



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

Period start date

Day
1

Month
April

Year
2023

To

Period end date

Day
31

Month
March

Year
2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

Friends of Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation (KBF)

Other names charity is known by

Friends of KBF

Registered charity number (if any)

1176527

Charity's principal address

2 Stamford Road

Carrington

Manchester

Postcode

M31 4BA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Catherine Meredith	Chair		
2	Monika Wiselka	Trustee		
3	Anke Raabe	Trustee		
4	Elizabeth Peppiatt	Trustee	1/4/23-31/10/23	
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name

Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by existing trustees by majority vote

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

1. "Friends of KBF" exists to support the work of "Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation"(KBF), a charitable organisation based in Kolkata, India which runs an educational project for children from the slum area, a hospice/carehome for people who have been left to die with no one to care for them; and children's clubs in a variety of locations. "Friends of KBF" achieves this by raising funds, providing resources and visiting/being in contact with KBF on a regular basis in order to support its leaders and assist in decision making.
2. "Friends of KBF" is managed by 3-4 trustees as named in section A, plus 1 associate who meet at regular trustee meetings. Named trustees have the final vote on decisions, but all contribute to the discussions, perform administrative and fundraising tasks, and have contact with the leaders of KBF in India.
3. Issues considered to present risk to the running of "Friends of KBF" or "KBF" in India are discussed between the two parties as soon as possible by telephone/WhatsApp call as detailed in the "Joint working agreement", in order for a decision to be made. A special meeting may be called as detailed in the Trust Deed if required.
4. In terms of policies/procedures, a signed joint working agreement is in place between the trustees of "Friends of KBF" and the leaders of "KBF" in India. A safeguarding policy and visiting policy are also in operation.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the charity are, for the benefit of people living in Kolkata and West Bengal, India:

1. The advancement of education of children who, due to disability and/or poverty are otherwise unable to access education, in particular but not exclusively by assisting in the provision of schooling including the provision of educational materials and school meals.
2. The prevention or relief of poverty, in particular but not exclusively by providing grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
3. The advancement of health, the relief of sickness and/or the saving of lives by supporting individuals who, due to poverty, homelessness or other factors are unable to access healthcare by assisting in the provision of medical aid, access to a care home or hospice and medical care or facilities and services not normally provided by the statutory authorities.

The above objects to be furthered by providing grants and support to Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation (KBF) in India.

The trustees of Friends of KBF have read the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance and have regard to this when making decisions about activities to be carried out. These must be of benefit to the people served by Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation in India and must seek to manage any risks to their welfare as far as possible.

To this end, Friends of KBF supports and raises funds for the three main projects run by Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation in India:

- A school project for children from the slum and surrounding poor area whose families would otherwise be unable to afford for them to be educated. The project provides education for these children and then supports them to attend local government schools. Funding is provided for uniforms, books and admission costs, and these children continue to attend the project for support with their studies. They also receive food and clean drinking water daily at the project. In addition, the school project runs a class for children with disabilities and special educational needs living in the area. They receive some basic education, stimulation and physiotherapy input whilst in attendance.
- Children's clubs run in three locations in Kolkata which seek to provide an opportunity for children from very poor backgrounds to play, socialise and learn away from the challenges and responsibilities of their everyday life.
- A care home project which provides shelter, food and basic healthcare for people who have been left to die with no one to care for them. Residents are cared for by a nurse and have weekly input from a doctor and physiotherapist. With basic care, some will recover and will then be able to move on from the care home. Others choose to remain and continue to be cared for at the care home. Those who do not recover will be allowed to die with dignity in a safe environment.

Safeguarding and Visitors policies are in place to ensure protection of the wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults served by the projects.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

1. Friends of Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation sends money to Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation to support the work of its projects as outlined above, on a monthly basis. The amount of money to be sent is agreed in advance between the two organisations in accordance with the “Joint working agreement”. Restricted donations must be used only for the purpose for which they have been donated. The accounts of both organisations are independently audited on an annual basis in order to ensure funds are properly used.
2. All trustees and associates of Friends of KBF are volunteers and are not paid for their time. Other volunteers may also contribute to the work by carrying out fundraising activities/events or by visiting the projects in India in order to assist with activities for the people served by the projects.
3. All visitors to the projects are supervised at all times by the leaders and staff of Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation, and are safer recruited and vetted beforehand by the trustees of Friends of KBF, including DBS checks.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the financial year which ran from April 2023 to March 2024, all KBF projects in India continued to run as normal. All were fully funded by Friends of KBF in the UK. Below is a summary of the work during this period.

School

The school project continued to provide education and support for around 52 children. At the start of the new school year in January 2023, there were 21 children from the project attending local government schools. By January 2024, this number increased to 27, of which 4 were new admissions who had not previously attended government school. The KBF school project continues to support these children in their studies for a few hours on Monday to Friday and provides a daily nutritious snack. After the government school day is finished, KBF provides English classes for children who wish to attend.

The class for children with disabilities has also continued throughout this year with up to 26 children on record, 15-17 of whom were attending regularly. Friends of KBF were again able to secure a grant from the Souter Charitable Trust in September 2023, in order to provide regular physiotherapy sessions for these children.

This grant was also used to fund nutritious food for all children in attendance at the KBF school project, as well as monthly food parcels for their families.

