

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

England & Wales · Charity number 1173282

Details

Other names	BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD BVDA, BVDA
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-06-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 6 Cavendish Road
Bristol
BS9 4DZ

Phone 07443510682

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, SICKNESS AND DISTRESS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

Activities: BVDA IS A STUDENT RUN CHARITY AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL STUDENT'S UNION THAT SEEKS TO WORK TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NGOS, COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANISATION AND LOCAL VOLUNTEERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. BVDA PROMOTES SUSTAINABILITY, BY WORKING SUCCESSIVE YEARS IN THE SAME AREA, ON PROJECTS TARGETING HEALTH, EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Bristol City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-09-30	£510	£1,290	-	-
2023-09-30	£160	£1,348	-	-
2022-09-30	£2,177	£6,668	-	-
2021-09-30	£885	£2,331	-	-
2020-09-30	£6,384	£2,415	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ben Perry		2019-01-27
Caitlin Bromfield		2023-02-19
Vaihari Balendran		2021-07-15
William Joyce		2024-01-15

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173282

Accounts



BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD
Registered Charity no. 1173282

Impact report for the year ending 30 September 2024

Contents

Section Header	Page
Our vision, mission and aim	2
A message from our Chair	3
Activities in 2023-24	4
Governance and Committee	5
BVDA's accounts and notes to the financial statements	6

Our vision, mission and aim

Our vision is of a global community working together to deliver sustainable positive change.

Our mission is to inspire and enable students to actively engage in sustainable international development.

Our aim is the advancement of education and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress in developing countries.

A message from our Chair

For the second consecutive year, unfortunately this year our plans to send a project team to Nepal were unsuccessful. A small but committed student team organised a project and recruited a team of volunteers during the first half of the year, learning the lessons from the previous year by planning further ahead and actively communicating with potential volunteers. Unfortunately however, sufficient students dropped out that the project was ultimately unable to go ahead.

We have carried out honest conversations with the student committee to understand the reasons for this, and see what can be done differently. The traditional BVDA approach of sending teams of six volunteers to carry out a structured project is vulnerable to volunteers dropping out late in the process, so other opportunities will be explored as a priority.

This did however lead to a new group of students committing to lead student activities next year, and clarified what needs to change. Ultimately, we want to ensure that committed students are able to complete their chosen volunteering opportunity. Next year, the students will work with the trustees to find opportunities that are more flexible and less dependent on group travel.

Ben Perry, chair of trustees

Thank you

The trustees are very grateful to the students that have taken part in local BVDA activities during the year, and to all those who have supported us during the year.

BVDA was founded by Bristol University students, and our mission continues to be inspire and enable students to actively engage in sustainable international development. This is made possible by the continuing commitment of the Bristol University students and their wider community. Thank you.

Activities in 2023-24

Publicity and Recruitment

BVDA returned to running a stall at the Bristol SU Welcome fair, which proved popular with a high number of students registering interest in BVDA's activities. Several students noticed the contrast between BVDA and other international volunteering opportunities being marketed to students. Volunteering with BVDA is less expensive, more flexible, and is often more sustainable in terms of impact.

The BVDA committee ran several recruitment events. In addition to holding information talks and linking with other student societies, the BVDA committee advertised BVDA at during International Summer Opportunities week and at the Global Opportunities Fair.

Project planning

Six volunteers made a formal application to volunteer in the summer of 2024, and took part in planning for a summer project to Nepal. Project scope and costs were agreed and initial plans were agreed with our partner organisation PSD. However several of the volunteers dropped out before the final commitment with PSD was due to be made in March. This resulted in the decision to cancel the project for summer 2024.

Fundraising

No active fundraising was carried out during the year. BVDA maintains adequate reserves to fund continuing operations in Bristol, so until an international project was confirmed the committee decided that no fundraising was required.

Monitoring & Evaluation

One of the trustees carried out an M&E project into the experience of being a BVDA trustee, by talking to past and present trustees. Several recommendations were made covering how the trustee experience could be improved, and how trustee recruitment and onboarding could be improved next time trustees were recruited.

Committee M&E focussed on the experience of students participating in committee activities, emphasising the importance of the committee president recruiting a team to support them and share responsibilities, as well as making the role more social.

M&E also focussed on the reason for students dropping out of the international project. Reasons related to uncertainty over the project costs and exact dates, and the legacy of the late cancellation of last year's project. Others related to pressures on students, with many seeking jobs or internships during the summer holidays. Next year's committee resolved to address these with the objective of maximising the opportunity for volunteers to complete their volunteering.

Governance and Committee

At the start of the 2023/24 period, BVDA was governed by four registered trustees. Our projects and safeguarding trustee, Celestine Weegenaar, resigned from BVDA in early 2024. Liam Joyce took over her trustee responsibilities, having joined as a trustee in 2023.

BVDA was supported by a small student committee, who had initially been part of the student group in 2023. With guidance from the trustees, the president took the lead on activities and meetings, including event promotion, social media communications, volunteer recruitment, planning for the overseas project, and student social activities.

Our current trustee board is:

Ben Perry (Chair)

Caitlin Bromfield (Committee Contact)

Vaihari Balendran (Finance)

Liam Joyce (Projects and Safeguarding)

Trustee recruitment typically consists of reaching out to BVDA alumni (three of the current trustees) or by advertising for specific skills and trustees based in Bristol, using websites such as Reach volunteering (one of the current trustees). Anyone interested in becoming a trustee, and who has either BVDA experience or is based near Bristol, is welcome to contact BVDA at trustees@bvda.org.uk.

BVDA's registered charity number is 1173282.

The registered address of BVDA is 6 Cavendish Road, Bristol, BS9 4DZ.

BVDA's accounts

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that neither an independent review nor an audit is required for this year under sections 144(2) and 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Receipts and Payments

	FY 2024			FY 2023
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Receipts				
Voluntary income			-	1,952
Fundraising sales			-	215
Deposits and grant income		500	500	-
Bank Interest		10	10	10
Total Receipts	-	510	510	2,177
Payments				
Fundraising costs			-	-
Project expenditure			-	(5,289)
Administrative costs		(1,155)	(1,155)	(42)
Insurance		(135)	(135)	(1,337)
Deposits and grant payments			-	-
Total payments	-	(1,290)	(1,290)	(6,668)
Net of receipts/(payments)	-	(779)	(779)	(4,491)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	-	11,797	11,797	17,476
Cash funds this year end	-	11,018	11,018	12,985

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	FY 2024			FY 2023
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Cash funds	-	11,018	11,018	12,985
Net assets and liabilities	-	11,018	11,018	12,985

The accounts, together with the related notes to the financial statements, were approved by the trustees and were signed on their behalf by:

Ben Perry, Chair 2023/24

Vaihari Balendran, Finance Trustee 2023/24

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 2023/24

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis.

Receipts

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Fundraising sales represent the income made from sales of charity goods.

Payments

Fundraising costs represent the costs associated with the income from fundraising sales.

Project expenditure represents payments made to overseas partners to fund volunteering projects. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Volunteers do not receive payments for their services. Administrative costs include the costs associated with meetings of the trustees and committee.

Neither the trustees nor the committee members receive any payment for their services to the charity. During the year, travel and expense costs were reimbursed to trustees and committee members totalling £331 (2023: £321). Insurance costs represent the public liability insurance purchased for UK operations.

Restricted funds

The charity's policy for restricted funds is to separately record donations, grants and other sources of fundraising where restrictions are imposed that are narrower than the charity's overall objectives. No restricted funds are held at 30 September 2024.

Taxation

BVDA is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions including receipt of Gift Aid.

BVDA is not registered for VAT and accordingly, all expenditure is recorded inclusive of any VAT incurred.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate incurred as part of the transaction. Bank fees incurred are recorded as direct project expenditure. All bank accounts are held in pounds sterling.

Reserves (cash funds)

The trustees have determined that BVDA needs to retain £7,500 in reserves to cover operational costs for one year, should we face a loss of income. Hence, BVDA continues to hold sufficient reserves to meet this requirement. Restricted funds are excluded from charity reserves.

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173282

Accounts



BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD
Registered Charity no. 1173282

Impact report for the year ended
30 September 2023



Contents

A note from our Chair	2
Our strategic work areas	3
Activities in 2022/23	4
Governance & Committee	5
BVDA accounts	6
Notes to the financial statements	7
Going forward	8
With thanks	9



Our vision is of a global community working together to deliver sustainable positive change.

Our mission is to inspire and enable students to actively engage in sustainable international development.

Our aim is the advancement of education and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress in developing countries.

