



Samson Centre for MS

Charity No: 1157827

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Contents

Trustees' Report	2
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	7
Chairman's Report	8
Independent Examiner's Report	11
Statement of financial activities	12
Balance sheet	13
Statement of cash flows	14
Notes to the financial statements	15

Trustees' Report

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024:

The trustees are pleased to present the annual report and financial statements of the Samson Centre for MS for the financial year ended 31 August 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and activities for the public benefit:

The objects of the charity as set out in the Constitution are:

To relieve the needs of persons suffering from Multiple Sclerosis for the public benefit, in particular but not exclusively through:

- the establishment and operation of a therapy centre providing therapies including physiotherapy and oxygen treatment
- the provision of advice to sufferers, persons caring for or nursing persons suffering from MS
- advancing public education in Multiple Sclerosis

The charity continues to provide physiotherapy, exercise, oxygen therapy and advice for those living with MS in Surrey, South London, North Hampshire and surrounding areas to help relieve and minimise their symptoms. There is a strong social atmosphere that enables those living with MS, their families and their carers to interact freely, and to discuss ways of improving their personal symptoms with physiotherapists, fitness instructors and other health professionals. The charity hosts social events and talks and lends equipment to members, where possible during times when the centre is closed.

The Samson Centre for MS is open to anyone living with MS in Guildford and the surrounding areas. We aim to create an atmosphere of friendship, respect, and care for each other. We aim to treat everyone equally, regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. All people living with MS either directly or indirectly can benefit from much-needed therapies and information in an environment where they are able to talk to others with similar problems.

Achievements and performance:

A review of the activities for the year is included in the Chairman's Report on page 8.

Financial review:

Total Income for the year was £343,586 (2023: £388,665) - £314,281 (2023: £322,635) unrestricted and £29,305 (2023: £66,030) restricted. Restricted funds received in this period were £8,100 (2023: £7,000) to the Connections Programme, to continue providing a counselling service, allowing us to support the mental health of members as well as their physical health, £21,205 (2023: £nil) to the Movement Programme, providing general support to the cost of physiotherapists and equipment and £nil (2023: £59,030) towards the Gym Refurbishment.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024:

As ever, the Trustees of Samson Centre for MS start the financial review with a big thank you to its members. Their donations towards the therapies they receive of £180,162 (2023: £193,324) cover around 45% (2023: 50%) of the annual expenditure. That members continue to support the Centre in this way when the economic climate is so challenging, the Trustees believe to be recognition of the impact and importance of its services. However, the slight decrease in these donations reminds us that we cannot be too reliant on this source of income. Approximately 45% of the member donations are received for Oxygen therapy. Running this facility in a manner that maximises usage is a priority for future financial stability, as it drives income with limited additional cost.

Overall income in the year was £343,586 (2023: £388,665). We remain truly appreciative of our past members and their families that remember us in their wills - £23,560 (2023: £17,137). This is always a gratefully received addition to our income though tinged with sadness at the loss that comes with it. Applications to trusts and grant giving bodies raised £25,955 (2023: £63,425) As £59k of last year's grants were specifically for the gym refurbishment, this actually represents a good increase in income to support our operational activities. The multitude of events that our supporters take part in to raise funds remains many and varied and funds raised from these activities were similar to last year £44,190 (2023: £40,833). An amazing £19k of this was from one of our members, Simon Teagle, completing a grueling multi day 350km run along the Cornish Coast. The income from all other sources was very similar £69,715 (2023: £76,020). These sources are always very varied but include Gift Aid £17,083 (2023: £27,550)

The main expenditure continues to be the salaries of the physiotherapists and gym staff who deliver the variety of therapies to members £179,931 (2023: £187,682). Last year included backdated increases, in line with the NHS, and a one off cost of living payment, so whilst our physio staff continue to be paid in line with NHS salaries and received the agreed 5.5% pay rise there was no increase in the total salary cost. The salaries of the support staff that ensure the smooth running of the Centre increased to £60,288 (2023: £49,702) mostly driven by an increase in hours for new Centre Manager.

