
Annual Report

2022-23

Accounts and financials for Mesothelioma UK for period ending 31st March 2023.

Mesothelioma UK Registered Charity Number:
1177039

Registered Address:
235 Loughborough Road, Mountsorrel, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 7AS

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Foreword from the CEO



Mesothelioma UK launched a three-year strategy in 2022 outlining the charity's mission. Namely, to advocate for better treatment and care, enhance quality of life, support research and amplify the patient's voice. Five work strands help us move towards these goals, Improving Outcomes & Experiences, Research, Information, Awareness and Sustainability & Fundraising.

At the start of this year, we were hopeful that our finances would recover and avoid the impact of the economic downturn. We continued with our plans to address many areas of practice, care and support.

However, it became evident that the charity's income streams were not increasing in line with need. Sustainability, specifically income generation sufficient to meet the needs of the charity, became a major focus. A review of our income generation has been completed and a plan of action prepared for the operational team to deliver.

Despite this financial uncertainty, the charity still managed to achieve a great deal. We have maintained all our previous support services. The nurse team now number 33, and over the last year they reached 1,292 patients. The Research and Audit Steering Committee awarded a further three grants, made possible through partner funding with HASAG and Erase Meso. And the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre Sheffield has had their tender extended a further year, allowing them to continue leading the way on mesothelioma patient experience research.

Also, for the first time in this year, we appointed a team member to lead the charity's external affairs activity. We engaged with partner groups and created internal structures and processes to enable the charity to lead on advocacy and campaigns. As part of this, so many people shared their stories with us, raising awareness and allowing others to learn from their experience. It is appreciated by so many, thank you.

The Mesothelioma UK team, the nurses, operational staff, trustees, our volunteers, and ambassadors, are a special group of people and the charity wouldn't be what it is without them. But none of the charity's work could happen without the support of our many amazing donors. The fundraisers, personal donations, grants, corporate partnerships, legacies, from pennies to pounds, it has all made what we do possible. We are hugely grateful to each of you. Please know, as you read this year's report, that your contribution to the charity's achievements can be seen on every page.

Thank you.

Liz Darlison
CEO, Mesothelioma UK

Foreword by David Staley

David, 47, was diagnosed with mesothelioma in 2015. Here he shares how he's leading "a 'normalish' life" with mesothelioma and how Mesothelioma UK have supported him and his family.

"As I approach my eight year anniversary since the diagnosis of pleural mesothelioma, it reminds me of how extremely fortunate and privileged I am to be alive today. Life before COVID is one thought, but Life before Meso is something quite different – each day is an achievement!

If you told me post-diagnosis eight years ago that I would have been asked to write a foreword for the Mesothelioma UK annual report, I would have never believed I would be alive to do so. Thus, this is an absolute honour and means so much to me to support the charity that has helped my family and I so much.

My Name is David Staley, married to Alison with two kids (Joshua, 16 and Erin, 14). My journey started in 2013, when I started with flu like symptoms, which later followed on with nightly sweats and pain in my left shoulder. After pushing for tests and having two biopsies, I was diagnosed with pleural mesothelioma in October 2015, three weeks before my fortieth, and the night before my daughter's sixth birthday! To be given a terminal diagnosis, for something you have never heard of, with life expectancy of twelve to eighteen months, was devastating.

Following diagnosis, it was a whirlwind. I saw various specialists to decide on a treatment path to give me the best chance of survival. Nothing was guaranteed, I was very unusual to have this at my age, so a treatment plan was not straightforward at all. I could either just have chemo or a very rare surgery with 1 in 20 death rate! However, with lots of support from Meso UK and specialists, we decided to go ahead with EPP (extrapleural pneumonectomy) surgery in November 2015. This involved the full removal of my left lung as well as parts of my chest lining and diaphragm. Surgery was very tough and we had a very scary first night, but after two weeks in hospital, my right lung had 'learnt' to breathe for me and I recuperated back at home. Amazing to be home for Christmas!

Four sessions of chemo followed in January to April 2016. To this day, I have no regrets about the surgery, and feel fortunate that even with one lung I am still been able to do most things.

After chemo, my focus was to spend as much time with family and friends as possible as at the time we really didn't know how much longer I had left to live. In addition, I needed to get my fitness built back up, to enable me to be strong enough for any further treatment. My overall aim was to lead a 'normalish' life, as a husband and dad, well, as much as possible with a terminal diagnosis hanging over my head!

In Sept 2016, I started back at work, and slowly got back to leading that 'normalish' family life, apart from the constant three/six monthly scans, and going through the stress/anxiety that is...

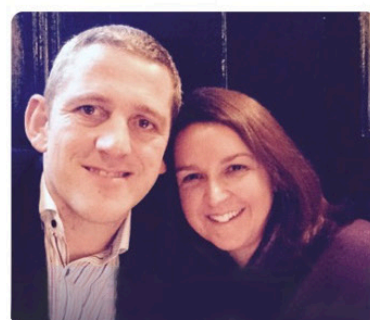
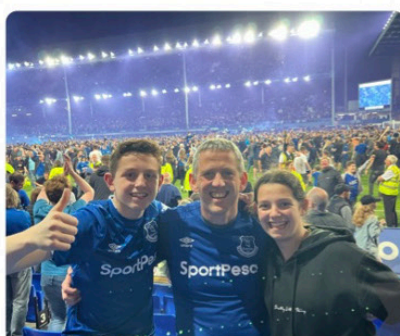
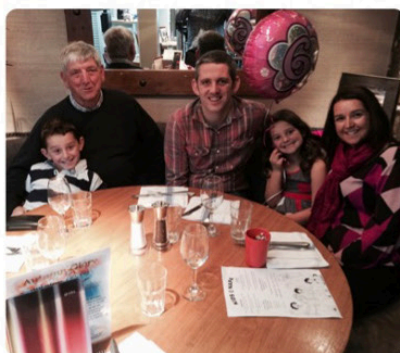
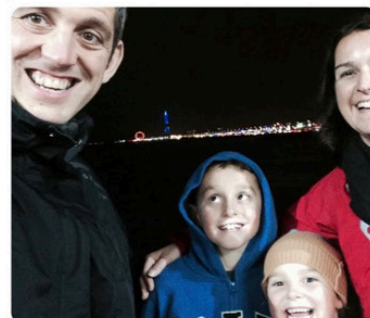
Over these last eight years, we have certainly had many scares along the way but from day one, the support I have received from my wife Alison, kids, family, and friends has been more than I could have ever imagined. In addition, the great support from Mesothelioma UK, who have also been there from day one has been a huge help to us all. I remember our first meeting with my Meso Specialist Nurse Lorraine, who was a huge support, and always on hand to help. From initial diagnosis, Lorraine, my current meso nurses and the whole charity Mesothelioma UK are always there for us on the end of the phone, during chemo or at appointments. They are 100% dedicated to helping us on this cancer journey.

When I was diagnosed Mesothelioma UK only had six nurses nationally, they are now at over 30! Due to the massive fundraising events, donations and the work of Liz Darlison and her team, the charity has grown and developed so much. Not only funding new nurses up and down the country, but valuable funds raised for research that hopefully one day will find the cure.

I cannot overstate the enormous support Mesothelioma UK give to all those people affected by this awful disease.

Love and best wishes,

Dave and Alison Staley



Objectives & Activities

Mesothelioma UK is a national charity for anyone affected by mesothelioma, a cancer caused by exposure to asbestos.

We exist to support people with mesothelioma to live better and live longer and to prevent mesothelioma happening to future generations.

Established in 2004 as a Macmillan Cancer Support resource centre at the University Hospitals of Leicester the charity has gone from strength to strength, in 2008 registering as an independent charity and as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2018 and reaching £1m in charitable activity in 2020.

The main focus of our charitable activity since our foundation has been to provide access to specialist nurses at the point of need, at the front door of our NHS, in hospitals across the UK.

Mesothelioma Clinical Nurse Specialists provide a large range of benefits including; specialist expertise available to patients, increased access to clinical trials, an increase in the number of patients accessing treatment, a lower rate of unplanned admissions, better management of symptoms and an overall increase in the quality of life for patients.

We also understand that people diagnosed with mesothelioma feel very strongly about preventing future cases. That is why we work closely with partner organisations to raise awareness of asbestos and to shine a light on the devastating impact of mesothelioma.



How We Work

Five key pillars represent the scope and aims of the charity: Improving Outcomes & Experiences, Research, Information, Awareness, and Sustainability & Fundraising.

Our strategy www.mesothelioma.uk.com/strategy gives more details on how we work. We use these pillars as a way to showcase our key activities and achievements throughout this report.

1. Improving Outcomes & Experiences

At the heart of everything we do at Mesothelioma UK is our desire to support mesothelioma patients for as long as they need us.

At Mesothelioma UK, we provide a range of services to support anyone affected by mesothelioma. These include a Freephone Support Line, specialist benefits advice, a travel grant to support the cost of accessing clinical trials, a dedicated research centre at The University of Sheffield and a comprehensive information service accredited by the Patient Information Forum.

Our Nurses



And of course, our nurses are an integral part of this. The appointment of Leah Taylor to Head of Nursing was announced in May 2022. Below she reflects on her first year in post.

Throughout the year our nurse team have continued to work at the forefront of mesothelioma care in the NHS. Having a network of nurses is crucial to ensure expertise is widely shared across the UK.

A strong nursing team was built by our previous Head of Nursing. Their vision was to provide a Mesothelioma UK CNS in every Cancer Alliance in England and the devolved administrations, and this is still our goal. Mesothelioma UK, like many other charities, has seen a considerable reduction in funding due to the pandemic and the current economic climate. This makes further growth of the team more challenging. However, with the help of our partner funders we have been able to re-establish our nursing post in Essex, a second post in Portsmouth and a new post in London.

A new nursing strategy has defined roles and responsibilities for all levels of nursing within the team. Additionally, the creation of key performance indicators has enabled the nurses to look at ways to further develop their roles. Indeed, our nurses have continued to rise to the unique challenge of their roles, leading and organising support groups, educational meetings and Action Mesothelioma Day events. The senior nursing team have also demonstrated their leadership expertise in sub specialist areas such as the Armed Forces Project. Work to ensure equitable access to mesothelioma expertise throughout the UK has also continued. We maintain a strong position in the Scottish Mesothelioma Network, and are working with colleagues to develop the first Mesothelioma UK nurse specialist post in Northern Ireland. For Wales our focus is to continue to work towards establishment of commissioned services and ensure sustainability of our nursing posts. There is also ambition to create a nursing network to enable more nurses to connect with the charity and facilitate the dissemination of specialist mesothelioma knowledge.

We may be a relatively small charity, but we are always looking to achieve maximum impact. Our Peritoneal Nurse Specialist Samantha Westbrook has achieved national recognition being awarded the prestigious title of Oncology Nurse of the Year by the British Journal of Nursing, a well-deserved accolade. Several of our nurses are performing their own small-scale research and audit, many of which are due to be presented and showcased at national and international conferences later in 2023, evidence of their energy and dedication to improving the lives of those affected by mesothelioma. As we look to 2023/2024, I look forward to continuing to lead this exceptional team of nurses.

Leah Taylor
Head of Nursing

Nursing Posts

During the year we welcomed three additional Mesothelioma UK nurses.

Samantha Jayasekara is based at the Broomfield Hospital in Chelmsford and will also cover Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust's other general hospitals in Basildon and Southend. The post is funded by asbestos disease support charity, HASAG.

Helen Wallace is based at the Wansbeck Hospital in Ashington but will also cover Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust's other general hospitals in Hexham and North Tyneside plus the Northumbria in Cramlington.

Catherine Stoten joined us at UCLH, London with generous support from HASAG. Catherine will be based at University College Hospital, part of University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH). She will also work as a Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist, alongside her role with mesothelioma patients.

Thank you to all our partners that have supported nurses throughout the year. Without you and your generous donors and fundraisers we wouldn't be able to make such a huge impact on the lives of mesothelioma patients across the UK.