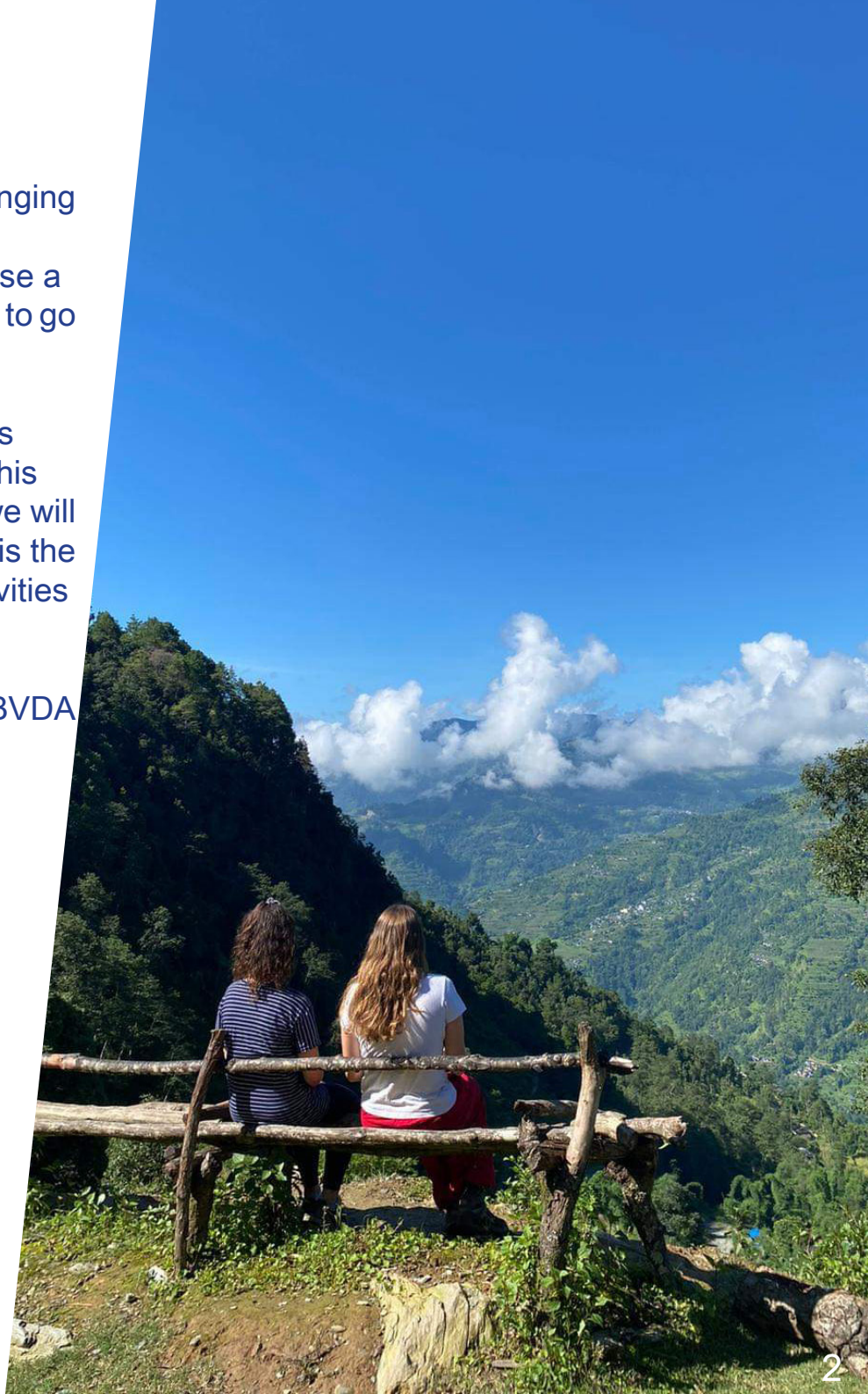
A note from our chair

Following our successful project in Nepal in 2022, this has been a more challenging year, with uncertainty following the pandemic continuing to affect student confidence in international volunteering. Our students managed to organise a project and find potential volunteers, but ultimately the project was not able to go ahead.

After three years of reduced operations, we no longer have a critical mass of students who can share their experience of volunteering with BVDA. This undoubtedly makes it harder to build confidence in new volunteers, and we will consider how to address this for future years. One reason for confidence is the willingness of a small number of students to continue to lead student activities next year.

We are however very grateful to the students that have taken part in local BVDA activities during the year, and all those who have supported us.

Ben Perry
Chair of trustees, 2022/23



Our strategic work areas

BVDA overcame Covid-induced challenges to send a cohort of volunteers to Nepal in 2022, and the focus of the charity this year was to repeat that success and continue to grow the volunteer base. At the start of the academic year, BVDA was no longer affiliated with the Bristol Student Union (SU), and subsequent re-affiliation attempts proved unsuccessful. This detrimentally impacted volunteer recruitment. Although some volunteers were recruited, dropouts meant the Nepal project planned for summer 2023 could not take place. The trustee board responded by supporting the committee for 2023-24 and planning for the future of the charity.

Focus on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

BVDA is committed to always creating a safe and inclusive environment and takes a strong stance against discrimination in all its forms to make activities fun and open for all. We continue to focus on collecting member demographic data and comparing this against university-wide data, to analyse how we can increase involvement and improve the experiences of underrepresented groups.



Activities in 2022-23

Re-affiliation attempts

Owing to missed deadlines in the 2021-22 academic year, BVDA started the 2022-23 academic year without SU affiliation. This meant BVDA no longer had access to some of the benefits that affiliation provided, such as having a society stall at the Bristol Student Union Welcome fair. When the BVDA committee applied for re-affiliation to the SU in October 2022, the application was rejected, as BVDA did not meet the minimum threshold of 30 members. The SU did, however, say that they would be open to possible re-affiliation in the future, but only after a period of BVDA operating separately and meeting the affiliation requirement.

Publicity and Recruitment

BVDA no longer being affiliated with the SU meant the BVDA committee was unable to recruit students by operating a stall at the Welcome fair, or by advertising on the SU website. Despite this, the BVDA committee ran several recruitment events in 2022/23. In addition to holding information talks, the BVDA committee advertised BVDA at the Global Opportunities Fair, during which 11 people registered interest in BVDA. Overall, the BVDA committee was able to recruit 3 firm volunteers, one of whom offered to be on the committee for 2023/24. However, shortly after beginning volunteer meetings, two volunteers dropped out. This resulted in the decision to cancel the project for summer 2023.



Governance & Committee

At the start of the 2022/23 period, BVDA was governed by five registered trustees. Katie Tomlinson stepped down as a trustee during the year. Ben Perry chaired the trustees, alongside Celestine Weegenaar, Vaihari Balendran and Caitlin Bromfield. Former BVDA volunteer, Liam Joyce, joined as a trustee in March 2023.

BVDA was supported by a single-person student committee, who had volunteered in Nepal in 2022. With guidance from the trustees, the president took the lead on activities and meetings, including event promotion, fundraising initiatives, and socials. BVDA's work continues to follow our up-to-date safeguarding policy. We have a safeguarding lead trustee who has completed the NSPCC Child Safeguarding training.

Trustee board

Ben Perry (Chair)

Caitlin Bromfield (Committee Contact)

Vaihari Balendran (Finance)

Celestine Weegenaar (Projects and Safeguarding)



BVDA Accounts

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that neither an independent review nor an audit is required for this year under sections 144(2) and 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

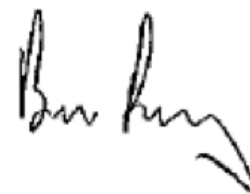
Receipts and Payments

	FY 2023			FY 2022
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Receipts				
Voluntary income			-	1,952
Fundraising sales			-	215
Deposits and grant income		150	150	-
Bank Interest		10	10	10
Total Receipts	-	160	160	2,177
Payments				
Fundraising costs			-	-
Project expenditure			-	(5,289)
Administrative costs		(1,221)	(1,221)	(42)
Insurance		(127)	(127)	(1,337)
Deposits and grant payments			-	-
Total payments	-	(1,348)	(1,348)	(6,668)
Net of receipts/(payments)	-	(1,188)	(1,188)	(4,491)
Transfers between funds			-	-
Cash funds from last year end	-	12,985	12,985	17,476
Cash funds this year end	-	11,797	11,797	12,985

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	FY 2023			FY 2022
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Cash funds	-	11,797	11,797	12,985
Net assets and liabilities	-	11,797	11,797	12,985

The accounts on this page, together with the related notes on page 7, were approved by the trustees and were signed on their behalf by:



Ben Perry
Chair 2022/23



Vaihari Balendran
Finance Trustee 2022/23

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30th September 2023

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis.

Receipts

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Fundraising sales represent the income made from sales of charity goods.

Payments

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

Fundraising costs represent the costs associated with the income from fundraising sales.