Fundraising costs, covering salary and the costs of running events, are in line with last year £31,672 (2023: £29,334) Our fundraiser continues to work on applications to trust and grant making bodies as well as a focus on finding suitable partners in the corporate sector, and supporting all those who fundraise on or behalf.

The running costs for the Centre, being the contribution of the Samson Centre for MS to the overall running costs of the shared facility (The Guildford Waterside Centre, GWC) are similar to last year £34,998 (2023: £32,955) as are administration costs of £22,806 (2023: £22,547)

Total year on year expenditure has increased to £390,592 (2023: £372,058) the main driver being the increase in support staff numbers and salary. There will be continuing pressure on running costs and salaries in the next 12 months and beyond. Good financial control and oversight is always high on the agenda to ensure expenditure remains in line with income.

Net position for the year is a deficit of £47,006 (2023: surplus of £16,607). Operational activities (including relevant restricted funds (The Movement Programme and The Connections Programme) account for a net deficit of £34,502 (2023: deficit of £33,266). The Gym Refurbishment accounts for a net deficit of £11,808 (2023: surplus of £53,058), whilst the project is fully completed the assets are being depreciated over five years. Activities towards the extension account for a net deficit of £696 (2023: £3,185), this being the depreciation of the fixed assets acquired through this programme.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024:

Total funds at the end of the period have decreased to £256,009 (2023: £303,015). General unrestricted funds comprise £189,1676 (2023: £226,697) of this total, and Restricted funds £66,842 (2023: £76,318). Planning and fundraising for a new Oxygen chamber continues, this will allow full wheelchair access and the ability to offer this service to our most disabled members. Our reserves remain well within our policy range so the Trustees have agreed that £50,000 of unrestricted funds will remain designated towards the cost of this project. Approximately 50% of the funds have already been identified so this designation will allow the project to commence, whilst activity to secure the remaining funds continues.

Risk Management:

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Risk Register is regularly reviewed by the trustees, appropriate updates and actions are then implemented.

Reserves Policy:

It is the Trustees' intention and responsibility to ensure that the Samson Centre for MS operates within its means and have agreed that it is the policy of the Samson Centre to hold 3-6 months operational expenditure in reserves. The reserves policy seeks to maintain a level of reserves that ensures uninterrupted operational spending and provides time to adjust to a change in financial circumstances. This takes into account past operational and financial trends, expected income and expenditure needs, future activity plans, a review of the risks facing the charity and any contingency required.

- Based on the projected expenditure for the financial year to 31.08.24 and taking a prudent approach when the economy remains in a period of high inflation and uncertainty, 3-6 months operational expenditure is between £110k and £220k.
- Free reserves at the date of this report are £189,167 (2023: £226,697)

Investment Policy:

Investments are made via suitable, risk assessed, interest bearing financial facilities. Cash flow analysis prior to investment ensures that sufficient funds remain immediately available for short term operational requirements.

Plans for Future Periods:

A review of the plans for future periods is included in the Chair of Trustees' Report on pages 8 to 10.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024:

Reference and administrative details:

Charity Name: The Samson Centre for MS

Charity Number: 1157827

Principal Office: The Waterside Centre
Riverside
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 1LW

Independent Examiner: Michelle H Matthews FCCA
MHM Accounting Solutions
13 Mapledrakes Close
Ewhurst
Surrey, GU6

The Trustees of the Samson Centre for MS who served during the year and as at the date of this report were:

Gavin Crocker (Chair)

Dave Kitching (Vice-Chair)

Hilary Birkinshaw (Treasurer)

John Hambly

Liz Darke

Colin Griffin

resigned 1st Feb 2024

Robin Kendall

resigned 5th Sept 2023

Tim Lodge

appointed 15th Sept 2023

Duncan Howe

appointed 15th Sept 2023

Ruth Elliott

appointed 13th January 2025

Chris Elliott

appointed 13th January 2025

Day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Centre Manager. From 8th September 2023 the Centre Manager was Debbie Boulter. The previous Centre Manager, Jackie Payne, retired on 8th September 2023.