AsbestosACTION



Legal panel:

The Asbestos
Law Partnership
Digby Brown
Fieldfisher

Hugh James
Irwin Mitchell
Leigh Day
Novum Law

RWK Goodman
Simpson Millar
Slater and Gordon
Thompsons

Facts & Figures

Total number of patients

1,292

Total armed forces referrals

63

Total number of follow up contacts
(all methods)

30,421

Total number of face to face follow ups

1,687

Number of MDT meetings attended

1,054

Total number of support groups attended

394

Virtual

241

Face
to face

153

Highlight on Wales



Project Cymru is now into its third year, led by Sarah Morgan, Mesothelioma UK Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) and Project Lead for Wales.

Background

Approximately 100 people are diagnosed with mesothelioma each year in Wales. Being a rare cancer, access to specialist services can be difficult, and the predominantly rural setting can exacerbate this. Wales has seven NHS Health Boards, three NHS trusts and ten Local Lung Cancer multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs). Only one patient in every 23 discussed in the lung cancer MDT will be a mesothelioma patient, and fewer than eight patients are discussed per year in some of these MDTs. This and the lack of a national mesothelioma MDT has led to inequity of access to specialist mesothelioma services and support.

Wales is a devolved nation, and as such, operates under a separate healthcare system to England and the rest of the UK and has an additional legal commitment towards Welsh bilingual services.

Gaining insight

To get a greater understanding of patient experience a caseload audit of approximately 200 patient referrals was undertaken. Referrals came from a variety of sources such as Health Boards, Lung CNS colleagues, Mesothelioma UK Support Line and self-referral by patients and families. Other charities within the sector and legal organisations were also identified as sources of referral. This audit highlighted inequities in care, support and treatment and confirmed the need for Project Cymru work to continue.

Engagement and awareness

Virtual and face-to-face support group meetings in collaboration with Asbestos Awareness Support Cymru (AASC) are held for all patients and families across Wales. Patient and Carer/family events continue to be well-attended and are held regularly throughout the year and across Wales, including regular annual events for Global Asbestos Awareness week, Action Mesothelioma Day, International Women's Day, and St David's Day.

It has been important to establish relationships with Health Boards, NHS Wales Executive, the Senedd and other charities within the sector. Public engagement

continues through campaigning, awareness and fundraising. Education events for healthcare professionals are held regularly and the inaugural Mesothelioma Network Cymru Professionals event is planned for October 2023. Outputs from Project Cymru have been presented at local, national and international events and conferences.

Challenges

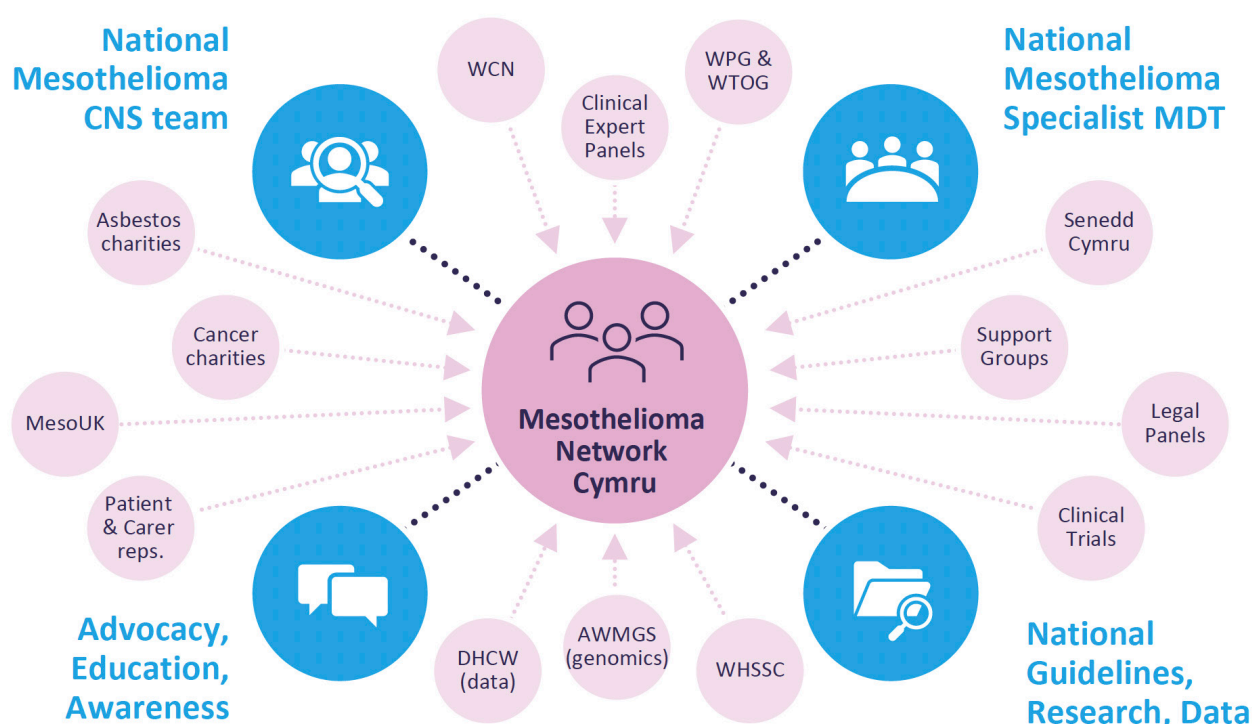
Like many other developments, Project Cymru has faced challenges to its success. The anticipated growth of the nurse specialist team in Wales was halted amid growing financial pressures; discussions are now ongoing with Macmillan regarding funding possibilities for additional nurse specialist posts.

Progress has been slow to establish the National Mesothelioma MDT, with funding by NHS Wales originally

agreed in April 2022 via the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC). Despite this, significant steps forward have been achieved with all Health Boards in Wales having been consulted and national guidelines developed, including: service specifications, national quality performance indicators, and a national pathway.

Future aims

In light of the challenges, Project Cymru has been extended by a further six months. Due to retirement Wales will not have a dedicated Mesothelioma UK CNS from April 2023, a CNS post will be re-established as soon as funding allows. Project Cymru has made considerable progress and Mesothelioma UK is committed to continuing to work with NHS Wales and partner organisations to embed Mesothelioma Network Cymru and ensure equitable access to care, support and treatment.





Highlight on Northern Ireland

The Mesothelioma UK Northern Ireland project was established in response to contact the charity had with the Rodgers family from Newry, Co Down, following the passing of their father, Tony on New Year's Day 2022.

There are around 50 people diagnosed with mesothelioma in Northern Ireland each year. Mesothelioma UK is aware of the need to provide support services in Northern Ireland for people with mesothelioma, their carers and healthcare professionals, and is keen to establish Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs) in Northern Ireland similar to those in Scotland and Wales.

In collaboration with the Rodgers family, Health and Social Care Northern Ireland, Macmillan Cancer Support and local clinicians we're working to ensure that mesothelioma patients and their families in Northern Ireland have access to the best treatment, care and support available.

Aims for Northern Ireland

- Create Northern Ireland first Mesothelioma CNS posts
- Include Northern Ireland data in the next version of the National Mesothelioma Audit Report
- Work closely with the Clinical Expert Panel Northern Ireland representatives
- Link with NI cancer charities including Macmillan Cancer Support Northern Ireland
- Explore the possibility of establishing a NI mesothelioma MDT meeting
- Assist with the set-up of and linking to mesothelioma support group

Spring 2023 Update

- The Rodgers family are undertaking fundraising – currently at £35,000
- Mesothelioma UK welcomes donations directly for Project Northern Ireland, please use the form to make your donation (and don't forget to Gift Aid your donation if you can!)
- Local companies and charities open to supporting the project are encouraged to make contact

Highlight on Scotland



Transition to the Scottish Cancer Network (SCN)

Around 200 people are diagnosed with Malignant Mesothelioma in Scotland every year; a legacy of the extensive use of asbestos in heavy industry and building across the country.

In 2019, the Scottish Mesothelioma Network (SMN) was established in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, Mesothelioma UK and NHS Scotland with the aim of transforming care for those in Scotland affected by this disease. The network comprised of a team of expert healthcare professionals from across the country collaborating to share best practice and provide high quality clinical care, information and support, and ensure equitable access to potentially life-changing trials for all patients regardless of geographical location.

In 2022 the SMN became formally embedded in NHS National Services Scotland as part of the new Scottish

Cancer Network (SCN). The SCN is a dedicated national resource to support and create a 'Once for Scotland' approach to cancer services which will further assist in enabling equitable access to care and treatment.

The SCN work collaboratively with already established regional and national cancer networks to understand the processes and progress made around clinical management guidelines and national managed clinical networks.

Clinical consensus, ongoing improvement and equitable access are the key founding principles. For those affected by mesothelioma in Scotland, this transition means a continuation of a consistent approach to the production of high-quality clinical management guidelines, further development of pathways leading to better patient experience and outcomes and cohesion between healthcare and patient networks, all backed up by a universally accessible digital space.

The SMN will continue to collaborate with patients, carers, NHS, government and third sector charities to ensure the aim of providing high-quality and equitable clinical care across the country.



Improving Services

QPI Report

The Scottish Mesothelioma Network have now published their second Quality Performance Indicator (QPI) Audit Report. The development and introduction of national QPIs represents a major step forward for patients with mesothelioma, aiming to improve survival and patient experience, reduce variance and ensure safe, effective, person-centred care across Scotland. The reports are available to view on the Scottish Mesothelioma Network website.

Local Anaesthetic Thoracoscopy (LAT)

Local Anaesthetic Thoracoscopy (LAT) Service Development. Thoracoscopy is considered the ideal tool for mesothelioma diagnosis, allowing high quality biopsies and drainage of fluid at the same time if needed. Over the past three years, the SMN has worked to improve local LAT access and we're delighted that over the past year, both Western Infirmary, Edinburgh and Aberdeen Royal Infirmary have begun to offer this procedure, joining Ninewells in Dundee and the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow. Raigmore in Inverness are now in the process of setting up their service. This is huge step toward ensuring equitable access to care across the country.

Staging

The SMN were delighted to contribute mesothelioma data for the first time to the ninth edition of the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) staging project. This project helps to improve accurate staging systems for lung cancers globally.

Information & Support

Support Groups

Facilitated by Maggie's Highland the SMN monthly support group remains available to all those across Scotland (and beyond) affected by mesothelioma. Each of the SMN Clinical Nurse Specialists attend in rotation to support the Maggie's team. Our groups are patient led and topics of discussion have included diagnostic pathways, treatment and trials, symptoms and symptom control.

Newsletter

The quarterly SMN newsletter continues to help raise awareness and share all the news and developments in relation to mesothelioma in Scotland and the SMN itself. Primarily aimed at health care professionals and support agencies with a special interest in mesothelioma, it is also circulated across the Scottish lung cancer team and is available to patients and their families as desired.

Patient Information Packs

The SMN mesothelioma information pack containing regional Mesothelioma UK CNS contact details, benefits, legal, and compensation information, information on diagnosis and potential treatment options, an invitation to the SMN support group and a Mesothelioma UK clinical trials app information card remains available for patients across Scotland.

Action Mesothelioma Day

Action Mesothelioma Day 2022 was marked across Scotland in a number of ways:

Holyrood Debate

On Thursday 30 June MSP Marie McNair opened a debate in Holyrood to raise awareness of mesothelioma and to highlight Action Meso Day. This was a wide ranging debate with some compelling points noted including pleural plaques and the time bar to compensation.

To read the full debate, please click on the link below:

www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-30-06-2022?meeting=13857&iob=125677

The Herald

To help us fight this pernicious cancer Professor Blyth wrote an article in the Herald about the devastating impact of a mesothelioma diagnosis, the work of Action Mesothelioma Day in maintaining awareness and the need for continued vigilance of asbestos which remains in thousands of Scotland's buildings. He highlighted the ongoing need for clinical improvement and investment in research and the crucial role charities play in funding the development of mesothelioma services and supporting clinical nurse specialist posts.

Please see the link below to read the full article:

www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/20242772.agenda-help-us-fight-pernicious-cancer-links-asbestos/

Go Blue for Meso!