Project expenditure represents payments made to overseas partners to fund volunteering projects. Volunteers do not receive payments for their services.

Administrative costs include the costs associated with meetings of the trustees and committee. Neither the trustees nor the committee members receive any payment for their services to the

charity. During the year, travel and expense costs were reimbursed to trustees and committee members totalling £321 (2022: £0).

Insurance costs represent the public liability insurance purchased for the overseas project in Nepal.

Restricted funds

The charity's policy on restricted funds is to separately record donations, grants and other sources of fundraising where restrictions are imposed that are narrower than the charity's overall objectives. No restricted funds were held on 30 September 2023.

Taxation

BVDA is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions including receipt of Gift Aid. BVDA is not registered for VAT and accordingly, all expenditure is recorded inclusive of any VAT incurred.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate incurred as part of the transaction. Bank fees incurred are recorded as direct project expenditure. **All bank accounts are held in pounds sterling.**

Reserves (cash funds)

The trustees have determined that BVDA needs to retain £7,500 in reserves to cover operational costs for one year, should we face a loss of income. Hence, BVDA continues to hold sufficient reserves to meet this requirement. Restricted funds are excluded from charity reserves.

Priorities Going forward

Supporting partners

In 2023/24, the committee and trustees will work together to develop and execute a recruitment strategy, with the aim of recruiting enough volunteers to advance a project with PSD, our Nepali project partner.

Student engagement & longevity

A further priority for 2023/24 will be understanding how BVDA can continue to advance its mission of delivering sustainable positive change, as a smaller charity without the benefits of SU affiliation.



With thanks

BVDA is grateful to our current project partner, Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD), Nepal, for remaining committed to the partnership, despite BVDA not being able to advance a summer 2023 project.



BVDA would like to acknowledge the amazing support of our student committee and trustees through a difficult year.

Thank you for keeping BVDA strong so that future students and communities are able to benefit from amazing international development projects.

Bristol volunteers for development abroad (BVDA)

Registered charity no. 1173282
trustees@bvda.org.uk

bvda.org.uk
@bvda_bristol

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173282

Accounts



BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

Registered Charity no. 1173282

**Impact report for the year
ended 30th September 2022**



CONTENTS

A note from the Trustees	2
Our strategic work areas	3
Activities in 2021/22	3
Project: Nepal	4
Volunteer recruitment & training	6
Fundraising for NAYO	7
Governance & Committee	8
BVDA accounts	10
Notes to the financial statements	12
Going forward	14
With thanks	15



Our vision is of a global community working together to deliver sustainable positive change.

Our mission is to inspire and enable students to actively engage in sustainable international development.

Our aim is the advancement of education and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress in developing countries.

A NOTE FROM THE TRUSTEES

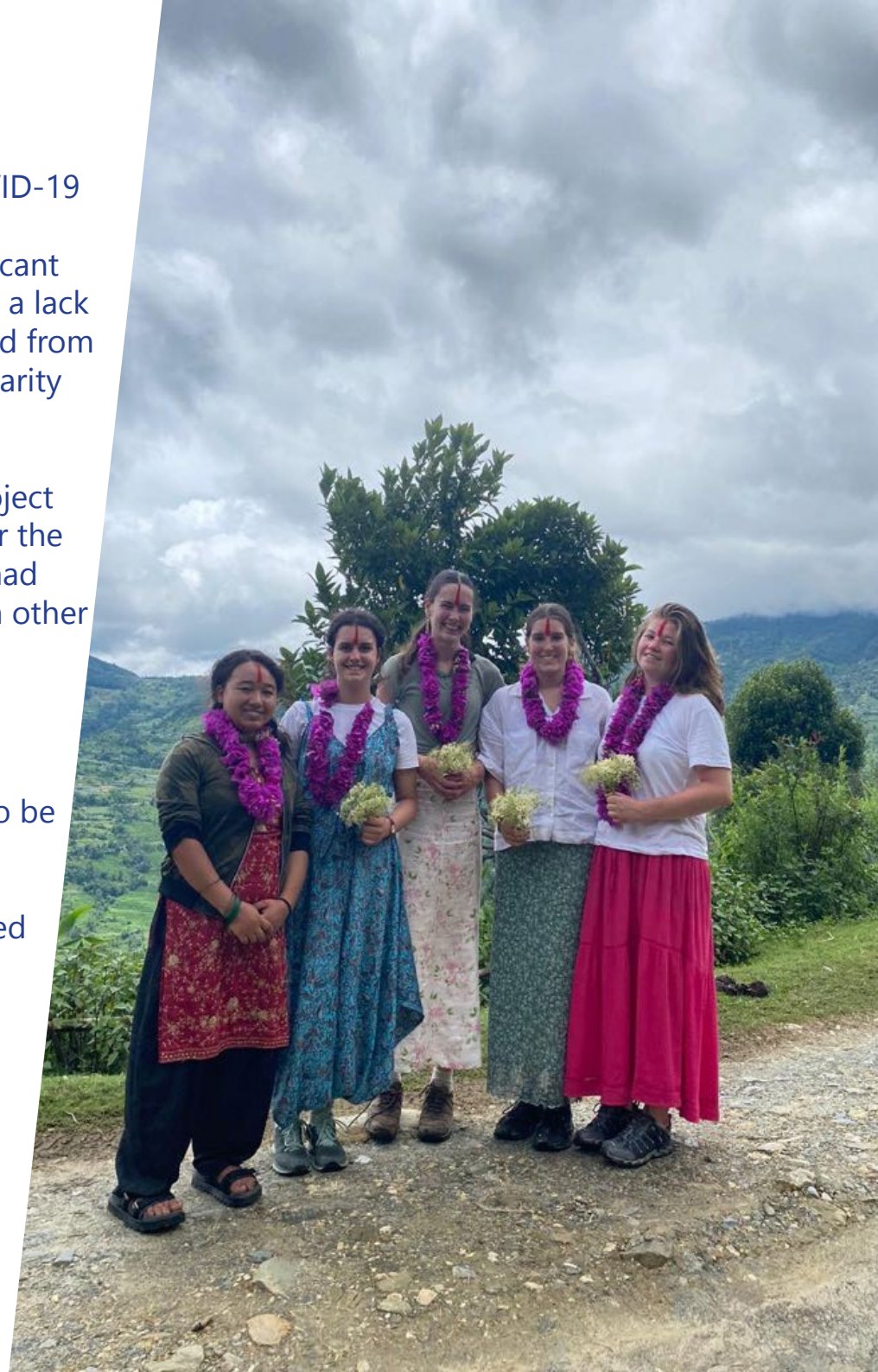
Following two years when international travel was restricted by the COVID-19 pandemic, this year we were again able to send a small group of four volunteers to Nepal. Facilitating this very successful project was a significant achievement for the student committee, who overcame uncertainty and a lack of experienced students to rely on. Training for the project also benefited from support from a local representative of the Pahar Trust, another Nepal charity with strong Bristol links.

Local activities this year included fundraising for a womens' hygiene project in Malawi. We were able to maintain a small core group of students over the year, noting sadly that some of our sister charities elsewhere in the UK had not been able to do so. Our students were able to host joint events with other societies in addition to their fundraising activities.

From a strategic perspective, the trustees are indebted to this year's committee for persevering and completing their project. However, the majority of the volunteers were final year students and it will continue to be a challenge for us to rebuild the student base over the coming years.

All the more reason, then, for the trustees to thank all those who donated their time or money to BVDA during this challenging but ultimately successful year.

Ben Perry
On behalf of the BVDA Trustees, 2021/22



OUR STRATEGIC WORK AREAS

Given the inability to send volunteers abroad during 2020 and 2021, the focus of the charity this year was to build a cohort of volunteers, successfully fundraise for the overseas project and to ensure volunteers had a successful project abroad.

At the start of the year there was uncertainty as to whether volunteers would be able to go abroad, so the committee and trustees continued to collaborate closely to deliver by planning for different eventualities and adapting to condense fundraising and volunteer training into shorter timescales. As a result, BVDA sent volunteers to work with a grass-roots charity in Nepal on a successful project.

Focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

BVDA is committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment at all times, and takes a strong stance against discrimination in all its forms in order to make activities fun and open for all. We continue to focus on collecting demographic data of the members and comparing this against university-wide data, in order to analyse how we can increase involvement and improve the experiences of underrepresented groups.

ACTIVITIES IN 2021/22

The following pages outline BVDA's activities in 2021/22. This year represented a successful year for BVDA, as we sent students on projects when few other organisations were able to do so because of uncertainty created by the global pandemic.

PROJECT: NEPAL

We worked with the Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) in the village of Sima in Nepal.

Our volunteers worked on a construction project to build three public bathrooms in Sima Village, where issues have been identified with health and hygiene.