Structure, governance and management:

The Charity is a charitable incorporated organisation, governed by its articles and memorandum of association.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees:

New trustees are either appointed at the AGM or by the current trustees. Trustees appointed by the current trustees stand for election at the AGM. The induction for new trustees includes making sure that they are aware of a trustee's responsibilities, the governing document, administrative procedures, the recent financial performance of the charity, future plans and the history and philosophical approach of the charity.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024:

Organisation:

The trustees are responsible for ensuring the charity is managed in accordance with the trust deed and its charitable purposes. The Trustees meet approximately four times per year to review the progress and performance of the charity.

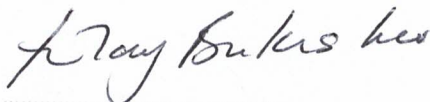
Sub-committees are formed, as appropriate, to consider specific projects and activities, each chaired by one of the trustees. They act within their Terms of Reference only and report to the main Trustee Board.

The Centre Manager is responsible for day to day operations and decision making and reports to the Chairman of the Trustees. The trustees consider the Centre Manager as comprising the key management personnel of the charity. Personnel remuneration is reviewed annually and benchmarked against industry standards to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

Related parties:

Guildford Waterside Centre (GWC), a charitable company, is a related party. At the date of this report John Hambly and Dave Kitching are both Trustees of the Samson Centre for MS and Trustees of the GWC. Gavin Crocker was a Trustee of GWC throughout the financial year ended 31st August 2024. He stepped down in September 2024 when he was replaced by John Hambly.

Transactions between the two parties are detailed in note 8.



.....
Hilary Birkinshaw ACMA
Treasurer
On behalf of the Trustees



.....
Date

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities in respect of the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements

Under the trust deed of the charity and charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that the trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are required to act in accordance with the trust deed of the charity, within the framework of charity law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132(1) of the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Chairman's Report

When I made my report this time last year we had been through a period of soaring inflation and a severe squeeze on finances. I had hoped that as people felt under less pressure our incomes would rise. Sadly, that feel good factor didn't happen and we again reported a deficit of £47k compared to £37k in the previous year. Whilst, these headlines do not make good reading, I am positive about the year ahead for the reasons I will outline. Given this is the second year of deficit I must address the reasons for this deficit in this report.

The biggest shortfall was income. Our income of £344k was £50k below our budget however, the income was broadly static compared to the previous year (up by £9k). We had budgeted for therapy donations and membership to bring in £209k but they actually brought in £180k which was £13k lower than the previous year. Funds from Trusts & Grants was down against budget by £15k and Gift Aid £10k. The net of all other income sources matched budget. As always we are grateful to our donors, our supporters who run and attend our fundraising events and those who remember us in their wills.

Were we overly optimistic on what we could bring in? Debbie and Caroline went through a detailed analysis of this from October to December. We brought in a new booking system for oxygen sessions and are much clearer on what each member is contributing for this and membership. At the time of our budgeting last year, we identified a lot of wasted appointments and we had hoped that members would be able to make the suggested minimum donations. For reasons of hardship and in some cases priorities, the average donation per member has not increased as expected. As trustees, we are aware of the impact of this on our finances but as a matter of principle the provision of services should not be linked to what people pay. We are here to help people living with MS whatever their circumstances. We can, however, ask those who may be able to afford more to give more! Our actual membership numbers also fell slightly this year to 180. Our September 2024 data was not able to give precise numbers for comparison. The reasons for leaving were declining health and several members moved from the Guildford area. No one left because of concerns about the Samson Centre.

On the positive side our income was improved by the extraordinary contribution of Simon Teagle who ran the entire Cornish coast which was 350 miles and raised £18,800 for us. We are delighted this was recognised by Guildford Council with a well-deserved Mayor's Award for Access which was presented to him in October.