1st July 2022 marked Action Mesothelioma Day. Over the course of the day and night, landmarks across the UK lit up blue in order help raise awareness of mesothelioma and the dangers of asbestos. The response right across Scotland was amazing with many of our famous landmarks participating!



Events

Patient and Carer Event

The annual SMN Patient and Carer event took place on 26th April 2022.

The event is aimed at patient and carers with sessions based around topics requested by our support group attendees, but everyone from the mesothelioma community including clinicians, support services, lawyers, health and safety experts, researchers, advocates, administrators and anyone else with an interest in asbestos related disease is very welcome to join and gain insight into patient experience in Scotland!

The event included patient stories and sessions on treatments and trials, symptom management, prehabilitation and the legal and support service updates.

The event brochure can be found here:

www.scottishmesotheliomanetwork.scot.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/SMN-Patient-and-Carer-Event-26-April-2022-v5.pdf



PATIENT AND CARER VIRTUAL EVENT

April 26th 2022

DELEGATE BROCHURE



 @scotmesonet

www.scottishmesotheliomanetwork.scot.nhs.uk

In partnership with

 **MACMILLAN**
CANCER SUPPORT

 **MESOTHELIOMA UK**

 **NHS**
SCOTLAND

Case Study



Here Heidi and Dan share how Mesothelioma UK helped support them and their father Tony throughout his mesothelioma journey.

Heidi: Dad became unwell in late 2021 and his diagnosis of mesothelioma was a devastating one for all of us. Right from the start the support that he received from Mesothelioma UK was invaluable and I truly believe it made a huge difference to his outlook on the illness and the positive way in which he carried on throughout the remainder of his life.

Dad was lucky enough to live close to where Mesothelioma UK is based, and it was a comfort to us all to know that there was support and expertise so near to him. He was able to visit the headquarters when events were held, and very much enjoyed attending the luncheon club events and taking part in the raffles held at them, we would always get a full run down of the prizes he had won! If Dad had any questions over his treatments or his illness in general, he knew that he could pick up the phone to his Mesothelioma UK Clinical Nurse Specialist and they would be able to answer him, that was a great comfort to him.

“The social events they organised became an important and comforting support activity as his illness progressed”

After we lost Dad in June this year the Mesothelioma UK nurses were kind enough to send a card to the family, and one was able to attend his funeral. We also received a lovely personal email. The support for Dad and us all has truly been exceptional and something we will always be grateful for.

Dan: Mesothelioma UK were there from day one – ensuring Dad received the benefits he was entitled to before we even had time to process the shock of his diagnosis. The Meso team regularly went above and beyond, phoning to check how he was doing and dropping items into him on occasion. The social events they organised became an important and comforting support activity as his illness progressed.

Sadly Tony passed away in June 2023.

Benefits Support

Benefits Advisors

A key priority for Mesothelioma UK is to ensure that patients have access to specialist advice and get the benefits and compensation they are entitled to claim. We are proud of what we have achieved this year and look forward to continuing our partnership working across the mesothelioma community in the next year.

We have worked with the Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum to ensure that patients living anywhere in the UK can access specialist benefits advice and, due to the increasing complexity in identifying asbestos exposure in non-traditional occupations, we have been grateful for the collaboration of our legal panel firms who have been committed to providing expert advice and guidance to patients.

We have been busy raising awareness of Mesothelioma UK's benefits advice service by attending health professional forums and training days and are working closely with the Sheffield Research Team on a number of projects. We have also established closer links with the DWP Industrial Injuries team and successfully lobbied for easements introduced during the pandemic to be made permanent, making it easier for our patients to claim benefits.

We are working closely with Scottish stakeholders regarding the introduction of the new Employment Injuries Assistance benefit, which will replace Industrial Injuries benefits in Scotland.

We would like to especially thank Caroline Barry, who has moved on after eight years of service, for her invaluable contribution and wish her all the best for the future.

Facts & Figures

Total number of clients

92

Lump Sum Payments Identified

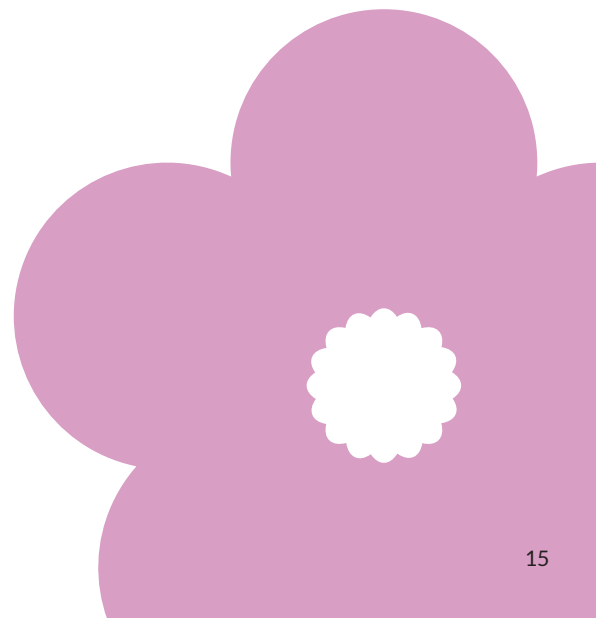
£974,002

Estimated Annualised Benefit

£832,136

Number of Armed Forces clients

3



Support Line

Alongside our nurses, providing a freephone Support Line is our core service for patients.

The number of calls to the Support Line has been decreasing in recent years, partly due to the better provision of information online, as well as greater technical literacy among the patients and family members, and partly due to the increased number of specialist nurses across the UK.

The Mesothelioma UK Support Line sits within a network of support services for mesothelioma patients and carers. It complements the care that mesothelioma clinical nurse specialists and wider healthcare teams give, and can provide additional information to that found on the web. Sometimes its role is merely to listen, as patients and their families work through the vast quantity of information given to them upon diagnosis.

In 2022/23 the Support Line dealt with 234 calls, 96 emails and 27 social media/web contacts. We continue to be available 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday. As in previous years the majority of the callers (94%) are mesothelioma patients or family members. Six percent of the calls are from healthcare professionals looking for advice, showing how we can help to support mesothelioma patients that fall outside of our nurses care.

Providing access to a mesothelioma clinical nurse specialist over the phone, regardless of geography, remains a crucial element in combatting the “postcode lottery” of mesothelioma care.

Patient Travel Grant

Supporting patients to access clinical trials is something we continue to passionately support at Mesothelioma UK. Clinical trials are carried out to find out if there are new and better treatments for Mesothelioma. In this financial year we supported 11 patients to attend clinical trials by awarding travel grants totalling £8,595.00.

The trials we supported were:

BEAT – Meso at the Royal Marsden
Constellation at Leicester
MiST 3 & MiST 5 at Leicester

Support Groups



As well as signposting patients to the many wonderful local support groups across the UK, Mesothelioma UK also runs three online support groups for specific groups of people.

If you wish to receive more details for any of these groups, check our website or email support@mesothelioma.uk.com.

Carers' Hour

This group meets on the second Wednesday of the month via Zoom. The main purpose of the group is to provide a space specifically for carers to share experiences, concerns and ideas, as we recognise that they have needs distinct to those of the patient. As well as supporting each other, the group has had speakers on many of the aspects of caring for someone with mesothelioma including management of a chest drain, benefits available as a carer and end of life planning.

Young Patients and Carers Support Group

Mesothelioma is predominantly a disease of the over 70s, however it can occur in young people. We realised that the needs and experiences of those under 55 can differ from those of older patients and that there was no support specifically tailored to this group. Our support group meets on the third Wednesday of the month via Zoom to provide peer support and chat informally with a mesothelioma clinical nurse specialist.

Virtual Monthly Peritoneal Support Group

Our dedicated peritoneal mesothelioma clinical nurse specialist, Sam Westbrook, facilitates a monthly virtual support group meeting. The calls are well attended, and following feedback a second bi-monthly virtual group for multicystic mesothelioma patients has been established. This gives patients with multicystic mesothelioma a separate forum to share experiences and offer support.

The group is joined regularly by an asbestos support group member and a solicitor offering further discussions on their areas of expertise. Patients from overseas have since joined the group. Following these calls the nurse specialist sends a “bits and bobs” email to the patient mailing list with information on the topics discussed, as virtual group calls are not for everyone.

2. Research

To address the pressing need for evidence-based treatments that can enhance the quality of life for patients grappling with mesothelioma, Mesothelioma UK has taken the proactive step of funding research that revolves around the patients themselves.

Through our financial support, numerous projects have been developed, employing a diverse array of approaches. We have championed qualitative research aimed at understanding the patient journey, a necessary step to inform medical practice and better prioritise future research. Furthermore, our funding facilitated projects that delve into the potential benefits of dietary adjustments and physical activity in enhancing the overall quality of life for patients. Similarly, we supported initiatives to identify psychological interventions able to alleviate the adverse mental health effects experienced both by patients and their caregivers.

Our commitment has extended to laboratory-based research aiming to improve diagnostic tools or to leverage genomic data and provide patients with more accurate prognoses. These diverse projects collectively offer the hope of improving the lives of all those affected. We extend our gratitude to the many patients, clinicians, and scientists who have collaboratively worked towards realising these goals.

Stefan Marciniak

Chair of Research & Audit Scientific Committee (RASC)

Our second independent grant round was launched in April 2022. We remain members of the Association of Medical Research Charities, to whom we are grateful for their support and advice. We also owe a debt of gratitude to our RASC who ensured that all applications were scrutinised and that we are funding high quality research.

Grants Awarded in 2022/23

Six outline applications were received.

These were shortlisted by the Research and Audit Scientific Committee (RASC) and three applicants were invited to submit a full application. All three applications received were approved by the RASC and put forward to the Board of Trustees.

Collaborations with funding partners, HASAG & Erase Meso made it possible for the Board of Trustees to agree to progress the following projects to a total of £113,465.73

University of Birmingham

Leveraging a new class of cancer target for the benefit of mesothelioma diagnosis and treatment. We are extremely grateful to Erase Meso for funding this vital research project that will focus on the testing and validation of a new drug target for mesothelioma patients.

University of Glasgow

Tipping the balance: pro-and anti-apoptotic proteins as determinants of radiation resistance in mesothelioma. We are extremely grateful to HASAG for funding this vital research project that will investigate why radiotherapy treatment reduces pain for some patients with the asbestos-related cancer, mesothelioma, and not others.

University of Glasgow

EXTRA-Meso feasibility study – EXercise TheRApy in Mesothelioma feasibility study. Funded by Mesothelioma UK.



Ongoing Research



Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Health & Lifestyle of Patients with Mesothelioma (HELP-MESO)

Project Aims:

The long-term scope of the research is to identify if patients, carers and HCPs support the use of diet and physical activity interventions to improve QoL in mesothelioma and identify what interventions would be most amenable that are designed around the needs of patients.



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

MINNOW Study – Investigating the Mental health Implications of a mesothelioma diagnosis and developing resources to Optimise Wellbeing

Project Aims:

This study aims to increase understanding of the benefits and challenges of remote consultations for mesothelioma patients and carers following changes to clinical practice during the Covid-19 pandemic and inform future practice.



North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust

The journey from a diagnosis to end of life care for patients with Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma (MPM) a retrospective palliative care review

Project Aims:

To develop a greater understanding of the palliative care needs for patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma. To further understand how care is coordinated for these individuals, especially at the end-of-life.



Leveraging clonal genomics to augment diagnostic accuracy and forecast survival in mesothelioma

Project Aims:

The key aim of this project is to establish whether a deep knowledge of how mesothelioma evolves can be leveraged to develop a simple test that can be readily implemented in clinical practice. This test should be able to:

1. Significantly improve diagnostic accuracy and
2. Predict clinical outcomes with respect to overall survival and commonly used chemotherapies



University of the
Highlands and Islands
Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd
agus nan Eilean

Use of pleural effusion to diagnose mesothelioma by detection of genetic anomalies

Project Aims:

The purpose of the proposed study is to determine if pleural fluid could offer an alternative route to diagnosis of mesothelioma, with the goal of significantly reducing the number of patients requiring an invasive and protracted diagnostic pathway. This will increase the number of patients receiving earlier treatment, improving survival times.

