8F714046E...
Simon Leary
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of the British Overseas Territories (the "Charity") for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees, 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 trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

DocuSigned by:
Jonathan Parsons
FC7C5586714C4BE...

Jonathan Parsons FCA
BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants
Linden House
Linden Close
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 8HH

Date: 07 February 2023



**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2022**

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Total 2021 £
RECEIPTS		
Donations and grants	10,486	8,318
Members' subscriptions	8,039	6,215
Income from events	22,375	1,526
Sales of books and merchandise	255	537
TOTAL RECEIPTS	41,155	16,596
PAYMENTS		
<i>Fundraising costs</i>		
Event costs	23,911	726
Printing and stationery	140	136
Website and media costs	555	1,088
Total fundraising costs	24,606	1,950
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Donations to special appeals	3,000	5,000
Outreach and governance	13,296	6,696
Total charitable activities costs	16,296	11,696
<i>Asset and investment purchases</i>		
Event equipment	-	138
Computer and office equipment	-	216
Other merchandise	-	684
Total asset and investments purchases	-	1,038
TOTAL PAYMENTS	40,902	14,684
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	253	1,912
CASH FUNDS LAST YEAR END	4,596	2,684
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	4,849	4,596

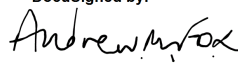


**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2022**

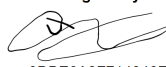
	Unrestricted 2022 £	Total 2021 £
ASSETS		
<i>Monetary assets</i>		
Cash at bank	4,849	4,596
Total monetary assets	4,849	4,596
<i>Non-monetary assets</i>		
Computer equipment	1,426	1,426
Event equipment	956	956
Copies of book "Britain's Distant Lands"	798	798
Copies of DVD "Britain's Distant Lands"	742	83
Other merchandise	429	684
Total non-monetary assets	4,351	3,947
TOTAL ASSETS	9,200	8,543
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	9,200	8,543

The notes on page 10 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 7th February 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

 1779D026FFF746A...

Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)

DocuSigned by:

 0DBE6A8F714046E...

Simon Leary
Trustee



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2022**

1. These financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, with all revenue and expenses shown on a cash basis. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are shown at estimates of the value at the end of the period.
2. No remuneration or expenses were paid to any trustee.

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156763

Accounts



Friends of the British Overseas Territories
(FOTBOT)

**Trustees' Report and
Financial Statements**

1 April 2020

to

31 March 2021

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Number 1156763



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CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	Andrew M Fox (chair) Simon M J Leary FRSA Albert A Poggio GMH OBE
Address	PO Box 2635 Ilford IG1 8UA
President	Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, JP (appointed 1 September 2021)
Vice-President	Claude Hogan, MLA (appointed 1 January 2022)
Parliamentary Advisers	Andrew Gwynne MP Andrew Rosindell MP
Chief Executive	Philip R Smith
Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Finance	Stephen J Hodgson FCA
Independent examiner	Jonathan Parsons FCA BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants Linden House Linden Close Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8HH
Charity number	1156763
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 69 Albion Street Leeds LS1 5AA



TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2021.

Structure, governance and management

Friends of the British Overseas Territories (FOTBOT) (the "Charity") is constituted under the terms of its governing document ("Constitution") adopted on 18 September 2013 and last amended on 24 February 2020. The Constitution is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees. Andrew M Fox was a first trustee appointed under the constitution and the other trustees were appointed by the trustees and members. New trustees are appointed by the nomination of trustees and members. Trustees who served during the year are listed on page 2. The trustees meet at least quarterly to agree the strategy of the Charity.

Charitable objects

The Charity's objects, as set out in its Constitution, are:

- (1) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the British Overseas Territories and the history and geography of the British Overseas Territories
- (2) To advance the education of young people aged between 18 and 25 by providing educational visits to the British Overseas Territories
- (3) To further such other purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the trustees may from time to time decide

Day-to-day management

On a day-to-day basis, the Charity is run by unpaid volunteers, led by the Chief Executive, Philip R Smith, to whom management has been delegated by the trustees since the Charity's inception. The Chief Executive is assisted by a committee of volunteers which includes individuals with experience in finance, public relations and media, charity governance, law and events management. Volunteers, including the Chief Executive, may be reimbursed for expenses properly and reasonably incurred in accordance with the Charity's expenses policy but they are not otherwise remunerated.

Relationships with British Overseas Territories

The Charity seeks to maintain and strengthen its relationships with UK-based representatives of the British Overseas Territories (BOTs) as well as figures within the governments of the BOTs and the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) to help further its charitable objects.

The Charity appointed a new president, Mrs Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, former premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands, on 1 September 2021. Mrs Cartwright-Robinson replaced Mr Austin Harris Jr (a former member of the legislative assembly of the Cayman Islands) who had served as the Charity's honorary president since 18 September 2019. The Charity has also appointed its first honorary vice president, Mr Claude Hogan, a member of the legislative assembly of Montserrat, with effect from 1 January 2022. The positions of president and vice president are both honorary in nature and do not have any of the rights, obligations, duties or liabilities of a charity trustee.



Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning the Charity's future activities. In particular, the trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The trustees are satisfied that the Charity continues to meet the Charity Commission's guidelines with regard to carrying out its purposes for the public benefit.