Although we hope (as we did last year) that we can increase membership contributions we have brought in a new fundraiser, Sarah Pritchard who is dealing with grant applications and Sam Smith on the events organising side. Both Sarah and Sam joined in July and their hard work has only yielded results since the end of the financial year. Sarah has many years of successful fundraising with Cherry Trees and since starting with us has made applications totalling more than £250k. Of these, we have been promised £30k and are waiting to hear on £200k of applications. Clearly, we will not be approved for all of these applications but there is good reason to be positive about our prospects on each as they are very targeted. Sam has been equally industrious organising a bingo night (£600), a collection at Lingfield (£400), a Xmas Fair and a stellar golf day at Milford which raised £23,000. These were after the end of the financial year. I must also thank John Hambly who brought in some of his high profile contacts who were very generous in their support. Sam is also organising a concert with the London Welsh Rugby Club Choir at Charterhouse in February and an Elton John Tribute act at GLive in June and hoping to sell 1000 tickets. There are other events being planned on top of these. You may know Sam who worked for us a number of years ago and organised a very successful Abba tribute event also at GLive. These events will continue to raise our profile and spread the message about the fantastic work the Samson Centre does. There is a considerable lag between planning events or making grant applications which is why none of this work has resulted in income for the year that has just closed but with these already generating more than £50k, it supports our positivity about the year ahead.

Chairman's Report (continued)

Last September we were also optimistic, and it would have been easy to loosen the purse strings, but we have always and will continue to adopt a prudent approach of keeping costs as low as possible and only spending against actual rather than promised income. We had budgeted costs of £393k but through careful management managed to keep budget. The only cost increases were from salaries which follow NHS rates and premises costs from the Waterside Centre which were in our budgets. We are budgeting similar increases for the coming year in these areas.

Thankfully, we had strong reserves, and we used these to cover the shortfalls in the last two years. Our reserves are still within our reserves policy, but we cannot afford to keep drawing on them.

Changing Faces

Obviously last year, Debbie joined us as Centre Manager in September and has done a tremendous job in her first year. As I mentioned Sarah and Sam joined on the fundraising side in July, Vicky Bassett formally took over from Sara as Lead Physio in September and a new experienced physio, Laura Jones joined in November. We are delighted to welcome all of these people and to say thank you for the ideas and energy they have brought to their new and changing roles.

As you are aware after many years, our treasurer Hilary has decided to step down. Her plan is to move to Yorkshire where her family are from. Hilary has helped to steer us through some difficult times and her insight and her ability to explain complex financial matters in a straightforward way has been invaluable. Thankfully, she has promised to work alongside our new treasurer to ensure a full transition. We are very pleased that one of our members, Ruth Elliott, and her husband Chris have agreed to join the Trustee Board as joint Treasurers.

Future Plans

Last year we made a number of behind the scenes changes to the centre which have laid the groundwork for the year ahead. We will be placing even more emphasis on promoting ourselves in the local area such as recent collaboration with the Row Barge pub next door, the recent DJ night hosted by Revology and next year's raft race. So often we speak to local people who have never heard of the Samson Centre. Increasing our profile will make us more attractive to volunteers and increase our revenue.

As I mentioned last year, we are planning a new oxygen chamber which has greater capacity and will provide access for motorised wheelchair users. This is a much larger project than we initially thought, and we now have greater clarity on what is needed.

At the start of this year, in conjunction with the Guilford Waterside Centre we bought and installed a new hoist to give disabled access to kayak on the river outside. Next summer we can look forward to having more outdoor kayak events and we are currently working through the procedures that will make this safe as well as fun for everyone.

We are aware that the centre is in need of a facelift and we are in discussions with the GWC about redecorating and upgrading the floor in the main hall. We have also applied for funding to air-condition the hall which will make it more usable in hot weather. We have also applied for funding for these improvements.

Finally, we are planning more afternoon activities which will make better use of our resources. We understand that mornings are a better time for some people with MS but by doing this we can offer more services to a wider range of people and reduce waiting lists for one-to-one gym and physio sessions.

Chairman's Report (continued)

Conclusion

Thank you to all of our staff, volunteers, members and those who have given so much over the last year. It is your enthusiasm, support, hard work, generosity and kindness that has meant we offer a warm welcome, continue to provide all of our core services and keep smiling. Doing what you do for the Samson Centre makes a real difference to the everyday lives of our members. Thank you.