Showering and washing is difficult, with communities usually relying on local water taps, which can often become overcrowded and unhygienic. Our volunteers worked alongside local skilled labourers to construct a women's bathroom, which will be used by around 50 women and allow them to have privacy when showering and washing clothes. The bathrooms were constructed using local materials and are earthquake resistant. The volunteers assisted the local workers by carrying cement and stones to aid the building work and painting the bathrooms once constructed.

'We got to learn so much about ourselves, and a completely new culture and community that we never have had the chance to experience otherwise. We believe the project has made a sustainable impact to Sima and hope that we have made a long lasting personal impact on the community too.'



Our volunteers also helped to carry out road maintenance, as the roads between villages were in poor condition and during the rainy season became slippery and difficult to drive and walk on. This makes it challenging for locals to access important services such as hospitals and schools during the rainy season. Working alongside local people, our volunteers dug roadside channels in order to divert the flow of water. They also built a more stable and resilient road surface from rocks and boulders, enabling vehicles to travel and making the surface less dangerous for people and animals on foot.

‘Overall, this project has been one of the most incredible adventures that any of us have experienced yet.’



Teaching in local schools was also a key component of the volunteer’s project. The volunteers used fun and hands-on teaching methods, and noticed a visible improvement in the children’s English language skills over the course of the project. The volunteers also designed and painted murals in classrooms to enhance the children’s learning environment.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

Face-to-face events continue to be BVDA's best form of volunteer recruitment. This year's freshers fair was run in person and the committee received around 200 email sign-ups.

In 2021/22 there was significant uncertainty over whether volunteers would be able to travel abroad due to the impact of Covid-19. After BVDA made the decision to send volunteers abroad in January 2022, the committee and trustees worked together to recruit, fundraise and agree project outcomes. The committee subsequently recruited and confirmed four volunteers to go on the project.

The volunteers ran a condensed training over 1 day which included the essentials as well as a presentation from an external contact who had previously volunteered in Nepal.



FUNDRAISING FOR NAYO MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PROJECT

In 2021, amidst the uncertainty surrounding sending volunteers abroad, BVDA continued to adapt its fundraising strategy to ensure that volunteers were able to get involved in fundraising for BVDA's partner charities.

BVDA worked with University of Bristol Period Society and Bristol Gynaecology Society to run a film screening and seminar on period poverty to raise money for a menstrual hygiene project run by Nancholi Youth Organisation (NAYO), BVDA's Malawi-based project partner.



Lady Bird Screening & Raffle



£50
Mtoto uwona!
Voucher
and other
prizes to be
won!



Scan QR
code for raffle
tickets!
£2 per ticket

For menstrual hygiene project
in Malawi

£3 entrance to screening - pay on the door
Any further donations are appreciated

5TH DECEMBER, STEPHENSON
ROOM, SU BUILDING, 12:10-2PM



Bristol
Obstetrics and
Gynaecology
Society



The event raised £130 through selling raffle and film tickets, and this fundraising was matched by BVDA. NAYO used this money to set up a year-long reusable sanitary pad production project and provide training on menstrual hygiene.

GOVERNANCE & COMMITTEE

In 2022, the trustees and committee continued to work closely to respond to the challenges posed by Covid-19, holding regular meetings and check-ins to discuss concerns, ideas and initiatives.

At the start of the 2021/22 period, BVDA was governed by five registered trustees. Shindy Lall stepped down as a trustee in February 2022, following several years working with BVDA as a trustee. Ben Perry chaired the trustees, alongside Celestine Weegenaar, Katie Tomlinson and Vaihari Balendran.



In 2021/2022, BVDA actively recruited for trustees. One trial trustee joined during the year recruited from an online platform. Former BVDA volunteer, Caitlin Bromfield also joined as a trial trustee and later joined the board.

Trustees are appointed by a resolution of existing trustees, of which there must be a minimum of three. All trustees serve for a term of two years and may be re-appointed for a further term at each Annual General Meeting.

TRUSTEE BOARD

Ben Perry (Chair)

Katie Tomlinson (M&E, EDI)

Celestine Weegenaar (Projects)

Vaihari Balendran (Finance)

Caitlin Bromfield (M&E)

BVDA is supported by a dedicated student committee, the majority of whom have remained with BVDA from the previous year despite no international projects going ahead in order to ensure continuity of the society. With guidance from the trustees, the committee took the lead on activities and meetings, including event promotion, fundraising initiatives and socials.

BVDA's work continues to follow our up to date safeguarding policy. We have a safeguarding lead trustee who has completed NSPCC Child Safeguarding training.



BVDA ACCOUNTS

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that neither an independent review nor an audit is required for this year under sections 144(2) and 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

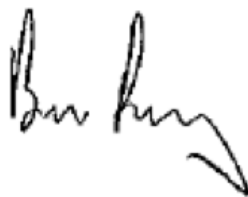
Receipts and Payments

		FY 2022		FY 2021	
		Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Receipts					
	Voluntary income	-	1,952	1,952	771
	Fundraising sales	-	215	215	-
	Deposits and grant income	-	-	-	-
	Bank Interest	-	10	10	-
Total Receipts		-	2,177	2,177	885
Payments					
	Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-
	Project expenditure	-	(5,289)	(5,289)	(1,670)
	Administrative costs	-	(42)	(42)	(86)
	Insurance	-	(1,337)	(1,337)	-
	Deposits and grant payments	-	-	-	(575)
Total payments		-	(6,668)	(6,668)	(2,331)
Net of receipts/(payments)		-	(4,491)	(4,491)	(1,446)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end		-	17,476	17,476	18,922
Cash funds this year end		-	12,985	12,985	17,476

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	FY 2021		FY 2020
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total
Cash funds	-	12,985	12,985
Net assets and liabilities	-	12,985	17,476

The accounts on pages 11-12, together with the related notes on pages 13-14 were approved by the trustees on 28th April 2021 and were signed on their behalf by:



Ben Perry
Trustee Chair

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30th September 2022

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis.

Receipts

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Fundraising sales represent the income made from sales of charity goods.

Payments

Fundraising costs represent the costs associated with the income from fundraising sales.

Project expenditure represents payments made to overseas partners to fund volunteering projects. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect

nature necessary to support them. Volunteers do not receive payments for their services.

Administrative costs include the costs associated with meetings of the trustees and committee. Neither the trustees nor the committee members receive any payment for their services to the charity. During the year, travel and expense costs were reimbursed to trustees and committee members totalling £0 (2021: £86).

Insurance costs represent the public liability insurance purchased for the overseas project in Nepal.

Restricted funds

The charity's policy on restricted funds is to separately record donations, grants and other sources of fundraising where restrictions are imposed that are narrower than the charity's overall objectives. No restricted funds are held at 30 September 2022.

Taxation

BVDA is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions including receipt of Gift Aid.



BVDA is not registered for VAT and accordingly, all expenditure is recorded inclusive of any VAT incurred.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate incurred as part of the transaction. Bank fees incurred are recorded as direct project expenditure.

All bank accounts are held in pounds sterling.

Reserves (cash funds)

The trustees have determined that BVDA needs to retain £7,500 in reserves to cover operational costs for one year, should we face a loss of income. Hence, BVDA continues to hold sufficient reserves to meet this requirement. Restricted funds are excluded from charity reserves.

GOING FORWARD

Supporting partners

In 2022/23, BVDA hopes to advance further projects with our partner charities. Given the success of sending in-person volunteers this year, we hope to continue to send volunteers abroad. The committee and trustees will continue to work together to make plans for various eventualities, including remote volunteering/fundraising.



Recruitment, student engagement & longevity

A further priority for 2022/23 will be continuing to ensure we have a strong volunteer base and committee to support BVDA's activities. This will be reinforced through collaboration with the university and other societies, and providing adequate support to the student-led committee. We will evaluate our activities on a regular basis to ensure that we meet this.

WITH THANKS

We truly value the relationships we have built with our project partners and have been proud to be able to send students abroad this year to support a great project.

With thanks to our current project partners:

- Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD)
- Nancholi Youth Organisation (NAYO)



BVDA would like to acknowledge the incredible support and resilience of our student committee, volunteers and trustees through an extremely difficult year.

Thank you for keeping BVDA strong so that future students and communities are able to benefit from amazing international development projects.

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD (BVDA)

Registered charity no. 1173282
trustees@bvda.org.uk

bvda.org.uk
[@bvda_bristol](https://www.instagram.com/bvda_bristol)

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173282

Accounts



BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD
Registered Charity no. 1173282



Impact report for the year
ended 30th September 2021

CONTENTS

A note from the Trustees	2
Our strategic work areas	3
Activities in 2020/21	4
Fundraising Project	5
Local volunteering	7
International Development conference	8
Volunteer stories & skills development	9
Governance & Committee	10
BVDA accounts	11
Notes to the financial statements	13
Going forward	15
With thanks	16



Our vision is of a global community working together to deliver sustainable positive change.