Update from the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

The Mesothelioma UK Research Centre at the University of Sheffield was established in 2020 and

is funded by Mesothelioma UK for a term of three years.

In its third year the Research Centre has continued to expand its programme of research to benefit the care of people diagnosed with mesothelioma and their families.

In 2022/23 we commenced two new studies - the Supporting Our Supporters (SOS) study which is exploring experiences of carers in mesothelioma, and the experiences of coroner/procurator fiscal services in mesothelioma study.

These studies complement our existing portfolio of six other projects, which all respond to top priorities for mesothelioma research, as identified in our 2021 Research Prioritisation Exercise.

Since the Research Centre was established the team have collectively published 34 articles in academic or clinical journals, with 20 of these published in the last year. The team have presented at a wide range of national and international conferences, with 41 presentations in the last year.

The Research Centre have also been working hard to support other early career mesothelioma researchers and have provided mentoring and advice to fourteen students, nurses, doctors and other aspiring academics.

Earlier this year we were delighted to be awarded funding from Mesothelioma UK for an additional 12 months of Research Centre activity, and we look forward to continuing our research and making a difference to people with mesothelioma and their families.

The Research Centre is led by Prof Angela Tod and Prof Clare Gardiner who work with a team of researchers and PhD students, supported by a Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) panel.

More information about the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre can be found on their website:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/murc

3. Information

We want to ensure that everyone has access to high quality information, at the right time, empowering patients to make informed choices about their care.

Our accreditation with the PIF TICK, the UK-wide quality mark for health information from the Patient Information Forum, is a key part of this. Requirements of this include regularly reviewing our information and seeking feedback. We have a wonderful team of proofreading volunteers who help us with this. They spot errors in our information booklets and leaflets but also advise on the content itself. Their contribution is vital in making sure our information reflects the lived experience of people affected by mesothelioma.

"I knew I wanted to do something that would help the charity and would help spread the word, but I'm no marathon runner!! Due to my work and family life I don't have a huge amount of time I can dedicate to volunteering but I have, however, always enjoyed reading and when I saw that I could volunteer as a proofreader, I realised this was something I could do to help out the charity. It's such a small thing but I feel I'm doing my bit to help inform others who are in mums situation and who may have questions and concerns."

- Gemma,
Proofreading volunteer

Our information needs to be clearly written and evidence-based, but the design is also important. Good design can help people navigate health content more easily and avoid information overload. And in May 2022, Roland Ungood-Thomas joined us as Creative Designer. Roland's role involves making our information and promotional materials more visually engaging and impactful.

During this time two key booklets have been reviewed *Mesothelioma and Diet* and *Thinking Ahead: Preparing for End of Life*. Both have been significantly revised both in terms of content and design.

Mesothelioma and Diet now has pictures and quotes breaking up the text. There's also a new section aimed at family members acknowledging the difficulties they face watching a loved one struggle with eating.

Thinking Ahead: Preparing for End of Life was previously called *End of Life Tool*. The new version is much less clinically orientated. It gives a gentler introduction to this difficult topic whilst not shying away from the facts. It aims to help people start preparing for end of life when they feel ready and at a pace that suits them.



Our booklet *Mesothelioma: A Guide to This Asbestos Cancer* is now on Healthnote. Already used by over 3,000 GP practices in the UK, Healthnote enables doctors, nurses and pharmacists to find reliable health information and send it to their patients. This means following a consultation with a patient, healthcare professionals can create an 'information prescription'. It is also searchable by members of the public.

We hope this will help more people access our specialist resources as well as raise awareness of the charity itself.

4. Awareness



Mesothelioma UK regularly hear patients and their families ask for us to do everything we can to prevent ‘this’ happening to someone else. Mesothelioma is an avoidable cancer; it should never have happened on the scale it has, and Mesothelioma UK feel compelled to do all we can to raise awareness and to work toward a time when our future is free from mesothelioma.

Appointing the charity’s first External Affairs team member has enabled us to engage and contribute significantly to joint campaigns and advocacy initiatives. We have continued to act on findings from our growing portfolio of research particularly our Armed Forces and Health Care Workers research.

Discussions have continued with the Ministry Of Defence, and we are working hard to secure commitment from the NHS to improve standards and awareness across the NHS.

Our team has supported NHS approval processes for immunotherapy treatment which has resulted in equitable access throughout the NHS. Our palliative care research has underpinned development of awareness and information resources focused on raising the profile of palliative care and dispelling some of the myths. On a local level our nursing team monitor standards and individual experience continually and do all they can to advocate for better.

The charity is now looking to lead mesothelioma specific campaigns and are keen to work more closely with likeminded groups, the growing cross-party support, journalists, policy makers and those able to influence legislative change.

Sharing Experiences

At the heart of all the advocacy work is experience, the individual stories of those affected by mesothelioma.

For the generosity of those who share their story, those who engage with the evidence generating research, the journalists, and our partner groups, thank you. Your experiences really do give voice, you animate and provide depth and colour to the issues. Thank you for your honesty and for sharing, we are tremendously grateful.

Being affected by mesothelioma has far reaching consequences, impacting not only the person with the disease but their friends and family too. This is why over the last 12 months we have started regularly publishing a greater range of social media content. This has helped us reach a wider audience as well as extending the scope of topics we provide support and information on.

We also started a blog. Posts include interviews with operations team staff and our Clinical Nurse Specialists, as well as patients, families and carers. These help raise awareness of what we do as an organisation as well as the lived experience of mesothelioma.



Vanessa's story

Jun 8, 2022

In the second of our interviews for carers week, Vanessa talks about the support she gives her husband Des, a retired carpenter, who was diagnosed...



Fran's story

Jun 7, 2022

We spoke to Fran as part of our campaign to support Carers Week. Her father was diagnosed with mesothelioma in December last year. Already a carer...

Action Meso Day

Action Mesothelioma Day (Action Meso Day) took place on 1 July 2022 and saw over a hundred buildings and landmarks around the country light up blue for the #GoBlueForMeso campaign.

Mesothelioma UK's headquarters is in Leicester where the King Richard III Visitor Centre and the Leicester Royal Infirmary hospital turned blue for the night. The charity also held an afternoon tea to raise funds and awareness. Guests were shown our new information video, 'What is Meso?' and heard from special guest Sandra Ball, who shared her experience of caring for her late husband. The event raised over £500.



5. Sustainability & Fundraising

As we reflect on the past year, we acknowledge the challenges Mesothelioma UK has faced. Despite the difficulties we have persevered, demonstrating resilience in the face of ongoing challenges in the charity sector.

To sustain current levels of activity and achieve a more equitable impact across the UK, we will continue to work toward achieving the goals set out in our strategy.

- Working towards raising our sustainable income
- Ensuring the right governance and support to enable us to grow effectively as an organisation
- Develop and maintain a high performing team who can make a tangible difference to those affected by mesothelioma

Increasing our income is an ongoing challenge but one we will continue to work toward. And the support from our wonderful Meso Community of fundraisers and donors has been remarkable. They continue to do the most amazing things to not only raise funds but also raise awareness about asbestos and mesothelioma.

We are truly grateful to all our philanthropic individuals, trusts, foundations, community clubs and our legal panel for their ongoing support, and who in these difficult times have enabled us to deliver vital support where it is needed most. Their generosity of spirit is boundless. Here is a short round up of what they have been up to!

Community Fundraising

Paul Worgan - Ride Across Britain

One of our fantastic fundraisers Paul Worgan took part in the Ride Across Britain which is an epic nine day cycling challenge from Land's End to John O'Groats. He took on this mammoth challenge in memory of his dad George who he lost to mesothelioma in 2020.

Paul was a novice cyclist who had not ridden since he was a teenager, but the year of training saw him through. This is what he had to say! "I did it! Almost 1,000 miles in nine days. Had some brutal days along the way – the challenge is a mental one as much as physical – but I arrived at John O'Groats on Sunday afternoon at around 3.30pm. I've raised over £5,300 for Mesothelioma UK so far not including Gift Aid. I'm confident I'll get that up to £5,500 as there are some people I know who still haven't donated (who said they would). My company has also pledged to donate 2x that of any employee so it could even be inching towards £6,000 by the time I'm done." And he did, supported by his lovely mum, his family, friends and colleagues he raised an amazing £6,072.

Jack Lannigan – Gaming for MUK

Ongoing supporter Jack Lannigan organised a 24-hour live stream on his gaming channel in aid of Mesothelioma UK. This is Jack's second fundraiser for Mesothelioma UK having completed his first 24-hour live stream in 2021. Jack raised money for the charity in support of his lovely mum, who sadly passed away in September 2021 just six months after diagnosis. To date Jack has raised £1,730 in honour of his mum through live streaming.

Team Horner - Walking for Rusty

In January 2020, Lois Roberts sadly lost her dad, Russell Horner, to peritoneal mesothelioma. On the 14th of May 2022, Team Horner got together for a second time to complete the Yorkshire Three peaks challenge to raise money for Mesothelioma UK.

"We had an amazing day for it, the sun shining down on us as we started the challenge from Horton in Ribblesdale. A special mention must go out to Robin Goldring, who not only completed the challenge but completed the Leeds Half Marathon the weekend before for Meso UK. Thanks to amazing support from friends, family and colleagues we raised £3,111 (inc. Gift Aid). A massive thank you to all those that took part, whether that be walkers, supporters, or donors. Here's to our 2023 challenge and our future fundraising for a special charity and in memory of a wonderful man."

Lois and her friends and family have supported the charity since 2020 and have raised almost £12,000. They are determined to continue this support in honour of Russell into the future, we couldn't be more grateful to have them as part of our fundraising team.

Challenges



London Landmarks

Mesothelioma UK again took part and held its presence in the iconic London Landmarks half marathon in April and what a fantastic day it was. The weather was kind to us and the Meso UK cheer station were able to meet and cheer on our twenty fantastic runners. Nile our volunteer was there to capture that special moment of crossing the finishing line and they raised an amazing £21,304.20.

The Great North Run

This was the first year Mesothelioma UK took part in yet another iconic race but this time in the North. In the mesothelioma community it is known as 'The Great North Ron' as Ron Snaith who has mesothelioma has taken part in every race and this year was his 41st. His son Paul ran alongside him as did ten others all with their own stories to tell. They raised an amazing £6,570.52.

Meso Fundraising Campaigns



Muffins For Meso

This year we took a new approach to our longstanding fundraising campaign Muffins for Meso. We hosted the event nationwide on one day instead of across the whole of May and it was a huge success! For the first time the Mesothelioma UK team held its own event at our Loughborough HQ and we had plenty of lovely muffins sponsored by Waitrose Mountsorrel and were able to meet lots of people in the local community. In total the campaign raised nearly £3,000 and it was a brilliant day.



Our Volunteers



Our wonderful volunteers never cease to amaze us, their unwavering support throughout the year has been exceptional.

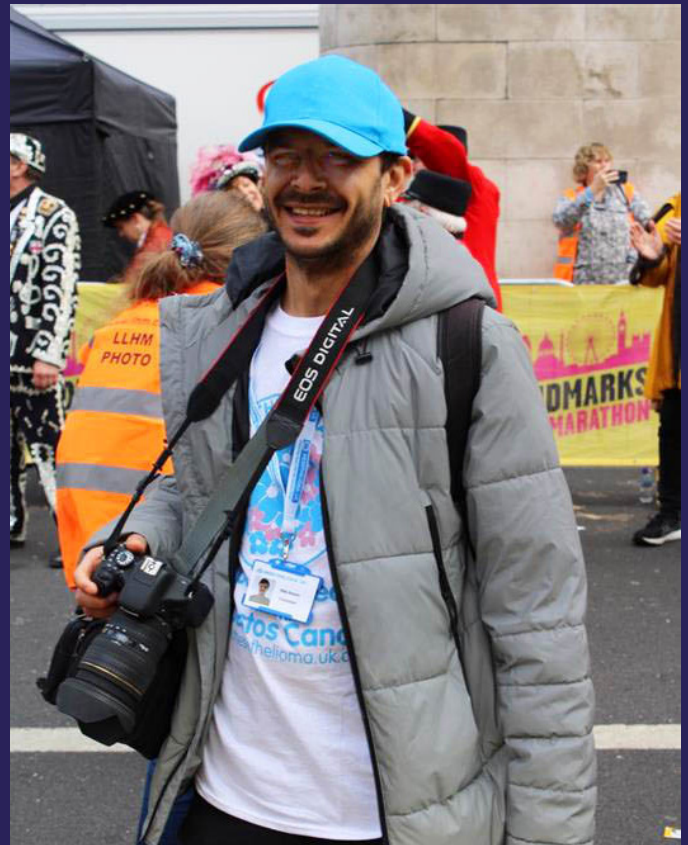
We have a team of proofreaders who support our Senior Editorial Officer in editing our excellent patient information and resources. We have those that support at our charity events, from taking photos, cheering on our wonderful runners, standing in hospital foyers handing out information



about the dangers of asbestos, to selling Christmas cards at our Patient & Carer Day. Their enthusiasm and commitment is wonderful, and we look forward to the year ahead with this fantastic team.