Gavin Crocker– Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of the Samson Centre for MS

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statement of Samson Centre for MS (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 12 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 Act.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with 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 (FRS102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has since been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.

Michelle H Matthews FCCA FMAAT
Michelle H Matthews FCCA
MHM Accounting Solutions
13 Mapledrakes Close
Ewhurst
Surrey, GU6 7QR

15th March 2025
Date

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from:	2						
Donations		297,943	29,305	327,248	315,104	66,030	381,134
Other trading activities		9,587	-	9,587	2,713	-	2,713
Investments		6,751	-	6,751	4,818	-	4,818
Total income		314,281	29,305	343,586	322,635	66,030	388,665
Expenditure on:	3						
Raising funds:							
Donations		31,428	2	31,430	29,088	3	29,091
Other trading activities		4,926	-	4,926	4,327	-	4,327
		36,354	2	36,356	33,415	3	33,418
Charitable activities:							
Physical Therapy		239,569	38,051	277,620	251,605	17,414	269,019
Oxygen Therapy		75,888	728	76,616	66,393	3,228	69,621
		315,457	38,779	354,236	317,998	20,642	338,640
Total expenditure		351,811	38,781	390,592	351,413	20,645	372,058
Net (expenditure)/income		(37,530)	(9,476)	(47,006)	(28,778)	45,385	16,607
Transfers between funds	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(37,530)	(9,476)	(47,006)	(28,778)	45,385	16,607
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		226,697	76,318	303,015	255,475	30,933	286,408
Total funds carried forward		189,167	66,842	256,009	226,697	76,318	303,015

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed assets							
Tangible assets	10	6,854	60,171	67,025	9,454	73,455	82,909
Total fixed assets		6,854	60,171	67,025	9,454	73,455	82,909
Current assets:							
Debtors	11	16,043	-	16,043	26,477	-	26,477
Cash at bank and in hand		183,436	6,671	190,107	200,560	2,863	203,423
Total current assets		199,479	6,671	206,150	227,037	2,863	229,900
Liabilities:							
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(17,166)	-	(17,166)	(9,794)	-	(9,794)
Net current assets		182,313	6,671	188,984	217,243	2,863	220,106
Total assets less current liabilities		189,167	66,842	256,009	226,697	76,318	303,015
Total net assets		189,167	66,842	256,009	226,697	76,318	303,015
The funds of the charity:							
Unrestricted		189,167	-	189,167	226,697	-	226,697
Restricted		-	66,842	66,842	-	76,318	76,318
Total charity funds	13	189,167	66,842	256,009	226,697	76,318	303,015

Notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of the financial statements.



Hilary Birkinshaw ACMA
Treasurer
On behalf of the Trustees



Date

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (utilised)/provided by operating activities	14	(6,116)	48,437
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(7,200)	(68,592)
Net cash utilised by investing activities		(7,200)	(68,592)
Cash flow from financing activities			
Repayment of existing loans		-	-
Net cash utilised by financing activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(13,316)	(20,155)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		203,423	223,578
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		190,107	203,423

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies:

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, the accounts present a true and fair view, and no changes have been made to the accounting policies stated in this note. No changes to accounting estimates or material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

b) Recognition of income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when

- The charity becomes entitled to the resources
- It is more likely than not that the charity will receive the resources
- The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

Grants and donations are only included when the general recognition criteria are met. Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

c) Expenditure and liabilities

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty. Liabilities are recorded at transaction price.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. More information on this is given in note d) below.

d) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance and other support costs.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to statutory accounting and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies: (continued)

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based either on the staff time taken in carrying out these activities or the floorspace allocated to the activities.

e) Assets and depreciation

These are initially recognised at cost and depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

- Plant and machinery 20% on cost
- Baric Chambers 20% on cost
- Computer equipment 33% on cost
- Furniture & fixtures 33% on cost

f) Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts.

g) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objectives. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. Restricted funds are separately identified in the Statement of Financial Activities.

h) Going concern

We have paid particular attention to the likely effects on the charity of the current economic climate and the trustees remain confident that sufficient funding, and reserves, are in place and that the charity has adequate resources to enable it to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

2. Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations						
Member donations	180,062	100	180,162	193,324	-	193,324
Legacies and other	73,005	11,000	84,005	74,723	12,055	86,778
Grants for therapies	7,750	18,205	25,955	9,450	53,975	63,425
Fundraising activities	37,126	-	37,126	37,607	-	37,607
	<u>297,943</u>	<u>29,305</u>	<u>327,248</u>	<u>315,104</u>	<u>66,030</u>	<u>381,134</u>

Notes to the financial statements

2. Analysis of income (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from trading activities						
Fundraising events	7,064	-	7,064	1,148	-	1,148
Lottery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merchandise sales	2,523	-	2,523	1,565	-	1,565
	<u>9,587</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,587</u>	<u>2,713</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,713</u>
Investment income	6,751	-	6,751	4,818	-	4,818
	<u>314,281</u>	<u>29,305</u>	<u>343,586</u>	<u>322,635</u>	<u>66,030</u>	<u>388,665</u>

3. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support & governance costs 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support & governance costs 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Raising funds						
Donations	27,682	3,748	31,430	25,844	3,247	29,091
Other trading activities	3,989	937	4,926	3,490	837	4,327
	<u>31,671</u>	<u>4,685</u>	<u>36,356</u>	<u>29,334</u>	<u>4,084</u>	<u>33,418</u>
Charitable activities						
Physical Therapy	221,410	56,210	277,620	220,008	49,011	269,019
Oxygen Therapy	16,677	59,939	76,616	16,129	53,492	69,621
	<u>238,087</u>	<u>116,149</u>	<u>354,236</u>	<u>236,137</u>	<u>102,503</u>	<u>338,640</u>
Total expenditure	<u>269,758</u>	<u>120,834</u>	<u>390,592</u>	<u>265,471</u>	<u>106,587</u>	<u>372,058</u>

Notes to the financial statements

4. Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance and support costs are allocated to the charity's activities as follows:

	Raising Funds: Donations 2024 £	Raising Funds: Trading 2024 £	Physical Therapy 2024 £	Oxygen Therapy 2024 £	Total allocated 2024 £
Salaries and benefits	2,033	-	24,394	33,862	60,289
Building running costs	938	937	22,477	13,111	37,463
Operational costs	318	-	3,814	5,295	9,427
Governance activities	460	-	5,525	7,670	13,655
Total	3,749	937	56,210	59,938	120,834
	Raising Funds Donations: 2023 £	Raising Funds: Trading 2023 £	Physical Therapy 2023 £	Oxygen Therapy 2023 £	Total allocated 2023 £
Salaries and benefits	1,639	-	19,664	28,400	49,703
Building running costs	836	837	20,086	11,717	33,476
Operational costs	286	-	3,436	4,963	8,685
Governance activities	485	-	5,825	8,413	14,723
Total	3,246	837	49,011	53,493	106,587

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is as follows:

	Governance related 2024 £	Other support costs 2024 £	Total Governance allocated 2024 £	Governance related 2023 £	Other support costs 2023 £	Total allocated 2023 £
Salaries and benefits	12,197	48,092	60,289	9,832	39,871	49,703
Building running costs	7,579	29,884	37,463	6,622	26,854	33,476
Operational costs	1,908	7,519	9,427	1,718	6,967	8,685
Governance activities	2,763	10,892	13,655	2,912	11,811	14,723
Total	24,447	96,387	120,834	21,084	85,503	106,587

Building running costs are allocated based on the floorspace allocated to each activity. All other costs are allocated based on an analysis of the time spent on each of these activities. All allocated governance and support costs are met from unrestricted funds.

Notes to the financial statements

5. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	216,024	221,944
Social security costs	15,215	11,539
Pension Costs	5,726	5,293
	236,965	238,776

No employees (2023: nil) received employee benefits for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

The total employee salary & benefits, including National Insurance and pension contributions received by the key management personnel in the reporting period was £40,655 (2023: £32,773).

The number of employees during the year (FTEs) was:

	2024 £	2023 £
Therapists	4.2	4.1
Support staff	1.5	1.3
	5.7	5.4

6. Trustees' remuneration

There was no trustee remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2024 (2023: £nil).

