

STORIES FOR LIFE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STORIES FOR LIFE

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STORIES FOR LIFE

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with receipts and payments accounts for the Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The report and receipts and payments accounts have been prepared in accordance with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

Legal and administrative information

Charity Name Stories For Life

Charitable Incorporated Organisation registration no. 1169750

Registered office 25 Combemartin Road
London
SE18 5PP

Trustees	Claire Ryan-Cater Barbara Altounyan Louise Gloyne Stevan Jackson Sunil Sheth David Smith Andrew Snelgrove	Chair-person Resigned Appointed
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Chief Executive Barbara Altounyan

Charity Review

This last year has focussed on successfully implementing the change of name and rebranding for Stories for Life. This included the broadening of our offer to record the stories of patients and individuals everywhere in the UK, regardless of where they are being treated or live. This also includes extending our recordings both online and face to face, so we can offer our service free of charge to as many people as possible.

In addition, this involved adapting our training and support for volunteer biographers, how we record and share recording.

The transition based on our learning from Covid has been a success and well received.

A launch to celebrate our new name and offer was held in the form of a highly successful 'live biography' featuring political journalist Robert Peston and C4's Head of News and Current Affairs boss Dorothy Byrne. Robert Peston talked openly about his experience of losing his wife.

This was then followed by the BBC Radio 4 Today programme hosting two weeks of special programming, during which listeners were invited to share their stories. This was excellent publicity for the Charity, and importantly, started a process of raising awareness of the importance and benefits of capturing memories and life stories. This also prompted a funder for the Charity to come forward.

The funding will finance pilots for 2023 which will test two alternative approaches to our work, to determine which is best received and allows us to help as many people as possible. One exploring how we work with hospices and the other, exploring how we work with the broader population across all channels (online and offline) and in all settings/communities.

**STORIES FOR LIFE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Charity Review (continued)

Not long after this publicity, our charity was awarded funding for three years by a generous grant funder who just happened to hear us on the Today programme.

We have now been able to brainstorm, plot and plan a fully funded and comprehensive pilot to test the validity of our new recording methods and the engagement of brand new non hospice venues for 2023.

2022 was certainly good to us @ Stories for Life!

Financial Review

An initial grant (£49,000) was received from Pure Cremation, which formed a large part of the charity income in the year.

Overall, an excess of income over expenditure of £39,188 was recorded in the period and the cash funds were £61,500 at 31 December 2022.

The unrestricted cash funds balance has increased to £61,500 (2020: £22,312). Only having unrestricted funds gives the charity flexibility in how it can allocate funding to support its key objectives.

The Trustees have sought to ensure that they have policies and procedures to ensure good governance and financial practices to give confidence to future potential donors and funders and this coupled with two years future donations from Pure Cremation, due in 2023 and 2024, will strengthen the charities position further.

Reserves Policy

As required by the Charity Commission, the Trustees have considered the need to ensure sufficient reserves are in place to safeguard the Charity's ongoing operations. It is the aim of the Charity's Trustees to hold unrestricted funds at a level sufficient to cover six months' operating costs once sufficient incoming resources have been achieved.

Investment policy

The Trustees are aware that the Charity aims to retain a prudent amount of reserves and will seek to optimise a safe return on any available funds in the low return investment market in which we now live.

**STORIES FOR LIFE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Going Concern

The Trustees continue to limit expenditure to the level of incoming resources to ensure the charity is able to continue in operation.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("the Charity") operates under its own Constitution and is registered with the Charity Commission in England. The Charity was registered on 18 October 2016.

Members of the Board of Trustees

The Members of the Board of Trustees who served during the period and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Charity's policy is to invite suitably qualified professionals to become Trustees of the Charity. Trustees are initially appointed for between two to four years. The Charity considers the need to appoint new Trustees annually to complement the skillsets and knowledge of the board. Trustees are encouraged to ensure they understand their responsibilities for governance and also the sector in which the charity operates.

Organisational structure and decision making

Decisions are taken by the Trustee Board as a whole and they meet at least quarterly.