Denise Burwell our events volunteer inspired her wonderful

friend Jule Harries to make a hat and swim for Meso in support of Action Meso Day in the Reigate and Redhill area in memory of Denise's dear Dad. Jule challenged herself to complete one hundred open water swims wearing a different hat for a different charity, and so the iconic Meso Lung Hat made its appearance as Jule made her 62nd open water swim. Both Denise and Jule made page three in the Surrey Mirror and the hat far exceeded everyone's expectations!



Nile Ateem our official photographer is always on hand with his trusty camera at our events including our London Landmarks Half Marathon cheer station, where he captures amazing shots of our wonderful runners crossing the finish line. He also joined CEO Liz Darlison and Team Meso in the Peak District Ultra Challenge taking some photos of their fantastic 25K walk, which inspired him to take on his own challenge next year!

He has been instrumental in raising our profile with his inspiring photos and we are incredibly lucky to have his support.

Our Ambassadors

We have two ambassadors who give their time tirelessly. This is a voluntary role which involves them inspiring others to support the charity, educating those they meet about what we do and increasing the geographical reach of the charity.

Brian Wallis has done a tremendous amount of work over the last nine years in the East of England in memory of his dear wife Rosemary. Brian has set up support groups in Norfolk, Bury St Edmunds & Wells-next-the-Sea and champions Mesothelioma UK wherever he goes. He has been instrumental in raising funds for a Mesothelioma specialist nursing post in the Norfolk and Suffolk area and is truly committed to improving patients and their families mesothelioma journey.

Rosemary Giles is a member of our legal panel and through her work meets with mesothelioma patients and their families on a daily basis. She too is inspirational and flies the flag for Meso wherever she goes. Rosemary is always on hand with advice and help whenever she is needed.

Mesothelioma UK Legal Panel

The Mesothelioma UK Legal Panel are a group of specialist solicitors who have years of experience providing specialist legal advice to people diagnosed with mesothelioma.

The panel includes twelve UK law firms that support and raise awareness of the charity as well as offering independent legal support to both patients and their families. They are instrumental in recovering costs for treatments that are not available on the NHS that patients may need in the future.

A legal claim can sound very onerous to those diagnosed with mesothelioma but our expert legal panel members are there to help guide and navigate, providing clear and sound advice throughout and are always on hand to help. There is no cost to patients or families and the panel take extraordinary care to minimise the impact of pursuing a claim on their clients and families.

The Mesothelioma UK Legal Panel support fundraising events and campaigns, promote our free will service leading to donations through legacies, share information for research, and collaborate with other specialist firms. They support our nurses through sponsorship for educational events and support our Patient & Carer Day and Awards Night. We are truly grateful for all they do.

Legacies

Creating a future free from mesothelioma is our vision, and leaving a gift in your will is a key part of that impact.

This year, we are grateful to announce that we received 25 legacy donations, totalling £133,686. Each gift in a will is a tremendous honour, symbolising the dedication and kindness of our supporters while enabling us to plan for the future. To further support this cause, Mesothelioma UK has partnered with several reputable firms from our Legal Panel to provide a complimentary will writing service.

While there is no obligation to include a charitable gift, we encourage individuals to consider making a pledge to support Mesothelioma UK in their will. Since opening our free will writing service in 2019, we have assisted over 100 mesothelioma patients and their caregivers in creating or updating their will at no cost.

If you are interested in leaving a lasting gift to Mesothelioma UK, please contact us at 0800 169 2409 to receive your complimentary legacy guide booklet, or you can request it online:

www.mesothelioma.uk.com/downloadable-resources.

Your generosity ensures a brighter future for those affected by mesothelioma.

How We Raised the Funds

Donations for
Specific Funds

£30,550

Individual Giving

£403,257

Corporate and Trust

£27,650

Grants

£677,322

Campaigns and
Challenges

£80,736

Legacies

£133,686

Events

£36,158

Non-charitable
Trading Activities

£177,664

Donated Services
and Facilities

£25,000

Investment

£14,264

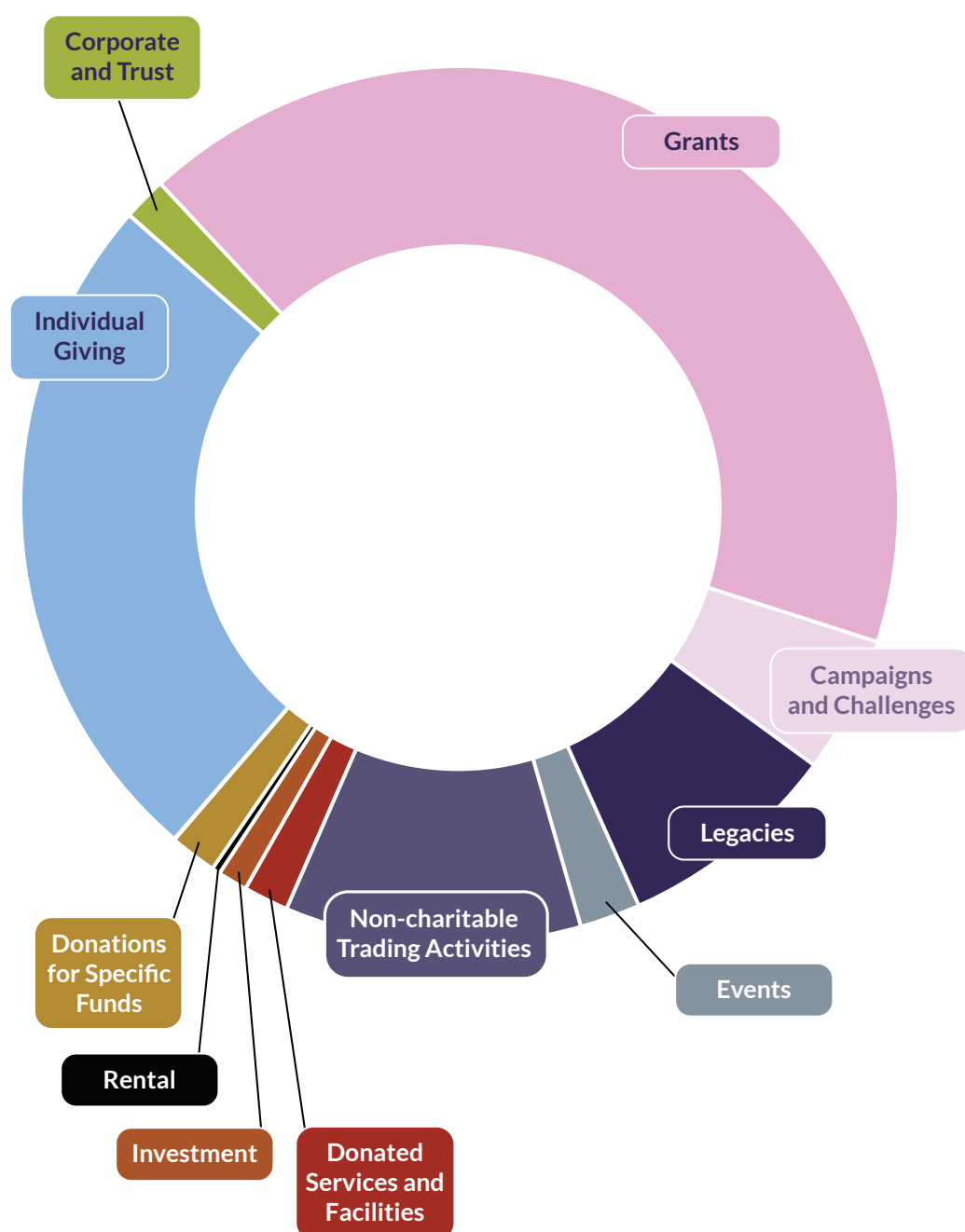
Rental

£4,170

Major Donors - £0

TOTAL:

£1,610,457



How We Spent the Funds

Income Generation

£215,630

Patient Support Costs

£887,956

Admin & Operational

£264,483

Research & Audit

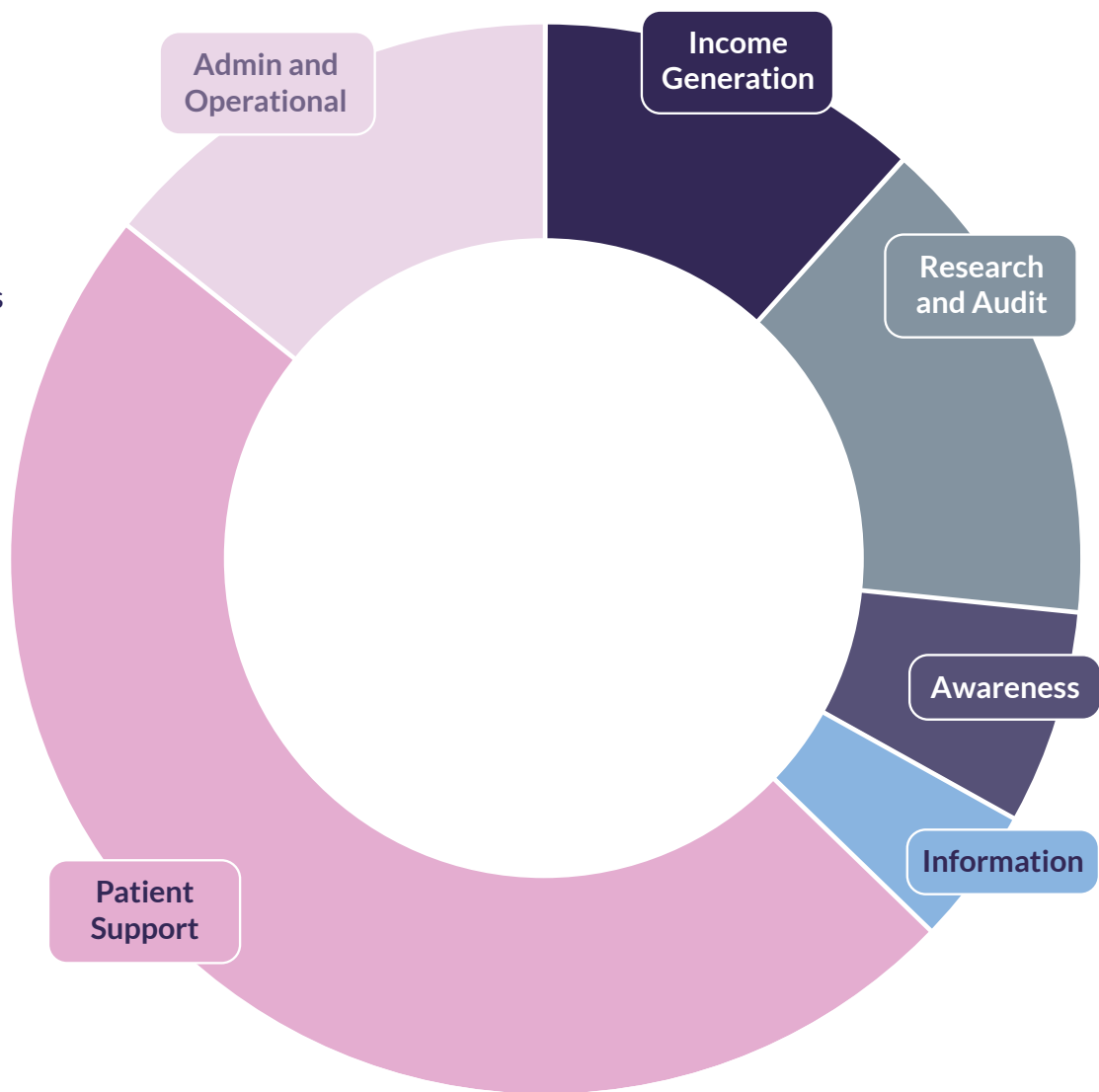
£275,373

Awareness

£118,926

Information Costs

£76,865



TOTAL:

£1,839,233

Corporate Relations

Mesothelioma UK has a strong and enduring relationship with many specialist personal injury law firms. There is a synergy between our roles, due to the fact we both interact and support people navigating the legal system whilst coping with the health implications of mesothelioma.