Children's clubs

Weekly children's clubs have continued to run in 3 locations during this time: in the school building on Saturdays, and for children living in the red light area as well as a group of homeless children on Thursdays.

Care Home

The Care Home, which is located outside of the city has continued to provide shelter, basic medical care and food for around 32-36 men and women throughout this time period. Residents are those who have been left with no one to care for them on the streets of Kolkata. Some were referred by local police, while others had been found by KBF staff in the area surrounding the projects.

Regular physiotherapy sessions continue on 3 days each week for all residents, thanks to ongoing funding from the Souter Trust. A doctor visits the Care Home on 2 days each week to examine and recommend treatment as needed for residents. During this financial year, the previous doctor became unwell, and a new doctor has since been employed from the village near to the Care Home. A nurse and other care staff continue to provide hands on care on a daily basis.

Extra money was sent at Christmas so that children attending the school project and children's clubs, as well as the Care Home residents could enjoy additional celebrations and activities.

Supporters and fundraising

Throughout 2023, Friends of KBF celebrated 10 years since its launch in October 2013. This was through a variety of events both in India and the UK. For example, a Zoom event linking UK supporters directly to the staff and residents at the Care Home in India was held in May. An in-person Friends of KBF birthday party and quiz happened in October in Manchester. Communications such as leaflets and newsletters were also sent out.

Two fundraising events took place: a "Yorkshire 3 Peaks" sponsored walk and a fundraising concert, in order to raise funds for a car to be purchased by KBF in India. This was due to the previous electric vehicle becoming very worn and the need arising for a vehicle to transport staff and residents between the Care home and school projects.

Trips

Three separate visits to KBF happened during this year. One of these was by two long term supporters in October 2023, during which a trip to a local educational theme park was arranged for the school children, as well as a trip out for the Care Home residents. In January 2024, two Friends of KBF trustees visited on separate weeks alongside three other visitors from the UK. Musical activities with the school children as well as a special meal for the Care Home residents and staff were facilitated during this time. These visits allowed time for trustees and the leader of KBF to discuss the needs of the projects in greater detail. Throughout the year, regular phonecalls between Friends of KBF trustees and the leader of KBF have also continued.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to keep 3 months' worth of supporting money in reserve at all times to ensure that the work of Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation in India may be maintained.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

"Friends of KBF" raises funds via:

- a small scale child sponsorship programme, which raises monthly donations from regular sponsors, specifically for the running of the school project.
- a small scale care home sponsorship programme, which raises monthly donations from regular sponsors, specifically for the running of the care home.
- Ad hoc donations from supporters which may/may not be specified as restricted to a particular area of the work.
- Fundraising activities such as sponsored events, coffee afternoons and alternative Christmas presents.
- Applying for grants for specific purposes such as to fund a physiotherapist to work in the care home and with the children with disabilities.

Any restricted donations or grants must be spent only on the purpose for which that money has been donated. This is confirmed with the leaders of KBF in India via ongoing reporting on expenditure.

As detailed in Section C, an agreed amount of funding is sent to Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation in India on a monthly basis in order to support the work of the projects.

Section F

Other optional information

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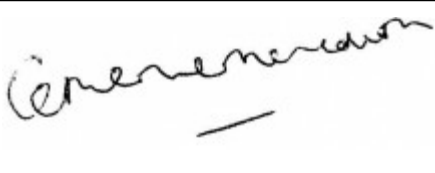
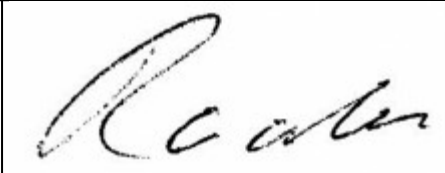
Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Catherine Meredith	Anke Raabe
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair	Treasurer
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Date 16/12/2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Friends of Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation

No (if any)
1176527

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2023

To

Period end date
31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	24,377	6,247	-	30,624	-
Gift Aid	373	-	-	373	-
Fundraising Events	246	3,509	-	3,755	-
Grants	-	3,600	-	3,600	-
Appeals/ Sundry Income	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	24,996	13,356	-	38,352	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	24,996	13,356	-	38,352	-
A3 Payments					
Cost of Charitable Activities	25,588	14,356	-	39,944	-
Bank and Transfer Costs	210	21	-	231	-
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	25,798	14,377	-	40,175	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	25,798	14,377	-	40,175	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 802	- 1,021	-	- 1,823	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	11,498	2,821	-	14,319	-
Cash funds this year end	10,696	1,800	-	12,496	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	This year end - Account	10,697	1,799	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,696	1,800	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Anke L Raabe	10/01/2025	

**Independent
examiner's
report on the
accounts**



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Friends of Kolkata Bhalobashi Foundation (KBF)

**On accounts for the
year ended**

31 March 2024

Charity no (if any)

1176527

Set out on pages

1 to 2

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's
statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

14th January 2025

Name: Fiona Norton

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

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Address:

150 Lock Lane

Partington

Manchester M31 4PW

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems (E.g. Accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; any material expenditure or action which appears not to be in accordance with the trusts of the charity; any failure to be provided with information and explanation by any past or present trustee, officer or employee; and in the case of accruals accounts any material inconsistency between the accounts and the trustees' annual report, and in the case of a charitable company with the director's report.)