



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 1	Month Sept	Year 2023		Day 31	Month August	Year 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Opportunity Through Education
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1179046
Charity's principal address	The Long House, Hurtmore Road, Godalming, Surrey.
Postcode	GU7 2RB

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Alan Lion	Trustee		
2	Nicola Lion	Trustee		
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Charles Hume	

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

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document  
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

CIO - FOUNDATION REGISTERED 03 JUL 2018

How the charity is constituted  
(eg. trust, association, company)

CIO

Trustee selection methods  
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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

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

OTE was set up to support the work of Nicki and Alan Lion ("the trustees"), plus the work of three partners, Elizabeth Hodgkin ("Liz"), Rebecca Mallinson ("Rebecca") and Welcome Home School ("WHS").

When the charity started, Liz and Rebecca jointly approach the trustees and asked for assistance. Rebecca had previously been supported by another UK registered charity, but, due to the burden of administration involved, that charity had asked Rebecca to try to find another UK registered charity able to support her. After discussion, the trustees agreed to provide support. The basis upon which OTE supports Liz and Rebecca is contained in a separate document titled:

"Basis Of Working Together OTE and Partner 20180728.docx"

In the summer of 2022, the trustees were approached and asked to support to the Welcome Home School ("WHS"), Tanzania. After due investigation, including a visit to the school in February 2023, the trustees agreed to offer the same assistance to WHS as to Liz and Rebecca.

## Section C Objectives and activities

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

The objectives of the charity are:

"The relief of poverty with particular emphasis on education for the young and disadvantaged anywhere in the world."

The trustees believe that the provision of education is one very practical way to help people out of poverty and into a worthwhile and sustainable life.

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

The review of activities and highlights below sets out how the work of OTE provides significant benefit to the public.

In terms of finances, OTE benefitted from the continued support of many generous contributors. Income this year was £72,590 (2022: £68,895) and payments to beneficiaries amounted to £71,273 (2022: £69,052). It should be pointed out that the income and payment figures for this year both include an amount £7,400 which represents the return of funds which were destined for beneficiaries and which were returned following a failed bank transfer.

In its decision making the trustees of OTE are aware of and have complied with their duty to have due regard to The Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when they have exercised any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

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

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

The trustees wish to thank the following organisations and institutions for their support in the past year:

The Erica Leonard Fund  
The R&H Grey Foundation  
The T W Roberts Trust  
St Clare and St Francis Charity

In addition, the trustees wish to thank the many individuals who have so generously supported the work of OTE in the past year. Without such support, the wonderful transformation of some many young people's lives that has been achieved would never have happened.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

The following represent just some of the people and projects that have been supported by the charity in the period covered by this review:

*OTE Projects*

The main work of OTE relates to sponsoring students. Every student sponsored by OTE is either known to or vetted by the trustees. We seek to help young people who cannot help themselves. We focus on students who are orphans or who have fallen on hard times part way through their education and where it is perceived that there will be considerable benefits if that person is given the opportunity to complete his or her education. In addition, we assist the families of students where we perceive that, in so doing, this assistance will lead to a better overall outcome for the students and families in terms either of the alleviation of poverty or the promotion of education or both.

During the year under review, apart from students, OTE also helped:

- (a) Establish a Hotel Management Course at St Agnes Vocational Training College in Mtandika, Tanzania. The course started in January 2024 with eight students.
- (b) Raised money for a poor couple and their children to help them establish a new life in the United States.

**Work In South Sudan**

Both Liz and Rebecca are committed to helping to support and provide education to disadvantaged children in South Sudan. Since December 2012 an estimated 50,000 South Sudanese have died and hundreds of thousands have been displaced. South Sudan ranks among the worst in the world in terms of literacy, education and deprivation.

*Elizabeth Hodgkin Projects*

Liz' main focus during the year was to provide support for St Augustine's School. In addition, she continued to help a number of students who are nearing the end of their education programmes. Looking to the future, Liz is now of an age where she is unlikely to be able to continue her excellent work. She has therefore taken a decision to start reducing her obligations to individual students.

*Rebecca Mallinson Projects*

If you want to read about Rebecca's inspirational work please visit her blog site:

<https://living-in-nimule.blogspot.com/>

As you will see, in the period covered by this review, things changed significantly. Firstly, after many successful years setting up and helping run Cece Primary School, Rebecca moved on. The situation can be summarised by these sentences from her September 2023 blog:

"Problems have arisen between me and the landowners who gave us the land in 2016 through a land agreement. The landowners have now become very hostile and full of demands for their own clan. They have completely no thought for the school or the pupils. The constant chorus has been, 'What's in it for us?'"

White people are seen as rich and are supposed to give to them freely. When I have refused, saying that all the money I have is from fundraising for the specific purposes of education, whether for the school or the deaf children, I am shouted down very aggressively.

They are completely ignoring the fact that our school is for disadvantaged families, not just for themselves.