Our legal panel, which has now grown from 8 to 12 members, are also some of our most generous supporters. They donate, fundraise, take on challenges, attend events, promote the charity, sponsor education as well as engage with our research and campaigns. We are very proud of our relationship with them, and grateful for their continuing support.

This year we have also started to reach out to the asbestos corporate community. Although early days, it is increasingly apparent that similar gains will be made by establishing a relationship with them. Whether they are asbestos analysts, surveyors, educators or removers, they are far better placed than Mesothelioma UK, on a day-to-day basis, to reduce risk and prevent exposure.

They are at the 'coal face' of the UK's asbestos legacy. They witness and monitor asbestos presence and completely focus on removing and reducing exposure risk. For the asbestos companies we have started to work with, we are seeing that engaging with Mesothelioma UK provides greater meaning, purpose and value to what they do. Being able to share our unique insight into the health impact of asbestos, as well as individual stories and audit and research evidence, really does stimulate interest and conversation.

We hope to build stronger and more meaningful relationships across all sectors of the asbestos community. Ultimately we all want the same thing - a safer, asbestos-free environment.

Events



Patient and Carer Day

Mesothelioma UK was delighted to host our 17th annual Patient and Carer Day. The Belfry Nottingham Hotel and Conference Centre was the setting on a sunny autumn day in October. As the guests began to arrive, it was wonderful to see and hear people enjoying being back in the same room as each other again. There was a real sense of excitement and anticipation to see speakers on stage, rather than on screen!

Mesothelioma UK Clinical Nurse Specialists Anne Moylan and Carolyn MacRae introduced the day and first up was Professor Dean Fennell, Consultant Thoracic Medical Oncologist, who gave an update on the latest clinical trials. Professor Fennell talked about the results of current and past trials, and also plans for new ones. More practical advice came from Sarah Thomas, Mesothelioma UK Benefits Advisor. Sarah talked about all of the discounts, savings and exemptions available to patients and carers.

Last, but by no means least, we welcomed Helen Bone to the stage. Helen is 39 and was diagnosed with mesothelioma aged 38. Helen shared her inspiring and at times emotional story with the guests and it's safe to say there were both tears and laughter. Helen spoke with honesty, humour and pragmatism, and explained why it's important to her to talk about her journey in her blog, 'It Is What It Is' (<https://helenbone82.wixsite.com/itiswhatitis>), to raise awareness and help others going through a similar experience. Everyone was on their feet at the end of her talk, with a tear in their eye and the utmost respect and admiration for Helen.

One hundred and sixty-five participants registered and overall feedback was very positive.

Awards Night

Mesothelioma UK's annual awards event took place on the evening of Patient and Carer Day. Guests arrived in their finest black and white dress, and enjoyed a meal, drinks and a raffle before the awards were announced.

Congratulations go to our winners who were:

Junior Fundraiser of the Year - Reuben Gaunt

In September 2021, Reuben took part in the 20for20 challenge to raise money for Mesothelioma UK in support of his grandad, Ray. Since then, Reuben and his family have raised over £1,700 for us.

Fundraiser of the Year – Team Horner

The family of Russell Horner, who passed away from peritoneal mesothelioma, took on the Three Peaks twice and team member Robin took on the Leeds Half Marathon. The team has raised over £12,000 in memory of Russell and will continue to support the charity with further fundraising events.

Impact Award – the Rodgers family

The family of the late Tony Rodgers, daughters Laura, Niamh and Helen, and wife Barbara were eager to do what they could to improve support and care for others across Northern Ireland (NI) and we're working with them to achieve this. The family has been an essential catalyst for establishing a team approach to improvements across NI and have raised over £27,000 so far.

Special Contribution – Mavis Nye

Mavis was diagnosed in 2009 and set up the Mavis Nye Foundation in 2017. The foundation works tirelessly to raise awareness and funds to improve both treatment and care for other mesothelioma patients. Mavis and Ray have been stalwart supporters of the vital work Mesothelioma UK do to support patients, carers and anyone affected by mesothelioma.

Most Inspirational Award – Sally Collins (posthumously)

This award was given posthumously to Sally Collins and collected by her husband Jasper and sons Rowan and Tom. Sally organised many fundraisers and always had a smile on her face despite facing mesothelioma and breast cancer. Sadly, Sally died in June. She was a true inspiration.

Corporate Sponsor of the Year – JDR Cables Limited

During the past ten years, JDR Cable Systems Ltd. has raised over £146,500 for its selected charities and Mesothelioma UK has benefitted tremendously from its efforts. The company held a charity summer ball this year that raised over £20,000 for Mesothelioma UK and Readley. We are very grateful to JDR Cables for its continued support and fantastic fundraising events.

Ladies Lunch

On Wednesday 8 March, attendees gathered for the Mesothelioma UK Ladies lunch at the Manchester Piccadilly Hotel. Spirits were high as patients, families, healthcare professionals and members of the legal community gathered to celebrate women who have made mesothelioma matter. Special guest speaker on the day was Helen Bone.

Throughout the lunch there were raffles, a golden envelope draw and also an auction with the opportunity to win an overnight stay at the beautiful Hallgarth Manor and a signed Manchester United football. Our thanks go to all those that attended and supported us to raise over £3,500.

Action Meso Day/Go Blue for Meso

Friday 1 July 2022 marked Action Mesothelioma Day. The Mesothelioma UK team held an afternoon tea and day of remembrance at the Loughborough HQ, and it was a wonderful day where stories and memories were shared. There was also brilliant support across the country for the Go Blue for Meso campaign by the Action Meso group which Mesothelioma UK happily supported.

One of our fundraisers and supporters Lizzy Kyricou created a unique design that we had printed on t-shirts. Over 100 were ordered in support of the event and we were so grateful to Lizzy for her help. "I was over the moon to be asked by Alyshia at Mesothelioma UK to design a limited-edition t-shirt. My sister-in-law was diagnosed with Mesothelioma in 2019, so it's a charity that is very close to my family's heart."



Trustees Report

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers for the period ended 31 March 2023

Status

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation. Launched as a resource centre in 2004 it became a Charitable Trust in 2008 and re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2018.

Governing Document

Since re-registering in 2018 the charity has operated with a constitution and the income and property of the charity shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects as set out in its constitution.

Charity Number

1177039

Company Number

12541690

Principal office

235 Loughborough Road
Mountsorrel,
Loughborough LE12 7AS

Trustees

Dr N Maskell (Chair)
Prof M D Peake
D E McKinley
A L Coates
S E Hague
Dr D J Hetmanski
H Childs
M Waters
Prof K Blyth

Independent Auditors

Mark J Rees LLP Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Granville Hall
Granville Road
Leicester
LE1 7RU

Chief Executive Officer

Liz Darlison

Operational Team

Faye Forde, Director of Operations
Saranjit Sihota, Director of External Affairs
Tracey Calvert, Finance Manager
Jill Lemon, Senior Fundraiser, Campaigns, Challenges and Legacies
Alyshia Riley, Senior Digital Fundraiser
Mike Holmes, Senior Corporate Relations Officer
Julie Morton, Senior Administration Officer
Joelle Kirby, Senior Editorial Officer
Sarah Thomas, Senior Benefits Officer
Roland Ungood-Thomas, Creative Designer
Rachel Owen, Events Officer
Beth Colbert, Administration Officer
Hazel Curtis, Finance Officer
Leah Scrimshire, Fundraising Assistant
Dumitrita Gulian, Finance Assistant
Abigail Wilson, Business Administration Apprentice (completed apprenticeship Dec 2022)
Beverley Forrester, Housekeeper

Subsidiaries and related parties

The Mesothelioma UK Trading Company was incorporated on 31st March 2020 with company number 12541690. It is the sole subsidiary of Mesothelioma UK and exists to raise trading income for the charity. All its profits were transferred to the charity.

Changes to the board

Prof Michael David Peake, David John Hetmanski and Sharon Hague resigned in March 2023.

Financial Review

Basis for Preparation

Having reviewed Mesothelioma UK's income and expenditure and the plans for the year ahead the trustees are confident that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and have also concluded that the charity is able to meet its liabilities as they fall due. For this reason the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

How We Raised the Funds

The pie chart on page 27 gives a breakdown of how the charity has raised £1,610,457. Gross income increased on the previous year but failed to reach expenditure levels, and securing unrestricted funds has proven to be particularly challenging.

For the second year consecutively, the charity has had to utilise some of its reserves. £283,366 of the charities reserves were utilised in 2023 (£252,685 in 2022).

Mesothelioma UK's income and service developments haven't always kept pace with one another. In the past the charity's reserves have at times exceeded a level accepted by some grants and trusts that applications were submitted to.

Mesothelioma UK remains indebted to our charity partners who have provided significant funds toward the charity's team of specialist nurses. A total of £294,326 was raised through these organisations towards the cost of funding these specialist nurses. Income, excluding legacies was £1,134,029 in 2021/22 and it rose to £1,476,771 in the year 2022/23.

How We Spent the Funds

The pie chart on page 28 shows how we spent our funds in 2022/23. Expenditure rose from £1,574,876 in 2021/22 to £1,839,233 in 2022/23. Spending on charitable activities was £1,623,603, an increase of 15.65% on the previous year. As in previous years the largest expenditure was on the patient support pillar, which is mainly comprised of the funding of specialist nursing posts.

To meet the priorities outlined in the charity's strategy new posts were appointed during this year. For example, keen to maximise the impact of research the charity has funded, and committed to giving those living with mesothelioma a voice, the charity started to focus on awareness and campaigns. A Director of External Affairs was appointed to lead on this work.

The overall costs of raising funds was 13% of the total income, the same as last year and similar to pre-pandemic levels. Going forward the need to invest in fundraising is essential if income is to grow sufficiently.

Risks

Day to day risks for the charity are identified, treated, or managed and then monitored by the operational team. Those that pose the greatest threat to the charity are raised with the board of trustees.

The charity's finances have been a major cause for concern and pose the greatest risk to the organisation. Expenditure has continued to be significantly higher than income.

As a matter of priority, a broad programme of work, across all income generation, is taking place and the trustees are working closely with the operational team with this.

Reserves

As an organisation relying almost entirely on fundraising income, our policy is to hold adequate reserves to enable us to react to any unexpected adverse events.

The trustees undertook a review of the charity's reserves policy during the year and have determined that our unrestricted reserves should cover at a minimum, six months operating and research centre costs, three months costs of our contractual liabilities, and also to enable us to fulfil all our research project costs. The trustees felt it was no longer necessary to set an upper limit to reserves however funds will not be retained unnecessarily.

As at 31 March 2023 the minimum unrestricted reserves were £641,088 (31 March 2022 - £793,592) and the actual level of unrestricted reserves, excluding the value of tangible fixed assets, held by the charity was £771,847 (31 March 2022 - £1,241,666).

The really problematic area of longer duration fixed interest was avoided, but losses were still evident over the 12 months. We experienced the markets being impacted negatively by the aftereffects of the response to the covid pandemic, as well as other global issues such as Ukraine crisis.