Trustees' expenses of £52 were reimbursed during the reporting period (2023: £nil).

7. Independent examiners fees

Fees of £180 were paid to the independent examiner (2023: £180).

Notes to the financial statements

8. Related parties' transactions

A payment is made to Guildford Waterside Centre each year in respect of the Samson Centre for MS's share of the running cost of the shared facility. Total payments during the period were £34,998 (2023: £32,955).

In additions, donations were also received during the year from Guildford Waterside Centre totalling £nil (2023: £5,055)

At the year end £2,750 (2023: £2,604) is included within debtors and £nil (2023: £ nil) is included within creditors in relation to Guildford Waterside Centre.

9. Taxation

Samson Centre for MS is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2023	200,865	200,865
Additions	7,200	7,200
At 31 August 2024	208,065	208,065
Depreciation		
At 1 September 2023	117,956	117,956
Charge for year	23,084	23,084
At 31 August 2024	141,040	141,040
At 1 September 2023	82,909	82,909
At 31 August 2024	67,025	67,025

£6,854 (2023: £9,454) of the Net Book Value of Tangible Fixed Assets forms part of general unrestricted funds, the remaining Net Book Value is made up of restricted funds.

Notes to the financial statements

11. Debtors

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Prepayments	16,043	26,477
	16,043	26,477

All debtors of £16,043 (2023: £26,477) form part of unrestricted funds.

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year.

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Trade creditors	1,926	3,970
Social security and other taxes	2,918	3,497
Other creditors	760	675
Accruals and deferred income	11,562	1,652
	17,166	9,794

All creditors of £17,166 (2023: £9,794) form part of general unrestricted funds.

Notes to the financial statements

13. Movement in funds – Current year

	Funds balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Funds balances carried forward £
Restricted funds:					
Extension Fund	8,062	-	(696)	-	7,366
The Movement Programme	12,748	21,205	(19,787)	-	14,166
The Connections Programme	2,450	8,100	(6,490)	-	4,060
Gym refurbishment	53,058	-	(11,808)	-	41,250
	76,318	29,305	(38,781)	-	66,842
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	176,697	314,281	(351,811)	-	139,167
Designated funds	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
	226,697	314,281	(351,811)	-	189,167
Total funds					
	303,015	343,586	(390,592)	-	256,009

Movement in funds – Prior year

	Funds balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Funds balances carried forward £
Restricted funds:					
Extension Fund	11,247	-	(3,185)	-	8,062
The Movement Programme	19,686	-	(6,938)	-	12,748
The Connections Programme	-	7,000	(4,550)	-	2,450
Gym refurbishment	-	59,030	(5,972)	-	53,058
	30,933	66,030	(20,645)	-	76,318
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	205,475	322,635	(351,413)	-	176,697
Designated funds	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
	255,475	322,635	(351,413)	-	226,697
Total funds					
	286,408	388,665	(372,058)	-	303,015

Notes to the financial statements

13. Movement in funds – Prior year (continued)

Extension Fund:

The Extension Fund supports the extension to the building that the Samson Centre for MS operates from, to provide additional oxygen therapy capacity and further therapy, meeting and administration space.

Movement programme:

The Movement Programme directly supports the cost of physiotherapists and equipment for the gym.

Connections programme:

The Connections Programme supports projects to improve and maintain the emotional well-being of members and their carers.

Gym refurbishment:

Programme to purchase and install new gym equipment, maximise the use of the space available and select equipment that deals specifically with needs of those living with MS in mind.

Designated Funds:

Funds have been designated to support the acquisition and installation of a new wheelchair accessible oxygen chamber. This will allow members who are unable to transfer out of their wheelchairs or whose wheelchairs are too large to fit into the current chambers to benefit from this service.

14. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net (deficit)/income for the year	(47,006)	16,607
Adjustment for		
Depreciation charges	23,084	19,553
Decrease in debtors	10,434	10,544
Increase in creditors	7,372	1,733
Net cash (utilised) / provided by operating activities	(6,116)	48,437