Our mission is to inspire and enable students to actively engage in sustainable international development.

Our aim is the advancement of education and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress in developing countries.

A NOTE FROM THE TRUSTEES

For the second year running, the COVID-19 pandemic caused significant disruption to our planned activities in 2021. Ultimately we were again unable to go ahead with overseas volunteering. During a year when not only international travel but also student life in Bristol was limited by the pandemic, we are however proud that our student committee was able to carry out activities in Bristol.

Highlights of these local activities included the fundraising for a project organised by our partners PSD in Nepal. We also jointly hosted the SIDN conference virtually with our sister charity at Edinburgh University. Our student committee hosted a successful joint event with Student Action for Refugees (STAR). Lastly, whilst face to face interactions were restricted for much of the year, our committee did organise social activities and was able to celebrate the end to a successful year with an in-person social event. The committee's feedback at the end of the year included the wonderful reflection that during lockdowns and disrupted studies, BVDA provided a rare opportunity for students to come together and make a positive difference.

From a strategic perspective, the trustees are indebted to this year's committee for ensuring the continuity of BVDA and sustaining a student presence that will hopefully allow us to resume international volunteering in 2022. We also completed our first formal review of equality, diversity and inclusion amongst the volunteers, giving us valuable insights for the future.

Finally, the trustees wish to thank all those who donated their time or money to BVDA this year.

Ben Perry
On behalf of the BVDA Trustees, 2020/21



OUR STRATEGIC WORK AREAS

During 2021, BVDA continued to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our student volunteers and the beneficiaries of our partner charities and activities were adapted accordingly.



The diagram shows the key areas of focus in BVDA's original 3-year strategic plan. The global pandemic situation meant that projects abroad were postponed and unable to go ahead, however we continued a number of activities, as well as developing new opportunities for sustainability and international development.

Financial Planning

BVDA continues to take forward its strategy of utilising excess reserves to support the charity's aims. BVDA remained in close contact with its partners and carried out a fundraising project with long-standing partner, Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) in Nepal. This gave BVDA the opportunity to still be able to volunteer and support the charity's missions locally.

Skills Development

In 2021, BVDA continued its work in supporting both student engagement and our charity partners. Experienced trustees led more grant workshops this year to provide students with new skills in funding research and bid writing. A group of students then worked on identifying a number of trusts/funds to apply to, submitting a total of 6 grant applications in the hope of supporting project partners. The information from the sessions and research has been collated to be used in future years.

Focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

BVDA are committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment at all times, and take a strong stance against discrimination in all its forms in order to make activities fun and open for all. Over the past year, we have focused on collecting demographic data of the members and comparing this against the data of the university as a whole, to analyse how we can increase involvement and improve the experiences of underrepresented groups. The committee has written up an EDI action plan that will be implemented going forward and shared on the BVDA website to ensure accountability for maintaining a safe and inclusive environment.

ACTIVITIES IN 2020/21

The following pages outline BVDA's activities in 2020/21. Despite international projects being postponed this year, there were still a multitude of successes for BVDA.



BVDA continued to host successful events from previous years, but carried them out virtually instead to accommodate lockdown measures and social distancing rules at the university. This included meetings, socials and workshops being done virtually via Zoom, and also emphasised the importance of online social media to spread awareness about the charity and its work.

FUNDRAISING PROJECT

This year, BVDA adapted our fundraising activities to the circumstances and the volunteers were able to get involved in a fundraising mini project for one of its long-standing partners.

The committee short-listed project proposals and went ahead with the Beekeeping Project in Nepal from Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) that aimed to support women and their families, providing them with financial independence and valuable skills for the future.

The project will involve 25 women from lower income families in Nepal being trained to become beekeepers to generate more income and opportunities for themselves and their families.



The volunteers took advantage of being able to go on walks during the Covid restrictions, and organised a collective climb up the hills of Bristol equivalent to the height of Mount Everest (8,848m).

This was a very successful initiative, with the students raising £757 and it being matched by BVDA reserves bringing the total to £1,500. This also gave the students a way to come together, raise money and make a difference, despite Covid restrictions.



Next steps

PSD is continuing to assess the most urgent community needs, with a focus on livelihood support beyond the immediate urgent health requirements.

BVDA plans to continue supporting PSD's work with local Nepalese communities to benefit people's lives and livelihoods over the longer term.

LOCAL VOLUNTEERING

While BVDA's primary activities involve working to further international development aims with our partners, empowering students to become active citizens is a key aspect of the charity's mission.

At the start of the academic year, BVDA teamed up with a homeless charity called Caring in Bristol, to help them write letters for their Christmas campaign, which is an extremely busy period for them.

Due to Covid restrictions, it was difficult to provide hands-on assistance for many other local charities, however BVDA will continue to explore this opportunity in the future and create strong relationships with local charities to make it a bigger part of our work. This would give students more opportunities to volunteer and create positive change throughout the year, aside from summer projects, and also creates a more inclusive environment for those who may not have the finances or ability to go abroad.

While international development volunteering is our focus at BVDA, we also want to support students to take an active role in local volunteering, supporting the wider community and their own development as responsible citizens.



Caring in Bristol

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

One of the charity's key aims is 'to provide a platform for meaningful international development discussion' and this year, the Student International Development Network (SIDN) conference was co-hosted virtually by BVDA and EGP (Edinburgh University).

It provided an exciting opportunity to invite meaningful debate and discussion around local and international volunteering, while continuing to forge networks with other student international development groups from across the UK.

Round-table discussion
Project impact evaluations
Supporting local charities
Fundraising
Grant-writing

SIDN 2021

CO-HOSTED BY
BVDA AND EGP



BVDA's students were able to share skills gained in conducting project impact evaluations and deliver a presentation about recent experiences supporting local Bristol charities through volunteering activities. There were also talks on fundraising, grant-writing and social events, all of which produced great ideas on how to improve the society and knowledge of the resources available.

VOLUNTEER STORIES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

BVDA continues to maintain the 'Volunteer stories' section on our website and provide a platform for the volunteers to share their thoughts, ideas and experiences across the year. This year, one volunteer shared her experiences with BVDA from going on a social project to Malawi to working her way up to the role of President across 4 years with the society.



Given the ongoing pandemic, BVDA continued to focus on skills development, with a specific emphasis on grant writing. Through a workshop and ongoing individual support, BVDA delivered training on grant research and bid writing, providing students with a new skill and more ways they can get involved in supporting international partners.

Despite the work being introduced in 2020 due to BVDA's usual volunteering abroad being postponed, it proved to be very successful and therefore continued for another year in 2020/21. Given the ongoing disruption from COVID-19 and the potential need to further adapt our activities, we will look to identify a broader range of workshops, talks and other activities going forward that will contribute to our objectives to broaden BVDA's appeal and reach under-represented audiences.



GOVERNANCE & COMMITTEE

In 2021, the trustees and committee continued to work closely to respond to the challenges presented by the persistence of COVID-19, with regular weekly meetings and informal check-ins to share concerns and ideas, as well as any initiatives taking place.

At the start of the 2020/21 period, BVDA was governed by five registered trustees. Sarah Malina stepped down as a trustee in July 2021, following several years working with BVDA as a trustee with significant experience in charity governance and funding. Shindy Lall chaired the trustees, alongside Ben Perry, Celestine Weegenaar and Katie Tomlinson.

In July 2021, the trustees officially welcomed Vaihari Balendran to the board who worked with BVDA previously as a student. Vaihari had an initial focus on publicity, fundraising and EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) for BVDA for the upcoming year.

Trustees are appointed by a resolution of existing trustees, of which there must be a minimum of three. All trustees serve for a term of two years and may be re-appointed for a further term at each Annual General Meeting.



TRUSTEE BOARD

Shindy Lall (Chair)

Ben Perry (Vice Chair, Finance)

Celestine Weegenaar (Projects)

Katie Tomlinson (Committee Liaison, EDI)

Vaihari Balendran (Publicity, Fundraising)

BVDA is supported by a dedicated student committee, the majority of whom have remained with BVDA from the previous year despite no international projects going ahead, to ensure continuity of the society. With guidance from the trustees, the committee took the lead on activities and meetings, including publicity for any events held, fundraising initiatives, grant-writing workshops and socials.