High inflation and interest rates were the main reason Equities, Fixed interest, Gold, Property and Infrastructure all reduced in value at the same time. These investments are, however, designated for long-term investing and if we review the overall portfolio strategy over a longer period of time, it remains in a positive territory. Interest rates look at or close to the peak also meaning the outlook for most asset classes looks much improved from here.

Ethical investments have again tended to underperform the general market over the last 12 months, as they are seen to be more growth orientated, and more traditional industries such as Banks and Oils fared better. The former sector still reducing in value however.

Over the longer term it is believed Ethical investments still offer better prospects and outperform the wider market, it is the future, but are likely to be more volatile due to the concentration on a narrower band of investments.

Investments

Our investment portfolio is managed by Magma Wealth Management. As at the 31 March 2023 the portfolio stood at £730,643.20. This includes £715,835.21 of invested assets and £14,807.99 of cash. The investment managers brief is to manage the portfolio within agreed risk tolerance to produce long term growth in excess of Bank of England base rate plus 4% pa whilst investing in "ethical investments". i.e. excluding specific sectors deemed to be causing harm and positively investing in Companies who are seen to be benefiting the world. 2022 was a very difficult year for investment with virtually all asset classes reducing in value globally. The significant diversification evident in the portfolio which would normally protect asset values from global shocks did not work as a result.

Funds Held as Custodian

In 2022, the charity held funds on behalf of the Melu lunch club for mesothelioma and other lung patients. The funds held at 31st March 2022 were £517. All of these funds were utilised by the Melu lunch club during the year.

The charity also holds funds on behalf of the UK Mesothelioma Alliance of £1,334 (2022 - £8,806).

Looking Forward

From the Chair of the Trustees Board



The year ahead will see Mesothelioma UK focus on income generation.

We must review and invest in our fundraising. This will enable us to sustain current activity and work toward realising the vision outlined in our strategy.

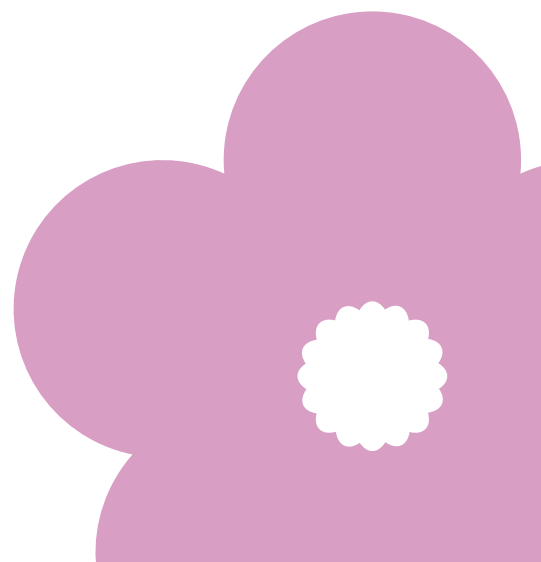
We look forward to increasing the charity's impact, disseminating and acting on the findings of our research, campaigning with partner groups and organisations as well as continuing our own advocacy work.

We hope to reach more people and families living with mesothelioma and will keep engaging with the NHS to do all we can to improve access to expertise, support and treatment.

We look forward to nurturing and developing the charity's team and growing the Mesothelioma UK community and our amazing supporters. Together we will continue to do all we can for those living with mesothelioma and prevent more families being affected in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Maskell'.

Prof N Maskell
Chair of the Trustees Board



Financial Statements

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts

and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the CIO trust deed/constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the group's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Mark J Rees LLP Chartered Accountants, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



Prof N Maskell

Trustee

Date: 11th January 2024



D McKinley

Trustee

Date: 11th January 2024

Independent Auditors' report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Mesothelioma UK Charitable Incorporated Organisation (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Charity Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and Consolidated notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent charity's affairs as at 31st March 2023 and of the Group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance or conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the parent charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the parent charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with ISA's (UK).

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the group and the parent charity and industry in which it operates through our general commercial experience. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: Charities SORP (FRS 102).

We enquired of management concerning the group's and parent charity's policies and procedures relating to:

- the identification and compliance with laws and regulations.
- the detection and response to the risks of fraud.
- the internal controls inherent within the group and parent charity to mitigate fraud risk and non-compliance to laws and regulations.

We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We communicated relevant laws and regulations and potential areas of fraud to all audit team members. We remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

We have determined that the principal risk areas where material irregularities could occur were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, income recognition and significant one-off or unusual transactions. Our audit procedures were designed to respond in particular to these identified risks (including non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud).

Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- A review of a sample of sales invoices and monies received from the income streams to ensure income has been accurately recorded and to confirm amounts are recognised in the correct period.
- A review of laws and regulations the charity is subject to, followed by compliance checks and discussion with management to ensure no instances of non-compliance.
- Addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing a journal entry test. We did not identify any matters during the course of our work that indicated non-compliance with laws and regulations or relating to fraud.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mark J Rees LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Granville Hall
Granville Road
Leicester
LE1 7RU

Date: 11th January 2024

Consolidated Statement of financial activity for the year ended 31st March 2023

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	828,427	585,932	1,414,359	1,178,928
Other trading activities	4	177,664	-	177,664	133,789
Investments	5	14,264	-	14,264	5,388
Other income	6	4,170	-	4,170	650
Total		1,024,525	585,932	1,610,457	1,318,755
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	215,630	-	215,630	171,498
Charitable activities	8				
Information expenses		76,865	-	76,865	69,126
Awareness costs		109,230	9,696	118,926	54,510
Research & audit costs		271,913	3,460	275,373	215,861
Patient support costs		503,088	384,868	887,956	866,276
Administration and operational costs		262,613	1,870	264,483	197,605
Total		1,439,339	399,894	1,839,233	1,574,876
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(54,590)	-	(54,590)	3,436
Net income (expenditure)		(469,404)	186,038	(283,366)	(252,685)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,255,108	138,464	1,393,572	1,646,257
Total funds carried forward		785,704	324,502	1,110,206	1,393,572

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	16	13,857	13,442
Investments	17	731,620	772,020
		745,477	785,462
Current assets:			
Debtors	18	122,606	196,587
Investments	19	101,638	189,000
Cash at bank and in hand		336,380	422,438
		560,624	808,025
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(195,895)	(199,915)
Net current assets		364,729	608,110
Total assets less current liabilities		1,110,206	1,393,572
Total net assets		1,110,206	1,393,572
Charity funds:			
Unrestricted funds	23	785,704	1,255,108
Restricted funds		324,502	138,464
Total funds		1,110,206	1,393,572

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Prof N Maskell
Trustee
Date: 11th January 2024



D McKinley
Trustee
Date: 11th January 2024

Charity Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	16	13,857	13,442
Investments	17	731,621	772,021
		745,478	785,463
Current assets:			
Debtors	18	122,606	189,062
Investments	19	101,638	189,000
Cash at bank and in hand		336,380	422,438
		560,624	800,500
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(195,896)	(192,391)
Net current assets		364,728	608,109
Total assets less current liabilities		1,110,206	1,393,572
Total net assets		1,110,206	1,393,572
Funds:			
Unrestricted funds	23	785,704	1,255,108
Restricted funds		324,502	138,464
Total funds		1,110,206	1,393,572

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Prof N Maskell
Trustee
Date: 11th January 2024



D McKinley
Trustee
Date: 11th January 2024

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement as at 31st March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	1	(80,407)	136,158
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(80,407)	136,158
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5,724)	(9,448)
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(189,451)	(715,121)
Sale of fixed asset investments		175,260	686,176
Interest received		14,264	5,388
Net cash used in investing activities		(5,651)	(33,005)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		(86,058)	103,153
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			
		422,438	319,285
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period			
		336,380	422,438

Notes to the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the period ended 31st March 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(283,366)	(252,685)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,310	3,233
Losses/(gain) on investments	54,590	(3,436)
Interest received	(14,264)	(5,388)
Decrease in debtors/current asset investments	153,819	329,490
Increase in creditors	3,504	64,944
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(80,407)	136,158

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 01.04.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.03.22 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	422,438	(86,058)	336,380
	422,438	(86,058)	336,380
Liquid resources			
Deposits included in cash	-	-	-
Current asset investments	189,000	(87,362)	101,638
	189,000	(87,362)	101,638
Total	611,438	(173,420)	438,018

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

Mesothelioma UK CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised once the Group has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Group is aware of probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Group that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Group has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the Group, or the Group is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. Donated services or facilities are recognised when the Group has control over the item, any conditions

associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the Group of the time is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the Group would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities or equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Grants are included in the Consolidated statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the charity's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised. A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at costs, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

• Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance
• Computer equipment	33.33% reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Group and which have not been designated for other purposes. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Group for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Group operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Group to the fund in respect of the period.

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/ (Losses) on investments' in the Consolidated statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Interest Receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Group anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Consolidated statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

Current asset investments

Current asset investments are cash or cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year valued at fair value.

Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt over the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 16 for the carrying amount of the fixture and fittings and computer equipment and note 1 for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

Residual legacies

There is some uncertainty in the value of residual legacies recognised due to the time lapse between when probate has been granted and the final distribution is made.

Donated services and facilities

The Group has been donated the use of the premises they operate from. The fair value of the donated facility has been arrived at based on the amount the Group would pay in the open market for an alternative. This has been calculated on an estimated average rate per square foot. While this is considered a reasonably reliable approach there is some uncertainty due to multiple factors affecting the rental value of the property including the size, the age and demographical area.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations	578,351	677,068
Legacies	133,686	184,726
Grants	677,322	304,227
Donated services and facilities	25,000	12,907
	1,414,359	1,178,928

Donated services and facilities comprise of the use of the premises the Group operates from. The donation represents the deemed market rent of the property.

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Armed Forces Covenant	27,732	-
Education and Skills Funding Agency	1,500	1,500
UK Government Covid Medical Research	109,644	72,823
Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical	12,000	4,000
MCNS*	400,946	215,404
MAPS**Benevolent Trust	25,000	-
Football Family Ltd	500	500
SWASAG***	-	10,000
Mick May Memorial Fund	100,000	-
	677,322	304,227

* Mesothelioma Clinical Nurse Specialist

** Medical and Professional Services

***South West Asbestos Support Awareness Group

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Trading income	165,512	122,029
Shop income	12,152	11,760
	177,664	133,789

The trading income represents income from Mesothelioma UK commercial relationships which includes:

- Commission from the UK National Asbestos Register
- Income raised from members of Mesothelioma UK Trading Ltd's legal panel, who make payment to Mesothelioma UK Trading Ltd, in return for the inclusion of their name and logo on our website and legal advice leaflet. Their logo is also included on the Mesothelioma Matters magazine, and they each have space for one article in one of the quarterly magazines per year.