Main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects

Educational activities

In light of the restrictions imposed by the UK and other governments following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Charity switched its focus from in-person educational events to remote events delivered over the internet. This enabled the Charity to reach a wider, more global, and more diverse audience than previous in-person events as well as facilitating greater attendance by audience members and speakers from the various British Overseas Territories. Such events included:

- A webinar about the impact of Covid-19 on the BOTs, featuring elected politicians from Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, and the UK
- An informative and engaging webinar in which a maritime historian talked about the famous voyage of HMS Bounty and its connection with Pitcairn Island
- A webinar hosted by broadcaster, author and conservationist Stewart McPherson about the "Darwin200" voyage tracing Charles Darwin's journey to multiple major ports around the world
- A fascinating webinar about South Georgia in which participants learned about the role one man played, over 25 years, in developing fisheries management, tourism and biosecurity
- An online launch event for the book "Britain's Distant Seas" at which author Stewart McPherson talked about the marine biodiversity and habitats of the BOTs
- An incredibly popular webinar about the Falkland Islands Museum and National Trust including details of the museum's current collections and expansion plans
- An online presentation by a representative from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) about its conservation work in Tristan da Cunha and the marine protection zone
- Two well-attended online quizzes in which participants competed to demonstrate their knowledge of the BOTs

Outreach activities

The Charity's outreach activities, which typically involve volunteers arranging visits (at their own expense) to some of the BOTs to deepen their understanding and the Charity's links with local people and organisations, were substantially curtailed by government travel restrictions.

Additionally, major UK political party conferences, at which the Charity's volunteers traditionally raise awareness of the Charity's work and seek to educate UK politicians and party members about the BOTs, took place in only a limited online fashion. The Charity organised one online webinar as part of one virtual party conference.



Falkland Islands Museum special appeal

During the period, the Charity ran a special appeal to raise money for the Falkland Islands Museum which requires support to establish a permanent home for larger artefacts as well as a wider collection of objects that cannot currently be displayed within the historic dockyard museum. During the period, the Charity was delighted to raise £5,000 for this appeal, which was donated to the Museum. Given the limited number of in-person fundraising opportunities during the period, it was decided to extend this special appeal until the end of the calendar year 2021.

Annual fundraising black tie dinner

Unfortunately it was not possible to hold the Charity's annual black tie fundraising dinner in central London during the period due to the uncertainty arising from government restrictions.

Achievements and performance

The Charity experienced strong attendance at the range of online educational events but there was a decrease in members' subscriptions attributable to reduced activity and events as a result of government Covid-19 restrictions.

The Falkland Islands Museum appeal has proved to be the Charity's most popular and successful appeal to-date and has benefitted from online fundraising during educational webinars.

Financial review, reserves policy and deficits

The Charity's receipts in the period declined to £16,596 (2020: £27,478), primarily as a result of reduced activity arising from government Covid-19 restrictions.

The trustees have set a policy of maintaining reserves equivalent to three months' expenditure. At present, cash reserves are below this level at £4,596 (2020: £2,684) and the trustees are therefore seeking to increase the level of reserves in the coming year.

The Charity does not have any funds in deficit.

Plans for the future

For the coming year, the Charity will host a mixture of both remote and in-person educational events, enabling it to continue to benefit from reaching a wider global audience online, whilst returning to delivering in-person events for those who prefer that format. The Charity will also revive its annual black tie fundraising dinner.


The Falkland Islands Museum special appeal will continue until 31 December 2021.



Financial statements

The financial statements on pages 8 and 9 have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. They have been drawn up in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity's Constitution.

Approved by the trustees on 31 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)

DocuSigned by:

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Albert Poggio
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of the British Overseas Territories (the "Charity") for the period ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees, 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 trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

DocuSigned by:

FC7C5586714C4BE...

Jonathan Parsons FCA
BSR Bespoke Chartered Accountants
Linden House
Linden Close
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 8HH

Date: 31 January 2022



**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2021**

	Unrestricted	Total
	2021	2020
RECEIPTS	£	£
Donations and grants	8,318	3,371
Members' subscriptions	6,215	9,800
Income from events	1,526	12,465
Sales of books and merchandise	537	1,838
Bank interest income	-	4
TOTAL RECEIPTS	16,596	27,478
PAYMENTS		
<i>Fundraising costs</i>		
Event costs	726	15,942
Printing and stationery	136	22
Website and media costs	1,088	1,359
Total fundraising costs	1,950	17,323
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Donations to special appeals	5,000	1,000
Outreach and governance	6,696	7,829
Total charitable activities costs	11,696	8,829
<i>Asset and investment purchases</i>		
Repayment of loan	-	2,024
Event equipment	138	123
Computer and office equipment	216	-
Other merchandise	684	1,227
Total asset and investments purchases	1,038	3,374
TOTAL PAYMENTS	14,684	29,526
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	1,912	(2,048)
CASH FUNDS LAST YEAR END	2,684	4,732
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	4,596	2,684

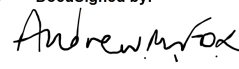


**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2021**

	Unrestricted 2021 £	Total 2020 £
ASSETS		
<i>Monetary assets</i>		
Cash at bank	4,596	2,684
Total monetary assets	4,596	2,684
<i>Non-monetary assets</i>		
Computer equipment	1,426	1,210
Event equipment	956	818
Copies of book "Britain's Distant Lands"	798	810
Copies of DVD "Britain's Distant Lands"	83	83
Other merchandise	684	-
Total non-monetary assets	3,947	2,921
TOTAL ASSETS	8,543	5,605
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	8,543	5,605

The notes on page 10 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 31 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Andrew M Fox
Trustee (chair)

DocuSigned by:

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Albert Poggio
Trustee



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2021**

1. These financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, with all revenue and expenses shown on a cash basis. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are shown at cost.
2. No remuneration or expenses were paid to any trustee.