BVDA ACCOUNTS

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that neither an independent review nor an audit is required for this year under sections 144(2) and 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Receipts and Payments

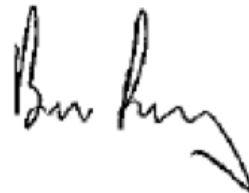
	FY 2021		FY 2020	
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Receipts				
Voluntary income		771	771	5,334
Fundraising sales			-	-
Deposits and grant income			-	1,050
Bank Interest		114	114	
Total Receipts	-	885	885	6,384
Payments				
Fundraising costs			-	-
Project expenditure		(1,670)	(1,670)	(1,753)
Administrative costs		(86)	(86)	(362)
Insurance			-	-
Deposits and grant paym	(575)		(575)	(300)
Total payments	(575)	(1,756)	(2,331)	(2,415)
Net of receipts/(payments)	(575)	(871)	(1,446)	3,969
Transfers between funds	(600)	600	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	1,175	17,747	18,922	14,953
Cash funds this year end	-	17,476	17,476	18,922

PY

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	FY 2021			FY 2020
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Cash funds	-	17,476	17,476	18,922
Net assets and liabilities	-	17,476	17,476	18,922

The accounts on pages 11-12, together with the related notes on pages 13-14 were approved by the trustees on 30th July 2022 and were signed on their behalf by:



Ben Perry
Finance Trustee



Vaihari Balendran
Publicity and Fundraising Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30th September 2021

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis.

Receipts

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Fundraising sales represent the income made from sales of charity goods.

Payments

Fundraising costs represent the costs associated with the income from fundraising sales.

Project expenditure represents payments made to overseas partners to fund volunteering projects. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Volunteers do not receive payments for their services.

Administrative costs include the costs associated with meetings of the trustees and committee. Neither the trustees nor the committee members receive any payment for their services to the charity.

During the year, travel and expense costs were reimbursed to trustees and committee members totalling £86 (2020: £362).

Restricted funds

The charity's policy on restricted funds is to separately record donations, grants and other sources of fundraising where restrictions are imposed that are narrower than the charity's overall objectives.

Since the 2020 projects could not go ahead, £425 held as restricted funds at 30 September 2020 was refunded to donors in the six months following year end. Of the £750 relating to volunteer deposits from previous years, £150 was refunded and the remaining balance was transferred to unrestricted funds.

No restricted funds are held at 30 September 2021.

Taxation

BVDA is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions including receipt of Gift Aid.

BVDA is not registered for VAT and accordingly, all expenditure is recorded inclusive of any VAT incurred.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate incurred as part of the transaction. Bank fees incurred are recorded as direct project expenditure.

All bank accounts are held in pounds sterling.

Reserves (cash funds)

The trustees have determined that BVDA needs to retain £7,500 (2019: £7,500) in reserves to cover operational costs for one year, should we face a loss of income. Hence, BVDA continues to hold sufficient reserves to meet this requirement. Restricted funds are excluded from charity reserves.



GOING FORWARD

Supporting partners

In 2021/22, BVDA hopes to take forward projects as planned with our partners. Uncertainty around global circumstances means there is a possibility that our support may not include in-person volunteering. The committee and trustees will work together to make plans for various eventualities, with potential collaboration including remote volunteering and raising funds for partners through local fundraising and grant-writing. We will continue to maintain regular communication with our partners to understand how we can best support the lives and livelihoods of the communities they work with and raise awareness of the importance of sustainable international development projects.



Student engagement & longevity

Another priority for 2021/22 will be ensuring that BVDA's activities are even more diversified. This means continuing to collect and analyse data of the members, and trial new ideas and experiences that will attract a wide range of volunteers from a variety of backgrounds. This will be boosted by continued collaborations with other societies and universities. We will evaluate our activities on a regular ongoing basis to ensure that, alongside meeting our charitable objectives, we are striving to be a charity that is inclusive and representative of all students at Bristol University, especially given the post-pandemic effects.

WITH THANKS

We truly value the relationships we have built with our project partners and were deeply saddened to have been unable to send students abroad to support some great projects this year. We are committed to resuming these project relationships as soon as we are able and in the meantime are working to provide support however we can.

With thanks to our current project partners:

- Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD)
- Nancholi Youth Organisation (NAYO)

With thanks to our supporters:

With additional thanks to our individual supporters and donors who donated towards students' fundraising efforts.

With agreement, many of the funds raised have been held back to fund participation in projects as soon as they are able to go ahead.



BVDA would like to acknowledge the incredible support and resilience of our student committee, volunteers and trustees through another extremely difficult year.

Thank you for keeping BVDA strong so that future students and communities are able to benefit from amazing international development projects.

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD (BVDA)

Registered charity no. 1173282
trustees@bvda.org.uk

bvda.org.uk
@bvda_bristol

BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173282

Accounts



BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

Registered Charity no. 1173282



**Impact report for the year
ended 30th September 2020**

CONTENTS

A note from our Chair	2
Our strategic work areas	3
Activities in 2019/20	4
An emergency grant	5
International Development conference	7
Local volunteering	8
Volunteer stories & skills development	9
Governance & Committee	10
BVDA accounts	11
Notes to the financial statements	13
Going forward	15
With thanks	16



A NOTE FROM OUR CHAIR

The COVID-19 pandemic caused significant disruption to our planned activities in 2020 and like many charities we were forced to reappraise and refocus our efforts in the face of new challenges. While this meant that we unfortunately had to postpone planned projects abroad, BVDA has a number of successes to celebrate from both before and throughout the pandemic. We have much to be proud of despite a difficult year.

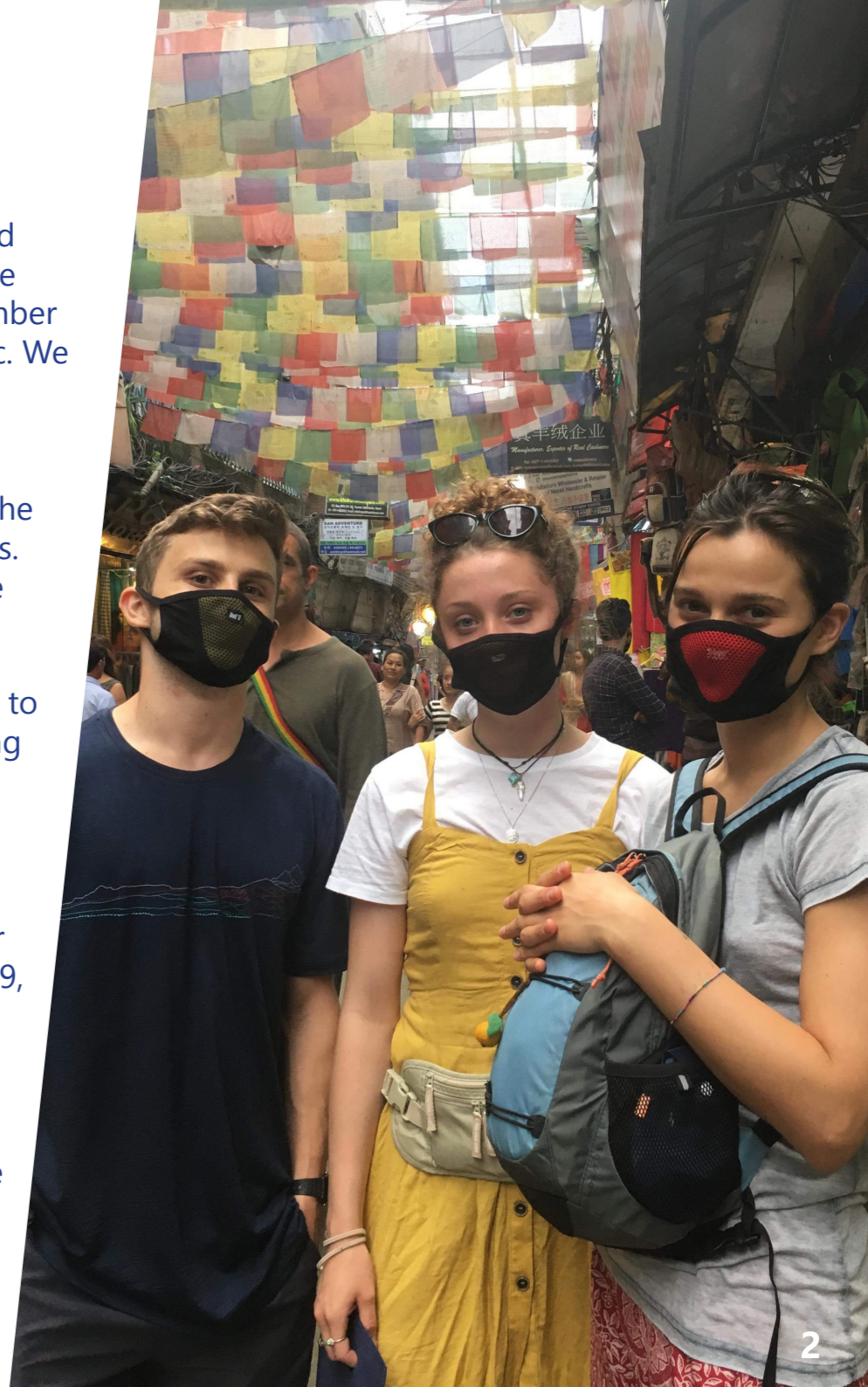
In February, BVDA's committee held the annual Student International Development Network (SIDN) conference, hosting students from across the UK for 2 days of international development activities, talks and workshops. The team also continued another year of local volunteering with Feed the Homeless, providing support to a great local cause.