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023 £	2022 £
Deposit account interest	10,025	2,161
Dividends received	4,239	3,227
	14,264	5,388

6. OTHER INCOME

	2023 £	2022 £
Rental income	4,170	650

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

7. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	93,879	71,832
Will writing	2,675	4,260
Stripe and online giving fees	9,288	10,430
Christmas card purchases	1,884	3,015
Fundraising costs	27,670	13,967
Travel expenses	3,066	742
Charitable events	17,173	7,726
Website and social media	3,110	3,352
Print and design magazine	1,532	1,526
Online shop expenses	1,928	2,598
Finance manager	-	486
UHL staff costs	49,376	50,616
Head of nursing	2,132	-
	213,713	170,550

Other trading expenses

	2023 £	2022 £
Administration expenses	1,917	948

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (see note 9) £	Support costs (see note 10) £	Totals £
Information expenses	76,865	-	76,865
Awareness costs	118,926	-	118,926
Research & audit costs	275,373	-	275,373
Patient support costs	887,956	-	887,956
Administration and operational costs	-	264,483	264,483
	1,359,120	264,483	1,623,603

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

9. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	185,964	91,884
Provision for nursing services	602,700	561,721
Nurses meetings	3,344	3,516
Website and social media	12,442	13,406
Patient support sundries and other support costs	6,198	6,747
Patient travel	8,595	13,333
Printing and design magazine	13,787	13,734
Project Wales	4,958	3,303
Research centre main award	169,125	164,295
Other research costs	879	1,071
Armed Forces project expenses	10,696	2,715
Information expenses	11,747	14,018
Patient carer day	10,722	4,676
Clinical trials app	-	6,000
Awareness costs	5,398	4,643
UHL staff costs	35,038	72,368
Finance manager	-	486
Travel expenses	1,243	28
Benefit advisors	29,124	47,538
Team leaders	133,700	161,123
Mick May memorial expenditure	130	-
Research grants	73,404	19,168
Head of nursing	38,375	-
MCNS educational expenses	1,551	-
	1,359,120	1,205,773

10. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Administration and operational costs	257,283	7,200	264,483

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023 Administrational and operational costs £	2022 Administrational and operational costs £
Wages	129,965	66,446
Social security	8,507	4,210
Pensions	8,526	4,593
Other operating leases	-	2,495
Rates and water	10,371	3,000
Insurance	836	746
Telephone	3,943	4,427
Postage and stationery	2,091	3,680
Repairs and maintenance	1,290	2,844
Legal and professional fees	3,012	13,874
Storage	-	742
Governance	1,581	4,281
Travel expenses	2,160	554
Investment manager costs	6,041	6,567
Finance manager	-	8,749
Educational courses	-	300
UHL staff costs	8,244	15,989
Training	2,946	1,087
Subscriptions	4,039	4,882
IT support and other IT costs	17,970	14,223
CRM expenses	6,746	4,129
Marketing and adverts	3,678	2,176
Bank charges	630	788
Office expenses	2,264	4,083
Head of nursing	2,132	-
Rent	25,001	12,907
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	5,310	3,233
Auditors' remuneration	7,200	6,600
	264,483	197,605

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

11. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation - owned assets	5,309	3,233
Other operating leases	-	2,495

12. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the group's auditors for the audit of the group's financial statements	7,200	6,600

13. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

14. STAFF COSTS

Remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel are deemed to be those having authority and responsibility, delegated to them by the trustees for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity amounted to £115,617 (2022: 55,902).

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Support staff	17	12

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

15. COMPARATIVES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:			
Donations and legacies	786,229	392,699	1,178,928
Other trading activities	133,789	-	133,789
Investment income	5,388	-	5,388
Other income	650	-	650
Total	926,056	392,699	1,318,755
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	171,498	-	171,498
Charitable activities			
Information expenses	69,126	-	69,126
Awareness costs	53,156	1,354	54,510
Research & audit costs	133,855	82,006	215,861
Patient support costs	607,813	258,463	866,276
Administration and operational costs	197,605	-	197,605
Total	1,233,053	341,823	1,574,876
Net gains on investments	3,436	-	3,436
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(303,561)	50,876	(252,685)
Transfers between funds	(103)	103	-
Net movement in funds	(303,664)	50,979	(252,685)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	1,558,772	87,485	1,646,257
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	1,255,108	138,464	1,393,572

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

16. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – GROUP

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022	3,787	24,257	28,044
Additions	-	5,724	5,724
At 31 March 2023	3,787	29,981	33,768
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	2,622	11,980	14,602
Charge for year	174	5,135	5,309
At 31 March 2023	2,796	17,115	19,911
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	991	12,866	13,857
At 31 March 2022	1,165	12,277	13,442

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – CHARITY

COST			
At 1 April 2022	3,787	24,257	28,044
Additions	-	5,724	5,724
At 31 March 2023	3,787	29,981	33,768
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	2,622	11,980	14,602
Charge for year	174	5,135	5,309
At 31 March 2023	2,796	17,115	19,911
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	991	12,866	13,857
At 31 March 2022	1,165	12,277	13,442

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

17. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS – GROUP

	Shares in group undertakings £	Listed investments £	Cash and settlements pending £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE				
At 1 April 2022		772,020	-	772,020
Additions		169,220	20,230	189,450
Disposals		(169,545)	(5,716)	(175,261)
Revaluations		(54,589)	-	(54,589)
At 31 March 2023		717,106	14,514	731,620
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2023		717,106	14,514	731,620
At 31 March 2022		772,020	-	772,020

FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - CHARITY

MARKET VALUE				
At 1 April 2022	1	772,020	-	772,021
Additions	-	169,220	20,230	189,450
Disposals	-	(169,545)	(5,716)	(175,261)
Revaluations	-	(54,589)	-	(54,589)
At 31 March 2023	1	717,106	14,514	731,621
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2023	1	717,106	14,514	731,621
At 31 March 2022	1	772,020	-	772,021

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

17. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (Cont.)

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2023 is represented by:

	Shares in group undertakings £	Listed investments £	Cash and settlement pending £	Totals £
Valuation in 2023	-	717,106	14,514	731,620
Cost	1	-	-	1
	1	717,106	14,514	731,621

The charity's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Mesothelioma UK Trading Limited

Registered office: England and Wales

Nature of business: Sponsorship and advertising sales

Class of share: Ordinary

% holding: 100

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Aggregate capital and reserves	1	1
Profit for the year	163,595	121,081

18. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade debtors	35,735	30,175	35,735	30,175
Other debtors	6,136	16,643	6,136	16,643
Prepayments and accrued income	80,735	149,769	80,735	142,244
	122,606	196,587	122,606	189,062

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

19. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Cash on deposit	101,638	189,000	101,638	189,000

Current asset investments consists of fixed rate deposits with high street banks and building societies.

20. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade creditors	60,920	72,375	60,920	72,375
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	9,293	6,223
Social security and other taxes	16,079	11,984	8,795	6,637
Other creditors	4,387	13,420	4,387	13,420
Accruals and deferred income	114,509	102,136	112,501	93,736
	195,895	199,915	195,896	192,391

Within accruals and deferred income are funds received in advance from fundraising challenges yet to take place at the year end. The deferred income is £12,213 (2022: £11,672). The events are expected to take place in 2023/24.

21. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Within one year	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Between one and five years	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
In more than five years	87,093	112,093	87,093	112,093
	212,093	237,093	212,093	237,093

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

22. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fixed assets	13,857	-	13,857	13,442
Investments	731,621	-	731,621	772,021
Current assets	236,122	324,502	560,624	800,500
Current liabilities	(195,896)	-	(195,896)	(192,391)
	785,704	324,502	1,110,206	1,393,572

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,255,108	(469,404)	785,704
Restricted funds	-		
Grants and donations for nurses	77,847	63,429	141,276
Armed Forces project	-	1,474	1,474
Project NI	24,557	11,157	35,714
Donations for other restricted projects	36,060	109,978	146,038
	138,464	186,038	324,502
Total funds	1,393,572	(283,366)	1,110,206

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (Cont.)

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,028,584	(1,443,398)	(54,590)	(469,404)
Restricted funds				
Grants and donations for nurses	416,866	(353,437)	-	63,429
Armed Forces project	27,732	(26,258)	-	1,474
Project NI	11,157	-	-	11,157
Grants and donations for research	3,460	(3,460)	-	-
Donations for other restricted projects	126,717	(16,739)	-	109,978
	585,932	(399,894)	-	186,038
Total funds	1,614,516	(1,843,292)	(54,590)	(283,366)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (Cont.)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,558,772	(303,561)	(103)	1,255,108
Restricted funds				
Grants and donations for nurses	61,468	16,276	103	77,847
Armed Forces project	1,354	(1,354)	-	-
Bristol Myers Squibb	2,106	(2,106)	-	-
Project NI	-	24,557	-	24,557
Donations for other restricted projects	22,557	13,503	-	36,060
	87,485	50,876	103	138,464
Total funds	1,646,257	(252,685)	-	1,393,572

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	925,108	(1,232,105)	3,436	(303,561)
Restricted funds				
Grants and donations for nurses	264,948	(248,672)	-	16,276
Armed Forces project	-	(1,354)	-	(1,354)
Bristol Myers Squibb	-	(2,106)	-	(2,106)
Project NI	24,557	-	-	24,557
Grants and donations for research	82,006	(82,006)	-	-
Donations for other restricted projects	21,188	(7,685)	-	13,503
	392,699	(341,823)	-	50,876
Total funds	1,317,807	(1,573,928)	3,436	(252,685)

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent for any purposes of the charity.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (Cont.)

Purposes of restricted funds

Grants and donations for nurses

Various grants and donations were received during the year, including one from RS Oncology to be utilised in 2023/2024, towards the payment of grants to trusts for the provision of mesothelioma clinical nurse specialists.

Project NI

These are ring-fenced donations to enable Mesothelioma UK to expand its services to include Northern Ireland. The project is continuing and will commence when sufficient funds have been received.

Project Wales

These are ring-fenced donations to enable Mesothelioma UK to expand its services in Wales, including the provision of a mesothelioma clinical nurse specialist.

Mick May Memorial Fund

The majority of the funds were from a grant from the Schroder Foundation. This is for use under the 'Improving Outcomes and Experience' pillar, to ensure patients have equitable access to the best treatment, care, information and support including helping to build a comprehensive multi-disciplinary team approach and evidenced based care pathways and guidelines which are fundamental to achieving improved outcomes and experiences.

Armed Forces Grant

This is monies received from the Armed Forces covenant fund trust to help fund our armed forces project. The objectives of the project are to:

- Quantify the incidence and impact of mesothelioma amongst our armed forces veterans
- Understand the experience of those affected
- Raise awareness about the presence and dangers of asbestos
- Improve healthcare professional understanding and ability to support veterans and their families

Grants for other restricted projects

This includes commissioning the construction of an armed services memorial to be placed in National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. Other donations were received and restricted for expenditure on patient travel expenses and a nurse education fund.

24. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Group to the fund. At the balance sheet date £3,053 (2022: £4,097) was payable to the fund and is included in creditors.

25. CONTINGENT ASSET

The Group has been notified of an entitlement to legacies of which the Group is unable to measure reliably the value of amounts due and therefore no provision has been made in the accounts.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

26. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

A L Coates is a Trustee of the parent charity and a partner of Irwin Mitchell Solicitors. During the period, £34,294 (2022: £26,857) was receivable by the group from Irwin Mitchell Solicitors being £24,000 (2022: £15,000) sponsorship income plus £12,970 (2022: £11,857) from fundraising events and donations. Also, during the period, the group acquired will writing and other professional services from Irwin Mitchell Solicitors at a cost of £2,676 (2022: £11,388).


H Childs is a Trustee of the parent charity and a partner of Royds Withy King Solicitors. During the period, £14,600 (2022: £17,982) was receivable by the group from Royds Withy King Solicitors being £12,600 (2022: £15,000) sponsorship income plus £2,000 (2022: £2,982) in donations.

D McKinley is a Trustee of the parent charity and Senior Executive Officer of the British Thoracic Oncology Group (BTOG). During the period, BTOG paid rent to the parent charity of £4,170 (2022: £650) and received amounts for recharged expenses of £1,312 (2022: £828).

All transactions with related parties are at arms length and in accordance with the charity's objectives.

27. CONTRIBUTIONS OF VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

The charity is grateful for the unstinting efforts of volunteer fundraiser's who take part in a wide range of sponsored events and other fundraising activities. The vast majority of income comes from private individuals making donations, participating in sponsored events, or leaving legacies.

A photograph of a woman and a young man running in a marathon. The woman is on the left, wearing a white race bib with the number 6767 and a Mesothelioma UK logo. The young man is on the right, wearing a white race bib with the number 6768 and a Mesothelioma UK logo. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a yellow banner for the London Landmarks Marathon and a purple banner for the Asbestos Cancer charity. The text overlay on the right side of the image reads: "Mesothelioma UK could not do any of this without the ongoing support of our fundraisers, donors, corporate partners and legacies. Please, please continue to do all you do for the charity, it is your contribution that enables us to reach out and to do all we can to help those living with mesothelioma."

Mesothelioma UK could not do any of this without the ongoing support of our fundraisers, donors, corporate partners and legacies. Please, please continue to do all you do for the charity, it is your contribution that enables us to reach out and to do all we can to help those living with mesothelioma.



MESOTHELIOMA UK

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Registered Charity Number 1177039