I am looking for a way forward as I do not want to see the school fail. We have over 240 pupils and 19 staff, all of whom will lose out if the school collapses. On a personal level, I have taught in the school since 2015 and have very strong teacher-pupil relationships with a good number of our pupils. ”

After discussions, including consulting OTE, Rebecca concluded that the right course of action was to move on. She therefore sought to find suitable schools for all the current pupils at Cece Primary School. The buildings at Cece will be managed by Rebecca’s former fellow founders from January 2024, who are hoping to change it into a private school, so they will not stand empty.

January 2024 saw the start of a new challenge for Rebecca. Over 150 students from Cece enrolled at Liberty Primary School. Rebecca agreed to join this school as Director of Studies. A number of the teachers from Cece came with her. She summarised her new challenge when she wrote:

“At Liberty, we are back at square one. In January there were no school buildings, no toilets, no storeroom or teachers’ room, no food, very few teachers and large numbers of cows around the school site. In short, it has been terribly difficult, but things are gradually taking shape. “

Rebecca has not only shown amazing resilience during these trials, she has continue to support a number of deaf children. Moreover, she even has ambitions in this area. She wrote:

“As I have mentioned before, the grand plan is to start a hearing impairment unit in Nimule with the help of Alau, the oldest and most advanced of the deaf students, once he finishes his studies. “

She is a wonderful example of a truly dedicated person helping those in need.

#### *Welcome Home School (WHS) Tanzania*

WHS is a thriving primary school, as the photos on OTE’s website demonstrate. The money collected by OTE and passed to WHS was used for the following purposes:

- School fees for 6 children: £2,749
- Accountant's salary support: £1,000
- Chairs and desks for Class 4 (from Kennedy's): £2,250
- Contribution towards building the school hall: £4,000
- The remaining amount (£4,801) was combined with a generous donation from the Czech Republic to purchase a school bus for £10,000.

WHS collects money from a variety of different countries, including, as

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

mentioned above, the Czech Republic.

### A BIG THANK YOU

None of the above work would be possible without the extremely generous financial support that OTE receives from its many supporters.

"We rise by lifting others."

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity holds limited reserves. It has little or no ongoing expenditure commitments as all the administration is done by volunteers and all administrative costs are currently covered by the trustees. Where OTE is expecting to sponsor a student for a number of years, the trustees may hold a suitable amount in reserve to cover future years' costs. However, the amounts so retained are relatively small.

As at 31/08/2024 the charity had a total of £6,704 (2023: £5,544) in its bank account.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

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

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

The charity's accounts have been produced on a receipts and payments basis. At the year-end, the charity was due Gift Aid from HMRC for the period from 14/04/2024 to 31/08/2024.

The charity had no accrued liabilities at the end of this period.

## Section F

## Other optional information

None.

## Section G

## Declaration

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

<b>Signature(s)</b>	Signed Electronically	
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Alan Keith Lion	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	
<b>Date</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Opportunity Through Education

No (if any)  
1179046

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 9/1/2023	To	Period end date 8/31/2024
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds REB to the nearest £	Restricted funds LIZ to the nearest £	Restricted funds WHS to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Direct Donations	13,002	24,785	7,341	13,764	58,892
Returned of Failed Transfer	-	-	-	7,400	7,400
Give As You Live	31	-	-	-	31
Income Tax Refund	1,868	2,467	795	1,137	6,267
					-
					-
					-
					-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	14,901	27,252	8,136	22,301	72,590
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
					-
					-
<b>Sub total</b>					-
<b>Total receipts</b>	14,901	27,252	8,136	22,301	72,590
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Payments To Beneficiaries	13,768	27,700	7,580	14,800	63,848
Travel Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-	-	25	25
Failed Bank Transfer	-	-	-	7,400	7,400
					-
					-
					-
					-
<b>Sub total</b>	13,768	27,700	7,580	22,225	71,273
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
					-
					-
<b>Sub total</b>					-
<b>Total payments</b>	13,768	27,700	7,580	22,225	71,273
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	1,133	- 448	556	76	1,317
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>					-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	4,177	511	332	367	5,387
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	5,310	63	888	443	6,704



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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Santander Business Account	5,310	1,394
		-	-
		-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	5,310	1,394
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name
		Signed Electronically	Alan Lion

## CC16a

Last year

to the nearest £

60,488
-
15
8,392
-
-
-
-
68,895

-
-
-

68,895
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67,432
1,570
50
-
-
-
-
-
-
69,052

-
-
-

68,549
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1,247
-
4,297
5,544








Date of approval
2/26/2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Opportunity Through Education

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Charity no  
(if any) 1179046

Set out on pages

1 - 8

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above  
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 08 / 2024.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation  
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act  
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out  
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I  
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission  
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have  
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with  
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material  
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of  
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection  
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a  
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

- 2 APR 2025

Name:

CHARLES ROBERT HUME

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

Address:

CHARLES R. HUME, FCA  
Pitfold, Hurtmore Road,  
Godalming, Surrey,  
GU7 2RB  
01483 414302 & 07484 128152  
Email: charleshume@aol.com



Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No items to disclose

  
- 2 APR 2025