In the months following these activities, lockdown and the need to adapt to new ways of working resulted in committee members and trustees coming together to develop a revised plan of action. New activities were devised so that BVDA could continue to support the charity objectives, engaging students and supporting our international partners as far as possible.

We're thankful not only to have been in a position to support our partner charity in Nepal with an emergency support grant in the face of COVID-19, but to also have such a motivated committee who have maintained their dedication to BVDA throughout an incredibly challenging time.

BVDA continues to adapt and persevere with the help of its supporters, committee and trustees. Our thoughts and best wishes are with everyone who has been affected by the pandemic.

Sarah Malina
Chair of trustees, 2019/20



Our vision is of a global community working together to deliver sustainable positive change.

Our mission is to inspire and enable students to actively engage in sustainable international development.

Our aim is the advancement of education and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress in developing countries.

OUR STRATEGIC WORK AREAS

During 2020, BVDA had to refocus its priorities. Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our student volunteers and the beneficiaries of our partner charities is our highest priority and activities were adapted accordingly.

The diagram to the right shows the areas we had planned to focus on in our 3-year strategic plan. The situation globally in 2020 meant that much was postponed as projects abroad were unable to go ahead, however we continued a number of engagement activities, as well as developing new opportunities for training and support.

BVDA forum

Hosting the annual Student International Development Conference (SIDN) in 2020 was a highlight of our work to expand BVDA forum activities. One of the charity's key aims is 'to provide a platform for meaningful international development discussion' and we were thrilled that BVDA's committee were able to host a weekend that not only provided this opportunity for Bristol students, but for student international development societies from across the UK.

Financial Planning

BVDA continues to take forward its strategy of utilising excess reserves to support the charity's aims. Having received a request from long-term partners Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) in Nepal, BVDA agreed an emergency support grant to roll out provisions and training to combat the spread of COVID-19 in the beneficiary community where students were unable to volunteer this year.

Skills Development

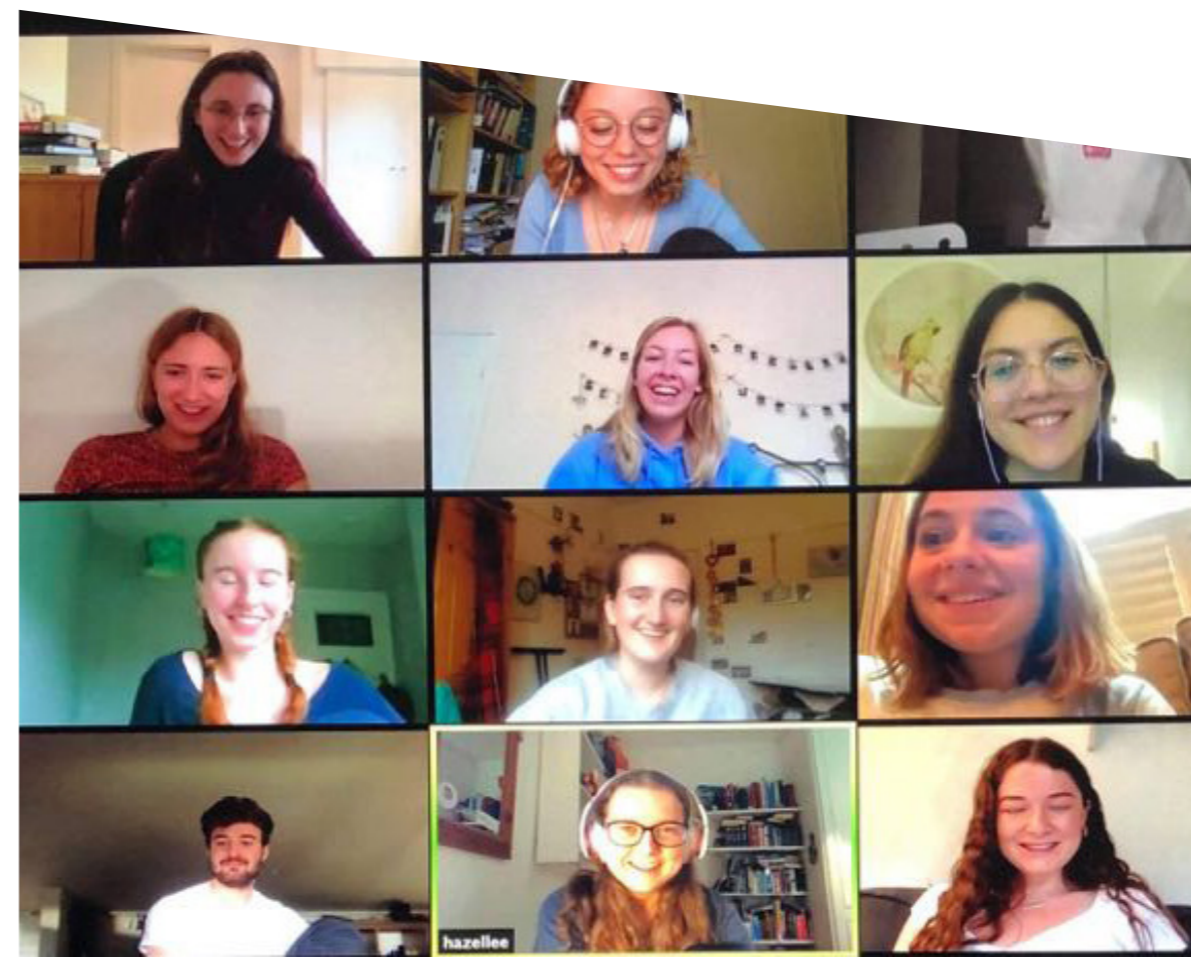
While not being one of our planned strategic objectives, BVDA refocused its work in 2020 to ensure we could still support both student engagement and our charity partners. Experienced trustees led a grants workshop to provide students with new skills in funding research and bid writing, with several applications for funding being submitted in the hope of supporting project partners.



ACTIVITIES IN 2019/20

The following pages outline BVDA's activities in 2019/20. Despite international projects being postponed this year, there were still a multitude of successes for BVDA.

Having hosted an engaging international development conference and local volunteering in terms 1 & 2, BVDA's activities moved online to accommodate lockdown measures and social distancing. Subsequent volunteering involved a rapid change of pace to virtual meetings and distanced activities, including improved online marketing and grant writing.



BVDA is pleased to have been able to provide a rapid grant to one of our project partners, enabling them to roll-out vital equipment and awareness-raising to fight against the spread of COVID-19. The details of this work is provided in the following pages.

AN EMERGENCY GRANT

In June, BVDA responded to a request from Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) to provide funds that would help to prevent the spread of COVID-19 across central regions in Nepal.

BVDA sent an emergency grant of £1,753 to fund the provision of basic hygiene and sanitation equipment such as soap, gloves and masks.

In addition to rolling out essential PPE, PSD led a campaign of awareness-raising, across multiple communities, around how COVID-19 is spread. As well as being provided with essential hygiene supplies, every person trained was also given the skills to roll-out further awareness-raising across their communities.



IMPACT

BVDA continues to work with PSD to understand the longer term impact of the pandemic on Nepalese communities and to understand the next steps so we can continue to provide support.

Essential equipment and training was rolled out in Dahare, Sima, Naldhunga, Multhana, Salam, Nakedhara, Gairathok and Daspara, with beneficiaries in the community comprising the following groups of people:

- a) Those in Quarantine
- b) Community members
- c) Local representatives
- d) Teachers
- e) Local NGOs
- f) Health professionals
- g) Womens health volunteers
- h) Police/security personnel
- i) Local Societies
- j) Womens groups

586 HOUSEHOLDS PROVIDED WITH ESSENTIAL HYGIENE KITS

OVER 1,000 PEOPLE DIRECTLY REACHED THROUGH TRAINING



NEXT STEPS

PSD is continuing to assess the most urgent community needs, with a focus on livelihood support beyond the immediate urgent health requirements.

BVDA plans to continue supporting PSD's work with local Nepalese communities to benefit people's lives and livelihoods over the longer term.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Hosting the 2020 Student International Development Network conference over a weekend in February provided an exciting opportunity to invite meaningful debate and discussion, while continuing to forge networks with other student international development groups from the across the UK.

BVDA's students were able to share skills gained in conducting project impact evaluations and deliver a presentation about recent experiences supporting local Bristol charities through volunteering activities.