The Trustees are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the Charity. Risks are identified by the Board of Trustees and are assessed, reviewed and monitored throughout the year. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation and review of all transactions, including new and existing projects.

Procedures and written policies are in progress to ensure compliance with the safeguarding of vulnerable beneficiaries and the General Data Protection Regulation.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The Trustees consider that the key management personnel of the charity comprise the Board of Trustees and the Chief Executive. No salaries were paid to the key management personnel in relation to the financial year 2022. The Chief Executive, who is also a trustee, is due accrued fees for services supplied in 2017 to set up the charity, under the provisions of the governing document, which are detailed in note 2 to the accounts. No further payments were made against the outstanding balance in 2022.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 26th June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


C Ryan-Cater
Chair of the Board of Trustees

STORIES FOR LIFE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
	Note				
Total receipts	1	81,803	-	81,803	21,432
Operating expenditure					
Funding commissions		750	-	750	-
Story liaison and pilot preparation		31,316	-	31,316	21,470
Training costs		376	434	810	3,575
Fundraising and administration		9,739	-	9,739	1,550
Total payments		42,181	434	42,615	26,595
Net income/(expenditure)		39,622	(434)	39,188	(5,163)
Cash funds at 1 January 2022	1	21,878	434	22,312	27,475
Cash funds at 31 December 2022	1	61,500	-	61,500	22,312

The notes on pages 5 and 6 form part of these accounts

STORIES FOR LIFE

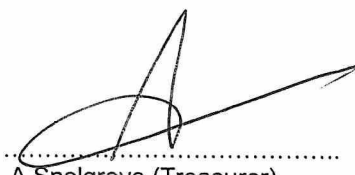
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
		£	£	£	£
	Note				
Cash funds					
Barclays current account		1,252	-	1,252	22,091
Barclays deposit account		60,248	-	60,248	221
		<u>61,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,500</u>	<u>22,312</u>
Liabilities					
Creditors		-	-	-	2,650
Accrued expenses-					
Hospice liaison and charity set up fees	2	13,200	-	13,200	13,200
Expenses in respect of the foregoing	2	879	-	879	879
		<u>14,079</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,079</u>	<u>16,729</u>
Charity reserves as at 31st December 2022		<u>47,421</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,421</u>	<u>5,583</u>

The receipts and payments accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on
and signed on their behalf by:



C Ryan-Cater (Chair)



A Snelgrove (Treasurer)

The notes on page 7 form part of these accounts

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Fund balances

The cash balance on restricted funds comprises the following:

	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	2022 Balance £	2021 Balance £
Training restricted fund				
Tesco Bags of Help grants	-	434	0	434
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	434	0	434
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Tesco Bags of Help

These relate to funding awarded to cover the cost of further training courses for our volunteer biographers.

2 Transactions with related parties and trustees

The Charity has accrued fees of £13,200 at 31 December 2022 (2021: £13,200) relating to an agreed payment for services supplied at a substantial discount by the Chief Executive, Barbara Altounyan, for work undertaken in setting up the Hospice Network and Volunteer Training programmes. This liability remains outstanding at the date of signing of the accounts. Unpaid operational expenses incurred during the initial set up phase by the Chief Executive totalling £879 are an accrued liability at 31 December 2021 (2020: £879).

3 Information required by the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012

No guarantees have been given by the Charity and there are no secured liabilities at 31 December 2022 (2021: £nil).

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES' OF STORIES FOR LIFE

The financial statements of Stories For Life for the year ended 31st December 2022 comprising the Receipts and Payments Account, Statement of Assets and Liabilities and related notes set out on pages 1-6. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FOSSE) (effective April 2006) under the historical cost convention.

Opinion

- (i) The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 comprising the Receipts and Payments Account, Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the related notes on pages 1 to 6 are in agreement with the books of account kept by the Charity
- (ii) On the basis of the information contained in those books of account the Receipts and Payments Account, Statement of Assets and Liabilities the related notes on pages 1 to 6 for the year ended 31 December 2022 comply with the requirements.
- (iii) The financial criteria allowing the production of accountants report instead of a full audit have been met.


SARGEANT & CO
Chartered Certified Accountants
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26th June 2023