We were also thrilled to have a professional speaker sharing tips on how to find purpose and stay motivated when things don't quite go to plan, in addition to a guest talk from the student service Nightline.



ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION HACKATHON ACTIVITY GUEST SPEAKERS ICEBREAKER VOLUNTEERING WORKSHOP

LOCAL VOLUNTEERING

In 2019, BVDA students organised to volunteer with Feed the Homeless Bristol.

While BVDA's primary activities involve working to further international development aims with our partners, empowering students to become active citizens is a key aspect of the charity's mission.

Taking part in a Feed the Homeless walk, BVDA volunteers delivered hot meals and essentials to those who are homeless across Bristol City Centre. Not only is this an extremely important cause, but it supports practical skills development such as teamwork and time management ahead of volunteers undertaking longer term volunteering abroad.



VOLUNTEER STORIES & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

BVDA launched a new 'Volunteer stories' section on our website. This new blog provides a platform for BVDA volunteers to share their thoughts, ideas and experiences when it comes to their volunteering with BVDA.

Having a forum where volunteers can share their own personal experiences of taking part in an international development project, their fundraising successes and the committee's experiences of their roles will help to support BVDA's engagement with existing and potential volunteers, as well as our long-term recruitment objectives going forward.



Due to the pandemic, BVDA also refocused its energy into skills development, with a specific emphasis on grant writing. Through a workshop and ongoing individual support, in 2020 BVDA delivered training on grant research and bid writing, providing students with a new skill and more ways they can get involved in supporting international partners.

While this work came about due to BVDA's usual volunteering abroad being postponed, this has been a great activity that we plan to continue. We recognise the ongoing disruption that may result from COVID-19 and the potential need to further adapt our activities in the short to medium term. Therefore, we will look to identify a broader range of workshops, talks and activities going forward that will contribute to our objectives to broaden BVDA's appeal and reach under-represented audiences.

GOVERNANCE & COMMITTEE

In 2020, the trustees and committee worked closely to respond to the challenges presented by COVID-19, with regular meetings and informal check-ins to share concerns and ideas.

With planned projects abroad unable to take place, BVDA's strategy was adapted to focus on providing a platform for meaningful discussion on international development. Reviewing BVDA's charitable mission and objectives, the board worked to develop a revised and more flexible plan of action for the 2019/20 academic year, allowing for the changing environment and the uncertainty around what lay ahead.

In February 2020, the trustees were delighted to welcome Katie Tomlinson to the board, with Katie leading work to make the BVDA offer increasingly engaging and inclusive.

Trustees are appointed by a resolution of existing trustees, of which there must be a minimum of three. All trustees serve for a term of two years and may be re-appointed for a further term at each Annual General Meeting.



TRUSTEE BOARD

Sarah Malina (Chair)

Shindy Lall (Vice-Chair, Committee Contact)

Ben Perry (Finance)

Celestine Weegenaar (Projects)

Katie Tomlinson (Publicity, EDI)

The Trustee Board seeks to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the charity through diversity of skills and experience on the Trustee board. Trustees are given BVDA's governing document upon joining the board and are subject to a 6-month trial period, throughout which they are supported through an induction process with an existing Trustee.

The trustees undertake a full risk review each year, with each trustee holding responsibility for the area of risk relevant to their role. A comprehensive risk register is maintained, following Charity Commission guidance.

BVDA ACCOUNTS

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that neither an independent review nor an audit is required for this year under sections 144(2) and 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Receipts and Payments

	FY 2020			FY 2019
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	Total
Receipts				
Voluntary income	425	4,909	5,334	11,762
Fundraising sales	-	-	-	-
Deposits and grant income	1,050	-	1,050	2,680
Total Receipts	1,475	4,909	6,384	14,764
Payments				
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	(268)
Project expenditure	-	(1,753)	(1,753)	(12,969)
Administrative costs	-	(362)	(362)	(989)
Insurance	-	-	-	(548)
Deposits and grant payments	(300)	-	(300)	(3,094)
Total payments	(300)	(2,115)	(2,415)	(17,867)
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,175	2,794	3,969	(3,104)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	-	14,953	14,953	18,056
Cash funds this year end	1,175	17,747	18,922	14,953 PY

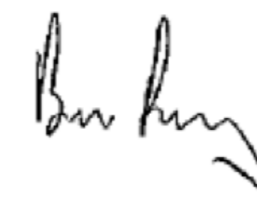
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Cash funds

Net assets and liabilities

	FY 2020		FY 2019
	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total
Cash funds	1,175	17,747	18,922
Net assets and liabilities	1,175	17,747	18,922

The accounts on pages 11-12, together with the related notes on pages 13-14 were approved by the trustees on 28th April 2021 and were signed on their behalf by:



Ben Perry
Finance Trustee



Sarah Malina
Chair 2019/20

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30th September 2020

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis.

Receipts

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Fundraising sales represent the income made from sales of charity goods.

Payments

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

Fundraising costs represent the costs associated with the income from fundraising sales.

Project expenditure represents payments made to overseas partners to fund volunteering projects. Volunteers do not receive payments for their services.

Administrative costs include the costs associated with meetings of the Trustees. Neither the trustees, nor any members of the committee, receive any payment for their involvement with the charity.

During the year, travel and expense costs were reimbursed to trustees and committee members totalling £362 (2019: £851).

Restricted funds

The charity's policy on restricted funds is to separately record donations, grants and other sources of fundraising where restrictions are imposed that are narrower than the charity's overall objectives. Since the 2020 projects could not go ahead, certain donors requested that their donations be refunded. The £425 held as restricted funds at 30 September 2020 represents funds returned to donors in the six months following year end.

In addition, volunteers provide deposits to BVDA prior to fundraising. These deposits are recorded as restricted income when received and restricted payments when returned to the volunteer. Since the 2020 projects could not go ahead, £750 of deposits were held as restricted funds at 30 September 2020.

Volunteers who do not reach their fundraising target waive their right to the deposit, so a transfer is made at year-end from restricted funds to unrestricted funds where required. Deposits still owed to volunteers at year-end but not yet repaid remain within restricted funds for one year.

Taxation

BVDA is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions including Gift Aid. At 30 September 2019 BVDA was in the process of reclaiming Gift Aid receipts relating to recent fundraising from the fundraising platforms used by our volunteers.

BVDA is not registered for VAT and accordingly, all expenditure is recorded inclusive of any VAT incurred.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate incurred as part of the transaction. Bank fees incurred are recorded as direct project expenditure.

All bank accounts are held in pounds sterling.

Reserves (cash funds)

The trustees have determined that BVDA needs to retain £7,500 (2019: £7,500) in reserves to cover operational costs for one year, should we face a loss of income. Hence, BVDA continues to hold a level of reserves in excess of those likely to be required. Restricted funds are excluded from charity reserves.

One of BVDA's current strategic objectives is to deploy our excess reserves to line with our charitable purpose.

The trustees remain satisfied that the charity's expenses in excess of income during the year are reasonable and in line with this objective.



PRIORITIES GOING FORWARD

Supporting partners

In 2021 BVDA hopes to take forward projects as planned with our partners. Uncertainty around global circumstances means there is a possibility that our support may not include in-person volunteering. The committee and trustees will work together to make plans for various eventualities, with potential collaboration including remote volunteering and raising funds for partners. We will continue to maintain regular communication with our partners to understand how we can best support the lives and livelihoods of the communities they work with.



Student engagement & longevity

Another priority for 2021 will be ensuring that BVDA's activities are diversified. This means continuing and trialling new ideas and experiences that will attract a wide range of volunteers from a variety of backgrounds. We will evaluate our activities on a regular ongoing basis to ensure that, alongside meeting our charitable objectives, we are striving to be a charity that is inclusive and representative of all students at Bristol University.



WITH THANKS

We truly value the relationships we have built with our project partners and were deeply saddened to have been unable to send students abroad to support some great projects this year. We are committed to resuming these project relationships as soon as we are able and in the meantime are working to provide support however we can.

With thanks to our current project partners:

- Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD)
- Nancholi Youth Organisation (NAYO)
- Youth Empowerment for Development Initiative (YEDI)

With thanks to our supporters:

With additional thanks to our individual supporters and donors who donated towards students' fundraising efforts.

With agreement, many of the funds raised have been held back to fund participation in projects as soon as they are able to go ahead.

BVDA would like to acknowledge the incredible support and resilience of our student committee, volunteers and trustees through an extremely difficult year.

Thank you for keeping BVDA strong so that future students and communities are able to benefit from amazing international development projects.



BRISTOL VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT ABROAD (BVDA)

Registered charity no. 1173282
trustees@bvda.org.uk

bvda.org.uk
@bvda_bristol